

**Academic Standing, Dismissal, Option to Retake 1L Courses, and Re-Admission**  
**Adopted February 14, 2024**  
**(effective for students matriculating beginning in the Summer Session 2024)**

[This replaces the Probation and Dismissal, Petition for Re-Entry and Application for Re-Admission Policy (<https://law.olemiss.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/academic-policies-probation-dismissal.pdf>)]

**I. Academic Standing, Dismissal, and Option to Retake 1L Courses**

- a. Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (“G.P.A.”) of 2.3 or better to remain in good academic standing. Students must have a 2.3 G.P.A. or better to graduate.
- b. Students who finish their Fall 1L semester below a 2.3 G.P.A. may elect to withdraw and retake their Fall 1L semester with forgiveness of their original 1L grades. A student may retake 1L courses only once.
- c. Students who finish their 1L year in the G.P.A. range of 2.0-2.29 are academically dismissed but may restart law school with forgiveness of their original 1L grades. A student may retake 1L courses only once.
- d. Students who finish their 1L year below a 2.0 G.P.A. are academically dismissed but may reapply to law school as described in the Application for Re-Admission section below.
- e. Students who finish their 1L year between 2.3 and 2.8 G.P.A. must comply with the requirements in the Academic Support Policy.
- f. Upper-level students (2Ls and 3Ls) who finish any semester below a 2.3 G.P.A. are academically dismissed.
- g. For purposes of this policy, a student’s G.P.A. is only calculated at the end of the Fall and Spring Semesters.

**II. Petition for Re-Entry**

A student who is academically dismissed may petition for re-entry and request one additional Fall or Spring semester to achieve a G.P.A. of at least 2.3.

To petition for re-entry, the student must submit a written request and, if appropriate, supporting materials to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs within 14 days of notice of academic dismissal.

In that petition, the student must demonstrate just cause for re-entry. To establish just cause, the student must: (A) explain the circumstances that produced the unsatisfactory

performance; (B) explain how those circumstances do not indicate either a lack of effort or lack of ability to complete law school; (C) explain the steps the student has taken to remedy those circumstances, (or explain that those circumstances no longer exist and will not recur); (D) explain why the foregoing explanations establish a substantial likelihood that the student will complete law school; and (E) explain, if applicable, the extent of the student's participation in the Academic Support program.

The student will receive a preliminary ruling on the petition as soon as feasible from the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, who will consult, as appropriate, with the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, the Director of Academic Support Programs, faculty, and other law school staff.

The law faculty will grant the petition upon a sufficient showing of just cause as explained above. Note: the student may enroll in Intersession and Summer classes in advance of the additional semester.

The faculty (through the Associate Dean) may impose conditions as part of the decision to grant such a petition.

The Associate Dean may request additional information from the student or others before ruling on the petition.

The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs will circulate the preliminary ruling to the faculty. If four faculty members object to the ruling within five business days, the matter will go before the full faculty for a vote.

### **III. Application for Re-Admission**

Students who are academically dismissed after their 1L year because of a G.P.A. below 2.3 may apply for Re-Admission as a first-year student. Such Re-Admission is granted infrequently.

To apply for re-admission, the student must submit a standard application for admission to law school.

Along with that application, the student must submit a statement that: (A) explains the circumstances that produced academic dismissal; (B) explains the steps taken to remedy those circumstances, (or explain that those circumstances no longer exist and will not recur); (C) explains why the foregoing explanations establish a substantial likelihood that the student will complete law school; and (D) explains, if applicable, the extent of the student's participation in the Academic Support Program before academic dismissal.

Students who are readmitted will be granted forgiveness for their original 1L grades. A student may retake courses only once.