

Proposal to Revise the 18-unit Cap on Withdrawals Policy

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On behalf of the

University Academic Advising Council

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Approved with revisions by UGC Curriculum and Policies Subcommittee, 3/31/2020; approved by UGC, 4/14/2020

Proposed Policy / Policy Update:

Under the current withdrawal policy students can withdraw from a total of 18 units (e.g. six 3-unit courses). The count for the 18-unit limit of W grades should be reset to zero for UA alum who return to pursue a second degree.

W Grade Unit Maximum: The number of undergraduate course withdrawals (drops) cannot exceed 18 units during the student's undergraduate career; the 18-unit limit will be reset once a student completes a bachelor's degree at the University and begins a Second Bachelor's Degree (does not apply to concurrent degrees). The 18-unit maximum applies to all courses dropped with a W grade. The W grade is awarded for all withdrawals between the first and final withdrawal deadlines – from the third week through the thirteenth week of a regular semester (including those awarded for administrative drops or for approved Late Change Petitions).

Rationale:

Resetting the Cap to Zero for a Second Degree: University of Arizona alumnus should be allowed, even encouraged, to return for a second degree and experience the same privileges as a new transfer student and have the benefit of 18 units of W, should they need it. These returning students are now juggling family and work balance along with the work for a second degree. They need to have the ability to withdraw from a course when life circumstances dictate such and should not be held back from a previous academic record where they may have used some, or all of the W grade.

Implementation Plan:

- UAccess modification to reset 18 unit cap to zero upon return for second degree.
- Adjust catalog policy.

Proposed Effective Term:

AY 20-21.