Dismissal Reinstatement Spring 2021 Information

Overview

This information is for students who received a letter from the Registrar at the end of Fall 2020 term discussing your academic standing. If your letter indicates that you have been academically dismissed and lists “Dismissal Reinstatement” as an option, you are invited to participate in a new pilot program called Dismissal Reinstatement. Dismissal Reinstatement represents a pilot change in the UT dismissal policy, allowing continued enrollment (not having to sit out or remain away from UT) for students who meet certain academic criteria.

Dismissal Reinstatement allows students to continue enrollment at UT, but it does not return students to their original college; catalog statements from the colleges of Engineering, Nursing, Business, Architecture or Education declare that a student dismissed while in that college cannot return to that college. If you have been in one of those colleges, you must seek another program of study outside of that college. Please connect with a Transition Advisor to discuss alternative major plans.

The goal of Dismissal Reinstatement is to help you become a better student (increasing your skills and awareness) and improve your results (GPA repair and return to good academic standing). Dismissal Reinstatement requires your participation in resource engagement (such as academic coaching and academic support workshops), scheduled at the start of Spring term.

Eligibility & Participation

Students who are dismissed at the end of Fall 2020 and who meet the following criteria are invited to participate in this pilot program:

- no previous academic dismissals; and
- a minimum cumulative GPA of 1.50 or higher; and
- 15 or fewer deficiency points.

To participate in this program, you must submit the online Dismissal Reinstatement enrollment form by noon on Thursday, January 7th. You must be advised (even if you have had a prior advising appointment) by January 19th.

Requirements

The goal of this program is to provide you an opportunity to make significant changes that will positively impact your academic progress here at UT. Because you are a UT student, we know you are capable of success. The requirements below are intended to help you in this pursuit.

To participate in the Dismissal Reinstatement program, you must agree to:

- Meet with an academic advisor by January 19th to plan or rework your Spring 2021 schedule. Because your dismissal may have changed things, this must be a new meeting (not one you had during the previous term).
  - If you were dismissed from Education, Engineering, Architecture, Business, or Nursing, you must meet with a Transition Advisor for advising purposes
- Participate in two required academic workshops during the Spring term to help you build skills and make changes to strengthen your abilities as a student.
• Initial workshop: January 19th or January 20th
  • Midterm workshop: March 17th or March 18th

- Meet with your Academic Success Center academic coach for two required meetings during the Spring term.
  - First meeting – between January 21st and February 12th
  - Second meeting – between March 19th and April 16th
- Engage course-specific resources (office hours and tutoring, for instance) in a teachable, proactive manner.
- Check UT email regularly for communication from the University and respond promptly to requests from the Academic Success Center related to Dismissal Reinstatement.

To continue uninterrupted enrollment in future semesters (beyond Spring 2021), you must achieve one of the following at the end of Spring 2021 term:

- Return to good standing with both term and cumulative GPAs above a 2.00, allowing you to continue enrollment in good standing; or,
- Earn at least a 2.30 term GPA, allowing you to continue enrollment on academic probation. To continue uninterrupted enrollment thereafter, you would need at least a 2.30 term GPA in subsequent semesters until you return to good standing.

Cautions and Possible Hazards

Although Dismissal Reinstatement offers students a unique opportunity to avoid dismissal and continue enrollment, you should participate only if you are able to give full attention to your coursework. **Students who are not fully ready (mentally, emotionally, and financially) to continue coursework put themselves in danger of digging a deeper academic hole for themselves.** While participation in this program may sound far more preferable than dismissal, it is exceedingly important that your next semester of enrollment be a successful one; if you are not in a position (mentally, emotionally, financially) to succeed this summer or fall, participation in the Reinstatement program could possibly further harm your academic record and lead to greater financial debt.

Similarly, if you are not willing to engage tutoring, office hours, coaching and advising, now is not the time to return. Active engagement of resources is required and expected within the Dismissal Reinstatement program and is not optional.

Next Steps toward Enrollment

As discussed above, if your academic standing letter from the Registrar listed Dismissal Reinstatement as an option, apply for the program by submitting the online Dismissal Reinstatement enrollment form. That form will be approved provided you have no existing holds on your account (holds typically fall into two categories: financial, for which you would see One Stop, and disciplinary/behavioral, for which you would see the office of Student Conduct and Community Standards). All holds on your account must be cleared by January 7th for you to participate in Dismissal Reinstatement and be enrolled for Spring 2021.

When you are reinstated for Spring 2021, actively take the following steps which are open to you just as they would have been if you had not been dismissed:
• **One Stop.** Contact One Stop about administrative needs, particularly if financial aid is important to you.
  - Students facing dismissal at the end of their second semester of UT enrollment will need to file an appeal (such as an SAP appeal for Satisfactory Academic Progress) to maintain certain aspects of their financial aid. Because an SAP appeal requires an academic plan formulated by you and your academic advisor, it is important that you have this conversation with One Stop prior to meeting with your academic advisor!
  - Dismissal Reinstatement opens the door to regular Spring 2021 enrollment. There is no difference between a Dismissal Reinstatement student and any other UT undergraduate student with regards to tuition or other costs and options (housing, dining, etc.).

• **Academic Advising.** Secure an advising appointment.
  - Even if you have previously met with an advisor during Fall term or if you have already registered for spring classes, you must meet with an academic advisor to reassess your needs in the wake of your Fall 2020 grades.
  - If you were dismissed while in Business, Engineering, Nursing, Architecture, or Education, you will need to meet with a Transition advisor (call 865-974-5435) to work out an academic plan for a new college and program of study.
  - If you have not been in Business, Engineering, Nursing, Architecture, or Education, and you are continuing in your present major, see your assigned academic advisor.
  - This is a pivotal time in your academic career, a time when you will benefit by giving academic planning the thorough attention it deserves. Advising at this point is not about “getting a schedule” but includes strategic analysis for GPA repair (possibly repeating a course for grade-replacement) and tailoring your program and curricular options in ways that position you for success. For this reason, we want your advising appointment to take place in-person and as soon as possible. Contact your advising office promptly after your conversation with One Stop to schedule your appointment. If you know you will be filing an SAP appeal (see above under “One Stop”), let your advising office know this as you schedule your advising appointment; some offices schedule additional time for the appointment in order to construct the SAP academic plan.

• **Registration.** Following your academic advising appointment, promptly register for Spring 2021 courses.
  - If you had a Spring 2021 schedule and you submitted your enrollment form by January 7th, many of your courses may have been retained. However, courses within Engineering, Nursing, Business, Architecture, or Education will be removed from the schedules of all dismissed students who were formerly in those colleges. Finally, progression concerns will need to be addressed with your academic advisor to make sure you’ve met prerequisites and are positioned for success for your upcoming classes.
  - It is your responsibility to check your course schedule for Spring 2021, and to add classes to obtain a full, well-planned schedule. You must have a full time schedule by January 19th (classes begin January 20th) so that you are positioned for success and ready for the start of classes.
  - Registration for students taking advantage of Dismissal Reinstatement will be capped at a maximum of 16 semester hours. While some students express eagerness to load up on
courses in order to make up for lost time and “fix things,” the quality of your earned grades is currently far more important than the quantity of your attempted hours.

- **Academic Success Center.** The Academic Success Center (ASC) will email you confirmation by January 8th regarding specific information on your academic support requirements and options. As you plan for a successful Spring 2021 term, you are encouraged to meet with an ASC coach this to discuss your own context and challenges, and to begin to design strategies to get off to a great start.

**Tuition and Fees, Housing, Dining**

- See One Stop for all information on costs, financial aid, and billing.
- As discussed above under “One Stop,” there is no difference between a Dismissal Reinstatement student and any other UT undergraduate student regarding tuition or other costs and options (housing, dining, etc.).

**Dates and Deadlines**

All of the following dates, deadlines, and tasks are required this semester. Be sure to make note of them and plan in advance to meet each deadline.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 7th, 12pm</td>
<td>Submit online Dismissal Reinstatement enrollment form</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 19th</td>
<td>Deadline to meet with an advisor</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 19th</td>
<td>Secure a schedule of Spring 2020 classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 19th or 20th</td>
<td>Dismissal Reinstatement Workshop</td>
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<td>February 12th</td>
<td>Deadline for first coaching appointment</td>
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<td>March 17th or 18th</td>
<td>Midterm Workshop</td>
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<td>April 16th</td>
<td>Deadline for second coaching appointment</td>
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**Questions**

If you have questions about the Reinstatement program, email them to Jenny Ludwig at jludwig2@utk.edu. Do not hesitate to be in touch with questions or concerns.