

FOR APPROVAL

PUBLIC

OPEN SESSION

TO: Committee on Academic Policy and Programs

SPONSOR: Professor Nicholas Rule, Vice-Provost, Academic Programs
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PRESENTER: Same as above
CONTACT INFO:

DATE: February 3, 2026 for February 10, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: 3 (c)

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Proposal to Change Return from Absence Policy, Faculty of Arts and Science

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The establishment, termination or major amendment of University-wide policies governing academic regulations are considered by the Committee and forwarded to the Academic Board for approval, for example, but not limited to, policies on academic appeal procedures and standards of professional practice behaviour for students in professional faculties. Minor amendments to University-wide policies may be approved by the Committee. Amendments to divisional academic regulations that will have a major affect in the division or that would require an exception to some element of University-wide policy are considered by the Committee for approval. (AP&P Terms of Reference, Section 4.3)

GOVERNANCE PATH:

- 1. Committee of Academic Policy and Programs [For Approval] (February 10, 2026)**

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

The Faculty of Arts and Science Faculty Council approved the proposal to change its Return from Absence policy on December 10, 2025.

HIGHLIGHTS:

The Return from Absence policy outlines the process for Faculty of Arts & Science undergraduate students seeking to resume their studies after an absence of at least 12

months. It does not differentiate between students who pursued studies elsewhere during their absence and those who did not, nor does it fully align with practices at the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM) and the University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC). The Faculty of Arts & Science is revising the Return from Absence policy to address these discrepancies. The proposed modifications are also in response to changes to the University's Transfer Credit Policy that were effective September 2024, and the related Faculty of Arts & Science proposal, approved through governance in 2024-2025 to be in effect as of September 2025, to remove the previous option for post-admission transfer credit.

There are a number of changes proposed to the Return from Absence policy. First, the definition of final standing for newly admitted students, in the context of this policy, is being expanded to include Late Withdrawal After the Drop Date (LWD) and Withdrawal Without Academic Penalty (WDR), as well as Pass/Failure. This expanded definition will align with the practice at UTM and UTSC and is also included in the proposal put forward to Council in December 2025 ahead of this item, to modify the Late Withdrawal after the Drop Date (LWD) and Cancelling Registration policies.

Second, the attached proposal introduces firm deadlines, in addition to the existing recommended timeframe, for students to request re-registration through their College Registrar's Office. Third, the proposal clarifies in policy the existing process for Faculty of Arts & Science students who, having transferred to another undergraduate division of the University, wish to resume their studies in the Faculty, which is to reapply for admission through the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC). Finally, the proposal adds a new requirement for students who pursued studies without pre-approval at another recognized institution during their absence to re-apply for admission to the Faculty through OUAC. UTM and UTSC will also be introducing this requirement, ensuring consistency across the three divisions.

The revised Return from Absence policy will address the current discrepancies in process and access to apply for transfer credit for students in two similar situations: students who transferred to another undergraduate division of the University and wish to return to the Faculty of Arts & Science, and students who pursued studies without pre-approval at another recognized institution and wish to return to the Faculty.

Consultation outside the Faculty of Arts & Science occurred with UTM, UTSC, and the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design, the University Registrar and the central Registrarial Issues Group.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Any new financial obligations resulting from this change will be met at the divisional level.

RECOMMENDATION:

Be It Resolved:

THAT the proposed changes to Faculty of Arts and Science academic regulation, as described in the proposal from the Faculty of Arts and Science dated November 24, 2025, be approved effective September 1, 2026.

DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:

- Proposal to Change Return from Absence Policy, Faculty of Arts and Science



Proposal for the Creation of a New Policy/Calendar Statement or the Modification of an Existing Policy/Calendar Statement

Policy Name	Return from Absence
Proponent	Lisa Feng, Faculty Registrar & Director, Academic Services Faculty of Arts & Science, University of Toronto
Version Date (Please change the date as you edit the proposal.)	November 24, 2025

Summary

Please provide a brief description of the policy or calendar statement being proposed/modified and the goals for the change.

Proposal for Consideration

The [Return from Absence](#) policy outlines the process for Faculty of Arts & Science undergraduate students seeking to resume their studies after an absence of at least 12 months. Previously registered degree and non-degree students who completed at least one course with a final standing, in the context of this policy, of a final grade or a status of [Credit \(CR\) or No Credit \(NCR\)](#) and wish to return to the Faculty may do so by re-registering through their College Registrar's Office. Currently, the policy does not distinguish between students who pursued studies elsewhere during their absence and those who did not. Students who were previously registered and did not achieve final standing in at least one course are required to re-apply for admission through the [Ontario Universities' Application Centre](#) (OUAC).

The proposal is to revise the Return from Absence policy to:

1. Include [Pass \(P\) or Failure \(FL\)](#), [Late Withdrawal After the Drop Date \(LWD\)](#), and [Withdrawal Without Academic Penalty \(WDR\)](#) in the definition of the final standing, in the context of the policy, that allows newly admitted students to re-register in the Faculty rather than being required to re-apply for admission through OUAC.
2. Introduce deadlines, in addition to the existing recommended timeframe, for students to request re-registration through their College Registrar's Office.
3. Clarify in the Academic Calendar the [already existing process](#) for Faculty of Arts & Science students

who transfer to another undergraduate division of the University of Toronto and subsequently wish to return to the Faculty, which is to re-apply for admission through OUAC.

4. Introduce a new clause of the policy to indicate that Faculty of Arts & Science students who have not been registered for at least 12 months, pursued studies at another recognized degree-granting or a recognized diploma-granting institution that were not pre-approved by a [Letter of Permission](#) or completed as part of an [outbound exchange program](#), and wish to return to their studies in the Faculty will need to re-apply for admission to the Faculty through OUAC. Pursuing studies at another recognized institution encompasses completing both individual courses and an entire academic credential such as an undergraduate or graduate degree or a diploma. The University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM) and the University of Toronto Scarborough (UTSC) will also be submitting similar proposals.

Goals

- To expand the definition of the final standing, in the context of this policy, that allows newly admitted students to re-register in the Faculty to include the status of Pass or Failure and LWD and WDR; a WDR can only be granted by petition.
- To ensure that newly admitted students no longer have to choose between
 - requesting late withdrawal from any course(s) in which they remain enrolled and therefore becoming ineligible to continue their studies in the Faculty without first re-applying through OUAC and subsequently being re-admitted, or
 - remaining enrolled in the course(s) – whether or not they are in fact able to complete the course(s) – in order to remain eligible to continue their studies in the future.
- To ensure that newly admitted students can fully avail themselves of the [Late Withdrawal After the Drop Date \(LWD\)](#) policy, a policy designed “...to assist students, in conjunction with their College Registrars, to remedy situations, particularly in their early years at university, where personal or other circumstances mean they are irretrievably behind in a course, struggling with a course or cannot continue with the course.”
- To align the Faculty of Arts & Science’s definition of final standing in at least one course for newly admitted students, in the context of this policy, with the existing practice at both UTM and UTSC.
- To ensure that students requesting re-registration have the opportunity for academic advising with their College Registrar’s Office in advance of the first day of classes by introducing deadlines for students to submit their request.
- To include in the policy the already existing process for Faculty of Arts & Science students who transfer to another undergraduate division of the University of Toronto and wish to return to the Faculty, which is to re-apply for admission through OUAC.
- To ensure equity of process for students who transfer to another undergraduate division of the

University and wish to return to the Faculty and for students who pursue studies, while not registered in the Faculty for at least 12 months, at another degree-granting or a diploma-granting institution without pre-approval and wish to return to the Faculty.

- Currently, students who pursue studies at another recognized institution without pre-approval can re-register in the Faculty and, with the [discontinuation of the previous option of post-admission transfer credit](#) effective September 1, 2025, are not eligible to apply for transfer credit for their studies.
- To create a consistent pathway for students for the assessment for transfer credit of courses completed at another degree-granting or a diploma-granting institution without pre-approval, including students who would not have been eligible for transfer credit within the parameters of the previous post-admission transfer credit policy.
- To ensure that the Faculty of Arts & Science is aware when students requesting to return to their studies after not being registered for 12 or more months have pursued studies at another recognized institution without pre-approval, in order for the Faculty to assess whether these studies have an impact on their eligibility to return.

Policy Statement or Calendar Language

<p>Current Text</p> <p><i>State the current policy statement or the current language as it appears in the Academic Calendar.</i></p>	<p>Proposed Text</p> <p><i>State the proposed policy statement or the proposed language as it would appear in the Academic Calendar.</i></p>
<p>(https://artsci.calendar.utoronto.ca/withdrawal-and-return-absence#returnfromabsence)</p> <p>Return from Absence</p> <p>Students who were previously registered as degree or non-degree students in the Faculty of Arts & Science, who have completed at least one course in the Faculty, and who have not been registered in the Faculty for at least 12 months must submit an application for re-registration through their College Registrar’s Office. Students who previously studied as non-degree visiting students do not request re-registration. They must submit a new visiting student application and valid letter of permission through Woodsworth College.</p>	<p>(The Calendar text is also included as Appendix 1; the text with changes tracked is included as Appendix 2)</p> <p>Return from Absence</p> <p>Previously registered degree and non-degree students who have not been registered in the Faculty of Arts & Science for at least 12 months who wish to return to their studies in the Faculty:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Re-register through their College Registrar’s Office, or ● Re-apply for admission through the Ontario Universities’ Application Centre <p>Note that, in the context of this policy, pursuing studies at another recognized institution</p>

Students who were previously registered in the Faculty but who did not achieve final standing (e.g., a final grade or CR/NCR) in at least one course must re-apply for admission through the Ontario Universities Application Centre.

Students with outstanding accounts may not re-register at the University until these accounts are paid.

The recommended timeframe to submit an application for re-registration is a minimum of two weeks prior to course enrolment for the relevant session. Course enrolment for the Fall/Winter session begins in July; course enrolment for the Summer session begins in March. Although applications for re-registration will continue to be accepted after these dates, please note that if enrolment has already started some courses may no longer have space.

It is recommended that students planning to re-register make an appointment with an advisor in their College Registrar's Office to discuss their academic plans, their degree and program requirements, and any changes in Faculty policies or procedures since their last registration.

encompasses completing both individual courses and an entire academic credential such as an undergraduate or graduate degree or a diploma.

Students who are eligible to re-register through their College Registrar's Office:

- Students who
 - obtained final standing in at least one course with a final mark, a status of Credit/No Credit ([CR/NCR](#)) or Pass/Failure ([P/FL](#)), or an [LWD](#) or [WDR](#), and
 - are returning from a suspension of one or three years or from a suspension due to academic misconduct.

- Students who
 - obtained final standing in at least one course with a final mark, a status of Credit/No Credit ([CR/NCR](#)) or Pass/Failure ([P/FL](#)), or an [LWD](#) or [WDR](#),
 - are not returning from a suspension of one or three years or a suspension due to academic misconduct,
 - did not pursue any studies at another recognized institution during their absence **except where pre-approved** by a [Letter of Permission](#) or as part of an outbound exchange program, and
 - have not transferred to another undergraduate division of the University of Toronto.

The recommended timeframe to submit an application for re-registration is a minimum of two weeks prior to the first day of [course enrolment](#) for the relevant session (Fall/Winter or Summer). Although applications for re-registration will continue to be accepted after these dates, please note that if enrolment has already started some courses may no longer have space. The final deadlines to submit an

application for re-registration are:

- The first day of F and Y classes for re-registration in the Fall/Winter session or the Summer session.
- The first day of S classes for re-registration only in the Winter term or the second term of the Summer.

It is recommended that students planning to re-register meet with an advisor in their [College Registrar's Office](#) to discuss their academic plans, their degree and program requirements, and any changes in Faculty policies or procedures since their last registration.

Students with [outstanding accounts](#) may not re-register at the University until these accounts are paid.

Students who must re-apply for admission through the [Ontario Universities' Application Centre](#):

- Students who did not obtain final standing in at least one course with a final mark, a status of Credit/No Credit ([CR/NCR](#)) or Pass/Failure ([P/FL](#)), or an [LWD](#) or [WDR](#).
- Students who transferred to another undergraduate division of the University of Toronto.
- Students who
 - obtained final standing in at least one course with a final mark, a status of Credit/No Credit ([CR/NCR](#)) or Pass/Failure ([P/FL](#)), or an [LWD](#) or [WDR](#), and
 - pursued studies at another recognized institution **without pre-approval** (the courses were not completed on the basis of a [Letter of Permission](#) or an outbound exchange program) while they were not registered.

Note: Students who previously studied as non-degree visiting students must submit a new visiting student application and valid Letter of Permission through [Woodsworth College](#).

Rationale or Case for Action

You may wish to speak to when the policy or calendar statement was first created or last modified; past success/failure of the policy being modified. What has led to the decision to propose/modify the policy or calendar statement? Where appropriate, include relevant metrics and/or explain alignment with the division's academic plan.

The proposed modifications to the Return from Absence policy clarify the process by which Faculty of Arts & Science students may resume their studies after an absence of at least 12 months. The changes expand the definition of the final standing for newly admitted students that allows them to continue their studies in the Faculty to include Pass (P), Failure (FL), Late Withdrawal After the Drop Date (LWD), and Withdrawal Without Academic Penalty (WDR), allowing more students to re-register through their College Registrar's Office rather than being required to re-apply through the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC). The modifications also introduce firm deadlines for students to request re-registration and clarify the existing process for students returning to the Faculty from another undergraduate division of the University, who must re-apply for admission through OUAC. Finally, in response to [changes to the University's Transfer Credit policy in 2024](#) and the [Faculty's related policies in 2025](#), the proposal also adds a new requirement for students who pursued studies without pre-approval at another recognized institution during their absence to re-apply for admission. Similar updates will be implemented at UTM and UTSC to ensure consistency across the three divisions.

Effective September 1, 2025, in the Faculty of Arts & Science (as well as at UTM and UTSC), transfer credit is granted to students who have completed at least one session in the Faculty only for courses pre-approved by a Letter of Permission or that are taken as part of an outbound exchange program. The divisions previously had a process in place by which students completed courses at another institution without pre-approval and then in some cases were subsequently eligible to apply for transfer credit; this process is referred to as post-admission transfer credit.

As part of the research for the [proposal to no longer offer post-admission transfer credit](#) as an option for students, any instance when a student might apply for post-admission transfer credit was identified, including the re-registration process within the Return from Absence policy. In some cases, students who re-registered in the Faculty were eligible to apply for post-admission transfer credit for courses they completed outside the Faculty without pre-approval, however they were not consistently eligible to do so based on both the post-admission transfer credit application deadline of no later than one month after the completion of the courses and the parameters in place concerning the types of studies for which post-admission transfer credit could be granted.

The fundamental rationale for the most substantive aspect of the proposal to modify the Return from Absence policy is to address the current discrepancies for students in two similar situations: students who transferred to

another undergraduate division of the University and wish to return to the Faculty of Arts & Science, and students who pursued studies at another degree-granting or a diploma-granting institution outside of the context of a [Letter of Permission](#) or an exchange program and wish to return to the Faculty. The former are required to re-apply for admission to the Faculty through OUAC and provide relevant academic documentation to be assessed for their eligibility to be re-admitted, and, with the exception of students who transferred to UTM, UTSC, or the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design (Daniels Faculty) for whom [all courses and marks are retained](#) when they are re-admitted to the Faculty of Arts & Science, [must apply for a transfer credit assessment](#). The latter are currently eligible to re-register without being required to provide any documentation concerning their studies at the other institution and are not eligible for transfer credit. In addition, it was not mandatory for students to apply for the previous option of post-admission transfer credit if they had completed courses at another institution without pre-approval.

The proposed modification to the Return from Absence policy to clarify in which contexts students are eligible to re-register and in which contexts they must re-apply for admission ensures equity of process and access to apply for transfer credit for students who pursue studies outside of the Faculty without pre-approval by the Faculty, whether as a student registered in another undergraduate division of the University or as a student at another recognized degree-granting or a recognized diploma-granting institution.

It is important to note that Faculty of Arts & Science students who are not currently registered are eligible to request pre-approval by means of a Letter of Permission to take courses at another recognized institution, and would subsequently be eligible for transfer credit for these courses and to re-register in the Faculty through their College Registrar's Office, since the courses were pre-approved.

In addition, this proposal seeks to assist students newly admitted to the Faculty both by expanding the definition of the final standing that would allow re-registration in the Faculty and by aligning the definition with the existing practice at UTM and UTSC.

The relevant policies for these divisions are:

- The [Return from Absence \(Voluntary Leave or Withdrawal\)](#) policy in the 2025-2026 UTM Academic Calendar.
- The [Return from Absence \(Voluntary Leave or Withdrawal\)](#) policy in the 2025-2026 UTSC Academic Calendar.

Both the Registrar and Assistant Dean, Strategic Enrolment Management at UTSC and the Registrar & Assistant Dean, Enrolment Management at UTM have confirmed the practice in their divisions.

Currently, newly admitted Faculty of Arts & Science students with only LWDs and/or WDRs on their record during their first session in the Faculty would not be eligible to continue their studies in the Faculty without first re-applying through OUAC and subsequently being re-admitted.

By expanding the definition of final standing in at least one course to include late withdrawals (LWD and WDR) to align with the existing practice at UTM and UTSC, the Faculty of Arts & Science will in particular ensure that newly admitted students can fully avail themselves of the [Late Withdrawal After the Drop Date \(LWD\)](#) policy, created, as is stated in the 2025-2026 Academic Calendar, "...to assist students, in conjunction with their College Registrars, to remedy situations, particularly in their early years at university, where personal or other circumstances mean they are irretrievably behind in a course, struggling with a course or cannot continue with the course."

Impact and Implementation of Proposed Change(s)

Indicate the positive and negative implications that need to be considered in the creation/modification of the policy or calendar statement. State the impact of the creation/modification of policy or calendar statement on the divisional student experience as well as potential effects on other University of Toronto divisions.

The most substantive proposed modification to the policy brings the Faculty of Arts & Science into closer alignment with several [U15 universities](#)¹: to stipulate that students who, while not registered in the Faculty for at least 12 months, pursued studies at another degree-granting or a diploma-granting institution without pre-approval must re-apply for admission.

Although certain aspects of re-applying rather than re-registering may be considered positive, for example the increased number and scope of transfer credits for which students may be eligible upon re-admission, whereas others may be considered negative, for example the fee for re-application and the timing of when re-admitted students can begin their studies in the Faculty, it is important to note that the goal of this proposal is to ensure equity of process and access to apply for transfer credit for students who pursue studies outside of the Faculty without pre-approval, whether as a student in another undergraduate division at the University of Toronto or as a student at another degree-granting or a diploma-granting institution.

In addition, including LWD and WDR in the definition of final standing in at least one course, in the context of the Return from Absence policy, ensures that newly admitted students no longer need to choose between requesting withdrawal from any course(s) in which they remain enrolled and therefore becoming ineligible to continue their studies without first re-applying through OUAC, or remaining enrolled in the course(s) – whether or not they are in fact able to complete the course(s) – in order to remain eligible to re-register in the future.

¹ [Dalhousie University](#), [McMaster University](#), the [University of Alberta](#), the [University of British Columbia](#), the [University of Calgary](#), and the [University of Waterloo](#) ([another link](#) is also relevant for the University of Waterloo).

A comparison of re-registration through a student's College Registrar's Office and re-application through OUAC for admission

The following chart compares the re-registration and re-application for admission processes.

	Re-registration	Re-application for admission
When can students begin their studies in the Faculty of Arts & Science?	The Fall term, Winter term, first term of the Summer, or second term of the Summer.	The Fall term.
What is the associated deadline?	Currently there is a recommended timeframe rather than a deadline; new deadlines are included in the proposed Calendar text earlier in this proposal.	January, or later as determined by the Faculty of Arts & Science.
What is the associated fee?	\$27	\$96
What are the parameters that students must meet?	Students' academic standing in the Faculty must be a status of in good standing or on academic probation, including returning from a status of suspension.	The current admission requirements, which may differ from the requirements the student met when initially admitted to the Faculty.
Is the submission of transcripts for any studies completed outside of the Faculty mandatory?	No, unless a student chose to apply for the previous option of post-admission transfer credit within the relevant deadlines to do so.	Yes, for studies completed at another institution.
Are students eligible for transfer credit? Note that Faculty of Arts & Science students must complete at least 10.0 credits in courses offered by the Faculty.	Effective September 1, 2025, students are only eligible for transfer credit if the studies were pre-approved by a Letter of Permission. The maximum number of credits that can be granted by a Letter of Permission is 5.0.	All previous studies are assessed for eligibility to contribute to a student's Arts & Science degree. The scope of on-admission transfer credit includes courses that would not be eligible for a Letter of Permission or the previous option of post-admission transfer credit, for example College studies.
What is the fee to apply for transfer credit?	Letter of Permission: \$42 for up to two courses, and then \$21 per subsequent course requested (effective for Letters of Permission for the Winter 2026 term).	On-admission transfer credit: \$32.50.

	Re-registration	Re-application for admission
Which degree and program (Specialist, Major, Minor) requirements do students follow?	Those in place at the time of their original admission to the Faculty and program enrolment.	The degree requirements in place at the time of their re-admission; the program requirements in place at the time of their original program enrolment, unless they enrol in different programs when re-admitted to the Faculty.
Do students need to re-apply to any limited enrolment programs in which they were previously enrolled?	No.	No.

Consultation Undertaken

Please provide evidence of consultation with any stakeholders (e.g., students, staff, faculty members, alumni, U of T divisions, third-party stakeholders if applicable) to be affected by the creation/modification of policy or calendar statement. Indicate how stakeholders will be notified of the proposed/modified policy or calendar statement following approval.

In the Faculty of Arts & Science

Initial consultation during the 2024-2025 governance cycle

Consultation was undertaken with the following stakeholder groups:

December 4, 2024, and January 17, 2025: Discussions with the College Registrars concerning the proposal, the documentation for which was shared on November 22, 2024; feedback was provided on the proposed Calendar text. The College Registrars confirmed support for the proposal in the January 17 meeting.

December 11, 2024: Presentation at the Faculty Management Team (FMT) meeting; support was expressed for the proposal.

January 30, 2025: Presentation to the Arts & Science Registrarial Collaboration Committee (ARCC), the members of which include advisors in College Registrar's Offices; members requested clarity on several aspects of the proposal and provided detailed feedback concerning the implementation of the proposal.

January 30, 2025: Presentation at the Arts & Science Communication & Consultation (C&C) meeting, the participants in which include advisors in College Registrar's Offices, departmental administrators, Associate Chairs, Undergraduate, and colleagues from Rotman Commerce; no concerns were expressed about the proposal.

February 14, 2025: Presentation to the Arts & Science Students' Union (ASSU); support was expressed for the proposal.

February 18, 2025: Presentation shared with the Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students (APUS); no concerns were expressed about the proposal.

Final consultation during the 2025-2026 governance cycle

August 28, 2025: Second presentation to ARCC. Clarity was provided in response to members' questions from the January 30, 2025, meeting and changes to the proposal based on the questions were discussed.

September 3, 2025: Presentation to, and discussion with, the College Registrars concerning the proposal; updates were provided on changes to the proposal since the discussion on January 17, 2025.

October 15, 2025: A second presentation was shared with APUS; no concerns were expressed about the proposal.

October 30, 2025: Discussion with ARCC; updates were provided on changes to the proposal since the discussion on August 28, 2025. No concerns were expressed about the changes to the proposal.

October 30, 2025: Second presentation to the C&C group. Questions were asked and addressed about program enrolment and transfer credit in the context of the proposal. The presentation was also circulated in advance of, and after, the meeting.

October 31, 2025: Second presentation to ASSU; support was expressed for the proposal.

Across the University

Discussions with UTM, UTSC, and the University Registrar concerning the proposed substantive policy modification – the introduction of the requirement that students who, while not registered for at least 12 months, pursued studies without pre-approval at another degree-granting or a diploma-granting institution would need to re-apply for admission rather than being eligible to re-register – began in July 2024. The Faculty of Arts & Science's draft proposal was shared with the Registrars of, and registrarial colleagues at, UTM and UTSC on January 30, 2025, for initial review and feedback.

On July 7, 2025, registrarial representatives from the Faculty of Arts & Science, UTM, and UTSC met and confirmed that the three divisions would collaboratively be moving forward with the proposed substantive modification to the Return from Absence policy during the 2025-2026 governance cycle.

The Faculty of Arts & Science's final proposal was shared with the Registrars of, and registrarial colleagues at, UTM and UTSC, as well as the Registrar of the Daniels Faculty, on September 4, 2025. On October 2, 2025, the proposal was discussed in a meeting of the University Registrar and the Registrars of UTM, UTSC, the Daniels Faculty, and the Faculty of Arts & Science; feedback provided was incorporated into the proposed Calendar text.

On October 14, 2025, the proposal was presented at a meeting of the central Registrarial Issues Group; support was expressed for the proposal. The discussion included the distinction within the context of the proposal between direct-entry and second-entry undergraduate programs at the University, as well as the implementation of the proposal by means of updating the re-registration form with a note concerning the disclosure by students of all studies pursued while not registered. On October 16, 2025, the detailed proposal document was shared with the Registrars of all divisions of the University; no concerns were expressed about the proposal.

Policy Implementation

Please indicate when the proposed/modified policy or calendar statement will go into effect as well as where and how this will be implemented.

Effective Date

Pending the relevant governance approval, the proposed modifications will go into effect for September 1, 2026, with the publication of the 2026-2027 Academic Calendar in May 2026. The modified policy will be in effect for all in-progress and newly admitted students.

Implementation Timeline

The substantive proposed modification requires an update to the current OUAC internal transfer student application. The Office of the Faculty Registrar of the Faculty of Arts & Science, on behalf of the Faculty of Arts & Science, UTM, and UTSC, contacted the University Registrar's Office in November 2024 concerning the possibility of this update. It was confirmed in July 2025 that all necessary actions were being taken to implement the proposal, pending governance approval.

The re-registration form completed by Faculty of Arts & Science students who have not been registered in at least 12 months will, pending governance approval, be updated with a statement concerning the disclosure by students of all studies pursued while not registered. The form will direct students who pursued studies without pre-approval to re-apply through OUAC.

The communication plan, pending governance approval, is:

- The modified policy will be published in the 2026-2027 Faculty of Arts & Science Academic Calendar and will be referenced in the Policy and Other Changes page in the Calendar.
- The [Faculty of Arts & Science website](#) will be updated as well as the relevant knowledge base articles in the Student Advising Service.
- Advanced notice of the change in policy will be provided via the Arts & Science Academic Advising Community Teams channel, to assist all stakeholders with providing consistent responses to student inquiries.
- Notice of the change in policy will be provided to students via the eNews, an email sent monthly to all Faculty of Arts & Science students.

Consultation/Governance Pathway

Steps/Stakeholders	Date(s) of Sign-offs/Approvals
Office of the Faculty Registrar, Faculty of Arts & Science	December 11, 2024
Office of the Dean, Faculty of Arts & Science	December 11, 2024
VPAP Sign-off	November 24, 2025
Arts & Science Council	December 10, 2025 (for approval)
University of Toronto Committee on Academic Policy and Programs	February 10, 2026 (for approval)

Appendix 1

Proposed Academic Calendar text

Return from Absence

Previously registered degree and non-degree students who have not been registered in the Faculty of Arts & Science for at least 12 months who wish to return to their studies in the Faculty:

- Re-register through their College Registrar's Office, or
- Re-apply for admission through the [Ontario Universities' Application Centre](#)

Note that pursuing studies at another recognized institution encompasses completing both individual courses and an entire academic credential such as an undergraduate or graduate degree or a diploma.

Students who are eligible to re-register through their [College Registrar's Office](#):

- Students who
 - obtained final standing in at least one course with a final mark, a status of Credit/No Credit ([CR/NCR](#)) or Pass/Failure ([P/FL](#)), or an [LWD](#) or [WDR](#), and
 - are returning from a suspension of one or three years or from a suspension due to academic misconduct.
- Students who
 - obtained final standing in at least one course with a final mark, a status of Credit/No Credit ([CR/NCR](#)) or Pass/Failure ([P/FL](#)), or an [LWD](#) or [WDR](#),
 - are not returning from a suspension of one or three years or a suspension due to academic misconduct,
 - did not pursue any studies at another recognized institution during their absence **except where pre-approved** by a [Letter of Permission](#) or as part of an outbound exchange program, and
 - have not transferred to another undergraduate division of the University of Toronto.

The recommended timeframe to submit an application for re-registration is a minimum of two weeks prior to the first day of [course enrolment](#) for the relevant session (Fall/Winter or Summer). Although applications for re-registration will continue to be accepted after these dates, please note that if enrolment has already started some courses may no longer have space. The final deadlines to submit an application for re-registration are:

- The first day of F and Y classes for re-registration in the Fall/Winter session or the Summer session.
- The first day of S classes for re-registration only in the Winter term or the second term of the Summer.

It is recommended that students planning to re-register make an appointment with an advisor in their [College Registrar's Office](#) to discuss their academic plans, their degree and program requirements, and any changes in Faculty policies or procedures since their last registration.

Students with [outstanding accounts](#) may not re-register at the University until these accounts are paid.

Students who must re-apply for admission through the [Ontario Universities' Application Centre](#):

- Students who did not obtain final standing in at least one course with a final mark, a status of Credit/No Credit ([CR/NCR](#)) or Pass/Failure ([P/FL](#)), or an [LWD](#) or [WDR](#).
- Students who transferred to another undergraduate division of the University of Toronto.
- Students who
 - obtained final standing in at least one course with a final mark, a status of Credit/No Credit ([CR/NCR](#)) or Pass/Failure ([P/FL](#)), or an [LWD](#) or [WDR](#), and
 - pursued studies at another recognized institution **without pre-approval** (the courses were not completed on the basis of a [Letter of Permission](#) or an outbound exchange program) while they were not registered.

Note: Students who previously studied as non-degree visiting students must submit a new visiting student application and valid Letter of Permission through [Woodsworth College](#).

Appendix 2

Proposed changes to current Calendar text – 2024-2025 Faculty of Arts & Science Academic Calendar

Return from Absence

Previously registered degree and non-degree students who have not been registered in the Faculty of Arts & Science for at least 12 months who wish to return to their studies in the Faculty:

- Re-register through their College Registrar's Office, or
- Re-apply for admission through the Ontario Universities' Application Centre

Note that pursuing studies at another recognized institution encompasses completing both individual courses and an entire academic credential such as an undergraduate or graduate degree or a diploma.

Students who are eligible to re-register through their College Registrar's Office:

- Students who
 - obtained final standing in at least one course with a final mark, a status of Credit/No Credit (CR/NCR) or Pass/Failure (P/FL), or an LWD or WDR, and
 - are returning from a suspension of one or three years or from a suspension due to academic misconduct.
- Students who
 - were previously registered as degree or non-degree students in the Faculty of Arts & Science, who
 - obtained final standing in at least one course with a final mark, a status of Credit/No Credit (CR/NCR) or Pass/Failure (P/FL), or an LWD or WDR, have completed at least one course in the Faculty, and who have not been registered in the Faculty for at least 12 months
 - are not returning from a suspension of one or three years or a suspension due to academic misconduct,
 - did not pursue any studies at another recognized institution during their absence **except where pre-approved** by a Letter of Permission or as part of an outbound exchange program, and
 - have not transferred to another undergraduate division of the University of Toronto.

The recommended timeframe to submit an application for re-registration is a minimum of two weeks prior to the first day of course enrolment for the relevant session (Fall/Winter or Summer). Although applications for re-registration will continue to be accepted after these dates, please note that if enrolment has already started some courses may no longer have space. The final deadlines to submit an application for re-registration are:

- The first day of F and Y classes for re-registration in the Fall/Winter session or the Summer session.
- The first day of S classes for re-registration only in the Winter term or the second term of the Summer.

It is recommended that students planning to re-register make an appointment with an advisor in their College Registrar's Office to discuss their academic plans, their degree and program requirements, and any changes in Faculty policies or procedures since their last registration.

~~Students with outstanding accounts may not re-register at the University until these accounts are paid.~~

~~**Students who must re-apply for admission through the Ontario Universities' Application Centre:**~~

- ~~• Students who did not obtain final standing in at least one course with a final mark, a status of Credit/No Credit (CR/NCR) or Pass/Failure (P/FL), or an LWD or WDR.~~
- ~~• Students who transferred to another undergraduate division of the University of Toronto.~~
- ~~• Students who
 - ~~○ obtained final standing in at least one course with a final mark, a status of Credit/No Credit (CR/NCR) or Pass/Failure (P/FL), or an LWD or WDR, and~~
 - ~~○ pursued studies at another recognized institution **without pre-approval** (the courses were not completed on the basis of a Letter of Permission or an outbound exchange program) while they were not registered.~~~~

~~must submit an application for re-registration through their College Registrar's Office. **Note:** Students who previously studied as non-degree visiting students **do not request re-registration.** They must submit a new visiting student application and valid Letter of pPermission through Woodsworth College.~~

~~Students who were previously registered in the Faculty but who did not achieve final standing (e.g., a final grade or CR/NCR) in at least one course must re-apply for admission through the Ontario Universities Application Centre.~~

~~Students with outstanding accounts may not re-register at the University until these accounts are paid.~~

~~The recommended timeframe to submit an application for re-registration is a minimum of two weeks prior to course enrolment for the relevant session. Course enrolment for the Fall/Winter session begins in July; course enrolment for the Summer session begins in March. Although applications for re-registration will continue to be accepted after these dates, please note that if enrolment has already started some courses may no longer have space.~~

~~It is recommended that students planning to re-register make an appointment with an advisor in their College Registrar's Office to discuss their academic plans, their degree and program requirements, and any changes in Faculty policies or procedures since their last registration.~~