



## Academic Renewal

### SOURCES:

BoR POLICY 3.5.1, ACADEMIC RENEWAL

ACADEMIC & STUDENT AFFAIRS HANDBOOK 2.5.1, ACADEMIC RENEWAL

EFFECTIVE DATE: JUNE 1995, UPDATED 5/24/2000 Revised 4/2015

### Definition of Terms for the Purpose of These Procedures

**Academic Renewal:** A provision which allows USG degree-seeking students who earlier experienced academic difficulty to make a fresh start and have one final opportunity to earn an associate or bachelor's degree. Students receiving academic renewal receive a new grade point average to be used for determining academic standing.

**Required Minimum Period of Absence or Period of Absence:** The minimum period of time a student must be absent from an institution before returning to be eligible for consideration for Academic Renewal at that institution. South Georgia State College (SGSC) determined the required Period of Absence for academic renewal eligibility to be five years.

- I. Applying for Academic Renewal
  - A. Degree-seeking undergraduate students may apply for Academic Renewal at the time of enrollment or reenrollment at SGSC.
  - B. A student must apply for Academic Renewal status within three semesters of re-enrollment or within one calendar year, whichever comes first.
  - C. Applications for Academic Renewal should be submitted to the Registrar's Office.
- II. Eligibility for Academic Renewal
  - A. Only undergraduate degree-seeking students may be eligible for Academic Renewal.
  - B. A student shall only be granted Academic Renewal one (1) time in the University System.
  - C. Students may be eligible for Academic Renewal as either a student readmitted after previously attending SGSC or as a student transferring to SGSC.
    - i. Readmitted Students
      1. Undergraduate students who return to SGSC may be eligible for Academic Renewal.
      2. Readmitted students must be absent from SGSC for a minimum of five years (the Required Minimum Period of Absence or Period of Absence).
      3. The Period of Absence is calculated based on the period of time between the date of last enrollment at SGSC and the date of return to SGSC.
      4. Only coursework completed prior to the Period of Absence may be considered for Academic Renewal. If Academic Renewal is granted, all coursework completed prior to the Period of Absence will be renewed.
      5. Students may attend other institutions during the Period of Absence; however, that coursework will not be eligible for Academic Renewal. Transfer credit for any coursework taken during the Period of Absence shall be granted in accordance with the prevailing USG and SGSC policies and procedures regarding the awarding of transfer credit.
    - ii. Transfer Students
      1. Students who previously attended an USG institution or any regionally-accredited institution of higher education and transfer to a USG institution may be eligible for Academic Renewal for coursework taken prior to the period of time equal to the Period of Absence (five years).

2. If Academic Renewal is granted, all coursework completed prior to the period of time equal to the Required Minimum Period of Absence (five years) will be renewed.
  3. Courses taken during the period of time equal to the Required Period of Absence (five years) are ineligible for consideration for Academic Renewal. Transfer credit for any coursework taken during that period of time shall be granted in accordance with the prevailing USG and SGSC policies and procedures regarding the awarding of transfer credit. Retained grades are not calculated in a Renewal GPA. Such credit is considered in the same context as transfer credit, credit by examination, and courses with grades of "S."
- III. Academic Renewal and Admissions
- A. Receiving Academic Renewal does not guarantee admission or readmission to an institution. All students, including those granted Academic Renewal, must meet BOR and institution admission requirements.
  - B. The granting of Academic Renewal does not supersede the admissions requirements of certain programs, e.g., teacher education and nursing, which require a specific minimum grade point average based upon all coursework.
- IV. Impact of Academic Renewal on GPA, Academic Credit Earned, Financial Aid Eligibility
- A. If a student with Academic Renewal is admitted or readmitted to a USG institution, the institution shall honor the Academic Renewal granted at another USG institution such that the coursework for which Academic Renewal has been granted at one institution shall also be granted Academic Renewal at any other USG institution subsequently attended.
  - B. All previously attempted courses, including those for which Academic Renewal has been granted, shall be recorded on the student's official transcript.
  - C. An Academic Renewal GPA is calculated when the student resumes taking coursework following approval for Academic Renewal.
  - D. Coursework taken within the Period of Absence (five years) is not eligible for renewal but transfer credit for any coursework taken during that period of time shall be granted in accordance with the prevailing USG and SGSC policies and procedures regarding the awarding of transfer credit.
  - E. The Academic Renewal GPA will be used for determining academic standing and eligibility for graduation.
    1. Students are still expected to meet residency requirements (the number of credit hours that must be earned at the degree awarding institution) after acquiring Academic Renewal status. Renewed courses do not count towards the institutional residency requirement. A minimum of 25% of the credit hours toward the degree must be earned at SGSC after the Academic Renewal.
    2. Students granted Academic Renewal are eligible for honors at graduation.
  - F. Applicability of retained credit to degree requirements will be determined by the degree requirements in effect at the time Academic Renewal status is conferred on the student. Specific institutional program regulations must also be met.
  - G. Scholastic suspensions that occurred in the past shall remain recorded on the student's permanent record. If a suspension (either first or second) is on the record and the student encounters subsequent academic difficulty after having been granted Academic Renewal, the student may be subject to suspension or dismissal per the SGSC's academic standing policy.
  - H. The granting of Academic Renewal does not supersede financial aid policies regarding Satisfactory Academic Progress.
- V. Documenting Academic Renewal in Student Records
- A. SGSC will document the Academic Renewal in the student's record and will be noted on the student's transcript.