



Policy Approval/Review Form

This form is used for the approval, amendment, removal or review of a Gordon State College policy. Once authorized with the President's Signature, the policy will be posted to the Gordon State Website. This approval form will be filed in the Office of the President with Cabinet minutes noting approval.

Policy Title *	Presidential Waivers Policy and Procedure
Department	Registrar's Office
Policy Editor	Kristi Hayes, Registrar
Request Type	New ☐ Amended ☒ Removed ☐ Reviewed ☐

OBJECTIVE (Briefly state your purpose.)

Provides policy and procedure for awarding of Academic, Athletic and International Presidential Waivers to Gordon State College Students.

RESOURCES AND CONSULTATION (Briefly describe the resources (i.e. website, link) used in developing, amending, removing, or reviewing the policy. Include names of other individuals who assisted with this change.)

USG Board of Regents Policy Manual - 7.3.4.1, Out of state Tuition Waivers (<https://www.usg.edu/policymanual/section7/C453/#n7341>) and the Gordon State College Policies Website (<https://www.gordonstate.edu/documents/departments/institutional-effectiveness/presidential-waivers-policy.pdf>)

COMMUNICATION PLAN (Identify how information about how the policy will be communicated to the college as well as training plans if applicable.)

This policy will be posted to the Gordon State College Policy website and communicated in accordance with GSC Policy - Formulation and Issuance of College Policies Section VI.

Authorizations

Dean or Supervisor Signature and Date: _____

Kristi Hayes

Digitally signed by Kristi
Hayes
Date: 2021.05.14 15:52:38
-04'00'

Cabinet Sponsor (VP) Signature and Date: _____

Kirk A. Nooks

Digitally signed by Kirk A. Nooks
Date: 2021.05.17 08:21:34
-04'00'

President Signature and Date: _____

Kirk A. Nooks

Digitally signed by Kirk A. Nooks
Date: 2021.05.17 08:22:11 -04'00'

***Policy Template must be submitted with this form.**

Gordon State College Criteria and Procedures for Presidential Waivers

Each academic year, Gordon State College may award a total number of Presidential Waivers equal to two percent (2%) of the equivalent full-time enrollment for the fall semester of the preceding academic year. The Office of Admissions, with the support of the Athletic and Registrar Offices, monitor the number of waivers awarded and percentages type each semester to determine compliance with the institutional eligibility for Presidential Waivers. A report is run each term to ensure that the total number of waivers in place for a term does not exceed the maximum number of allowed waivers. The Registrar Office will evaluate all waiver recipients to determine continued eligibility for their waiver at the end of each semester. The Verification of Lawful Presence process for these students will be completed by the Office of Admissions during the admissions process for all students. The Designated School Official (DSO) will continue to ensure that international students maintain their eligibility during their enrollment. Any Presidential Waiver exception authorized by the USG Chief Academic Officer will be scanned and indexed to the student's record to provide an account of these decisions. Gordon State College students are required to apply/re-apply for the Presidential Waiver on an annual academic basis each fall.

Presidential Waivers are divided into three categories: Academic, Athletic and International. Each category shall have distinct criteria for initial awarding of the waivers and for retaining the waivers. The criteria is as follows:

Academic Waivers, Initial Awarding: Students initially receiving a waiver falling under this category must demonstrate the potential to excel within a particular program of study offered by the institution as follows:

- *For students admitted to the college based on freshman admission criteria such as grade point averages or standardized test scores*, recipients shall have one of the following criteria in order to initially receive the waiver:
 - A high school core GPA which is at or above the median GPA of the previous fall semester's freshman cohort's high school core GPA or
 - A composite Critical Reading and Math SAT or composite ACT score which is at or above the median score of the previous fall semester's freshman cohort's score or
 - A calculated Freshman Index which is at or above the previous fall semester's freshman cohort's median Freshman Index.
- *For students admitted to the college based solely on transfer admission criteria such as transfer grade point average*, recipients shall have the following criteria in order to initially receive the waiver:
 - A transfer GPA which is at or above the median GPA of the previous fall semester's entering transfer cohort's GPA.
- *For students admitted to the college based on transfer or freshman admission criteria and artistic ability defined by a required audition or portfolio review*, recipients shall meet the admission criteria for the college and program, and shall be certified in writing by the appropriate department head or dean as possessing talent or ability directly applicable to the program which

placed the student in the top half of talent or ability of their entering cohort in order to initially receive the waiver.

Academic Waivers, Maintaining the Waiver: Students initially receiving a waiver falling under this category must:

1. Abide by the Student Code of Conduct as outlined in the Gordon State College Academic Catalog,
2. Abide by the regulations outlined in The Guide to Residence Hall Living (if living on campus), and
3. Possess an overall cumulative academic standing GPA of 2.5 or higher at the end of the academic year in which the student receives the waiver.

In the event a Presidential Waiver is cancelled for failure to meet requirements 1 or 2 stated above, the waiver will be terminated on the last day of the semester in which the cancellation occurs. Students not achieving the academic standard outlined in requirement 3 shall be placed on probation for a two-semester probationary period and re-evaluated at the end of this period. Students shall be eligible to maintain a waiver during this probationary period. Should the student not achieve the required overall cumulative academic standing GPA at the evaluation point, the student shall not be eligible to receive the waiver after the probationary period. Should the student achieve the required overall cumulative academic standing GPA at the end of any future semester, the student can reapply for the waiver. Based on availability, the student may have the waiver reinstated at the discretion of the program that initially awarded the waiver.

Presidential Academic Waivers are awarded by the President of Gordon State College.

Athletic Waivers, Initial Awarding: Students selected to participate in the institution's intercollegiate athletic programs and who have demonstrated the potential to succeed within a particular program of study offered by the institution may receive a waiver at the discretion of the athletic director or his or her designee. Students must be fully admissible and have no learning support requirements. This is determined through consideration of the students ACT or SAT scores, high school GPA, and Freshmen Index. The percentage of waivers offered within the Athletic category shall not exceed one-third (1/3) of the total number of Presidential Waivers which the institution is eligible to offer.

Athletic Waivers, Maintaining the Waiver:

Students initially receiving a waiver falling under this category must:

1. Abide by the Student Code of Conduct as outlined in the Gordon State College Academic Catalog,
2. Abide by the regulations outlined in The Guide to Residence Hall Living (if living on campus), and
3. Remain in good academic standing as determined by their overall cumulative academic standing GPA at the end of the academic year in which the student receives the waiver.

In the event a Presidential Waiver is cancelled for failure to meet requirements 1 or 2 stated above, the waiver will be terminated on the last day of the semester in which the cancellation occurs.

Students not achieving the academic standard outlined in requirement 3 shall be placed on probation for a two-semester probationary period and re-evaluated at the end of this period. Students shall be eligible to maintain a waiver during this probationary period. Should the student not achieve the required overall cumulative academic standing GPA at the evaluation point, the student shall not be eligible to receive the waiver after the probationary period. Should the student achieve the required overall cumulative academic standing GPA at the end of any future semester, the student can reapply for the waiver. Based on availability, the student may have the waiver reinstated at the discretion of the program that initially awarded the waiver.

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International Waivers, Initial Awarding: Non-citizen students who are not otherwise ineligible for a tuition differential waiver under this criteria and who have demonstrated the potential to succeed within a particular program of study offered by the institution may receive a waiver. A student's TOEFL scores and ACT/SAT scores (if applicable) will be evaluated in connection with the evaluation of the student's transcript from their secondary or post-secondary institutions.

International Waivers, Maintaining the Waiver: Students initially receiving a waiver falling under this category must:

1. Abide by the Student Code of Conduct as outlined in the Gordon State College Academic Catalog,
2. Abide by the regulations outlined in The Guide to Residence Hall Living (if living on campus), and
3. Possess an overall cumulative academic standing GPA of 2.5 or higher at the end of the academic year in which the student receives the waiver.
4. Abide by and comply with the Department of Homeland Guidelines for maintaining F-1 student status.

In the event a Presidential Waiver is cancelled for failure to meet requirements 1 or 2 stated above, the waiver will be terminated on the last day of the semester in which the cancellation occurs. Students not achieving the academic standard outlined in requirement 3 shall be placed on probation for a two-semester probationary period and re-evaluated at the end of this period. Students shall be eligible to maintain a waiver during this probationary period. Should the student not achieve the required overall cumulative academic standing GPA at the evaluation point, the student shall not be eligible to receive the waiver after the probationary period. Should the student achieve the required overall cumulative academic standing GPA at the end of any future semester, the student can reapply for the waiver. Based on availability, the student may have the waiver reinstated at the discretion of the program that initially awarded the waiver.

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