

## **Student FAQ Post-Hurricane Sandy**

### **How will I make up the lost class time? Will there be a make-up time period to get course work done?**

Yes. In order for faculty and students to make up missed coursework, Colleges and their faculty will inform students how they will complete courses this semester. You should consult with your instructor(s) regarding the specific approach to make-up required coursework for each class. Additionally, CUNY has extended the withdrawal period to November 16<sup>th</sup> (Nov 12th for LaGuardia CC, New Community College, Kingsborough CC and Law School) to provide additional time to advise students in their best interest.

### **I have a serious storm-related situation that has prevented me from getting to classes. What should I do? Will I be penalized?**

Participation and regular attendance in class is essential to your academic success. If you cannot attend classes as a direct result of Hurricane Sandy, you are advised to discuss with your instructor(s) the reason(s) you cannot attend and discuss alternative options. Keep in mind your overall attendance and participation may impact your grade. Excessive absence may result in a failing grade or significant reduction in earned grade. Please refer to your class syllabus for minimum participation and attendance requirements. If in doubt, consult your instructor.

### **What do I do if I can't attend a make-up day? Will I be penalized if I can't attend a make-up day?**

Participation and regular attendance in class is essential to your academic success. If for any reason you cannot attend a scheduled make-up day or participate in the assigned make-up activity, you are advised to discuss with your instructor the reason you cannot attend and request an alternative. Keep in mind your overall attendance and participation may impact your grade. Excessive absence may result in a failing grade or significant reduction in earned grade. Please refer to your class syllabus for minimum participation and attendance requirements. If in doubt, consult your instructor.

### **What happens if I stopped attending classes but it is because I was dealing with a significant personal hardship related to the storm?**

Initially you are encouraged to discuss such hardships with you instructor and inquire whether an incomplete grade in the course, with the mutual agreement to make up the remaining work and complete the course, is an option. When an incomplete grade is not possible, you should withdraw officially. If withdrawal is after the extended deadline and you have not yet officially withdrawn, you are advised to file an appeal for withdrawal after the deadline and provide a statement and any documentation regarding your specific circumstances. Appeals are considered on a case by case basis.

### **What if my circumstances related to the Hurricane prevent me from returning to class for the remainder of the semester?**

You should withdraw officially. If withdrawal is after the extended deadline and you have not yet officially withdrawn, you are advised to file an appeal for withdrawal after the deadline and

provide a statement and any documentation regarding your specific circumstances. Appeals are considered on a case by case basis.

**What will be recorded on my academic record and transcript if I withdraw from classes?**

A grade of “W” will be recorded on your transcript when you withdraw.

**Will CUNY consider reimbursement of my tuition and fees if I withdraw from classes?**

Reimbursement is considered upon appeal and on a case by case basis. If you withdraw from classes as a direct result of Hurricane Sandy and have extenuating circumstances, CUNY will provide a full refund of tuition, fees, and other institutional charges, or provide a credit in a comparable amount against future charges. You must provide sufficient documentation that your withdrawal was due to Hurricane Sandy.

**What are the extenuating circumstances that would result in a successful appeal?**

Extenuating circumstances are considered on a case by case basis. You may discuss your college’s appeals process with the campus Office for Students’ Affairs.

**If I withdraw from classes will the semester of Financial Aid use up a term of eligible aid I may be entitled to receive?**

Yes, currently there is no extension of TAP or Title IV maximum term limits.

**Will withdrawing from classes as a result of Hurricane Sandy affect my academic eligibility for Title IV financial aid?**

For the purpose of Title IV, if a student fails to meet an institution's satisfactory academic progress standards due to the storm, upon appeal, the institution may use the exception provided in §668.34(c)(3) to find that because of "other special circumstances" the student is nevertheless meeting its standards. You must provide documentation to support that your inability to maintain satisfactory academic progress was due to Hurricane Sandy. Consult your college financial aid office for appeal process instructions.

**Will withdrawing from classes as a result of Hurricane Sandy affect my academic eligibility for TAP financial aid?**

For the purpose of TAP, students are eligible for a one time waiver if he/she fails to meet the TAP satisfactory academic progress and pursuit standards due to extenuating circumstances. Currently, there is no extension of the TAP one time waiver to apply for the purpose of Hurricane Sandy. You must provide documentation to support that your inability to maintain satisfactory academic progress was due to extenuating circumstances. Consult your college financial aid office for appeal process instructions.