University Approved Absences

Process for University Approved Absences for Significant Health Conditions

If your treatment provider determines your illness or injury meets the criteria for a University Approved Absence(s) per the Class Attendance Policy, they will communicate this information directly to the Office of the Dean of Students who will copy you on a notification sent to your faculty.

The University Approved Absence Office reviews requests as promptly as possible. While it usually does not take more than 3 business days to review requests, please allow up to 10 business days for review of requests and consultation with other departments as appropriate. So long as students get their absence request submitted to the UAAO in a timely fashion (within 5 business days after a student’s return and to have documentation delivered within 10 days if not attached to request), if a request is approved, faculty will be required to work with the student as noted under the Class Attendance Policy.

When can an absence be University approved?

Under the Class Attendance Policy, an absence may be University approved only if it falls within the criteria below:

Authorized University activities

Disability/religious observance/pregnancy, as required by law and approved by Accessibility Resources and Service and/or Equal Opportunity and Compliance Office (EOC)
Significant health condition and/or personal/family emergency as approved by the Office of the Dean of Students, Gender Violence Service Coordinators, and/or Equal Opportunity and Compliance Office (EOC)

Proof of attending a doctor’s appointment is not evidence of a significant health condition and does not meet the threshold for a University approved absence. Examples of a significant health condition may include (but are not limited to): emergency surgery, hospitalization, communicable diseases (i.e. tuberculosis, measles, mumps, and varicella), and severe injuries/conditions that immediately affects mobility and/or cognition, or acute exacerbation of a chronic mental health issue necessitating immediate stabilization.

**Where can I get more information about these policies?**

For more information about the Class Attendance Policy and/or the University Approved Absence Office, including the link to make a request for a University Approved Absence, FAQs, resources, and expectations, please visit [attendance.unc.edu](http://attendance.unc.edu) [1] General questions can be emailed to [attendance@unc.edu](mailto:attendance@unc.edu) [2].

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**Source URL:** https://campushealth.unc.edu/services/medical-academic-interventions/university-approved-absences

**Links**
[1] HTTP://attendance.unc.edu
[2] mailto:attendance@unc.edu