

Policy Name: Attendance and Enrollment
Approving Authority: Academic Council

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Statement

The Attendance and Enrollment Policy of Beal University Canada (“BUC” or the “University”) provides the details related to academic policies pertaining to students’ academic expectations at the University. The Academic Council will review this policy every five (5) years.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for attendance and enrollment requirements for students.

Roles and Responsibilities

Responsibility for the implementation of this policy lies with the Registrar and Academic Faculty. The Vice President of Academics has oversight responsibility.

Policy

This policy outlines the guidelines for attendance and enrollment, which are communicated to all enrolled students.

This policy informs the students of the requirements and expectations of their enrollment in the program(s) at the University. Specifically, requirements relating to attendance, homework, class size, course schedules, registration, course cancellations, auditing classes, prior learning assessment and recognition, transfer students, readmitting students, acceptance, change of grade, change of program, and leave of absence.

The University supports a respectful, discrimination and harassment-free learning environment, through the promotion of equity, diversity, and inclusion. The University is committed to fostering a learning environment where individuals from all backgrounds have equal opportunities to pursue an education. The University acknowledges that equal access to opportunities and services may require treating particular individuals and groups differently through the removal of barriers that marginalized equity-seeking groups experience in trying to obtain this access. This could include attitudinal, historic, social, and environmental barriers based on age, ethnicity, disability, economic status, marital status, family status, Indigenous identity, nationality, race, creed/religion, gender, sexual orientation and gender identity, gender expression, etc. The University is committed to removing barriers to opportunity by promoting equity, diversity and inclusion and creating more inclusive learning environments. The University provides accommodations and accessibility pursuant to the applicable provincial human rights legislation. Accommodations enable students to demonstrate their knowledge and skills and meet the essential requirements of the program. Accommodations do not reduce academic standards or alter essential requirements; they provide equitable access to participation.

The University provides individualized accommodations and accessibility support for students with permanent, episodic, or temporary disabilities and medical conditions, helping to create a learning environment in which disabilities are not a barrier to completion of courses and programs. We do this, in part, by removing barriers to

access, deploying technologies that facilitate access for students with disabilities, and providing accommodations and other resources.

The University promotes mental health advocacy throughout the University community. The University provides free webinars, literature and 24/7 online/phone mental health resources and a well-being online tool for students through a partnership with Homewood Health. This service supports healthy living and student success with confidential counseling for students and their family members.

The Student Services department is available to assist students and faculty with developing an accessible learning environment and individual plans of accessibility and accommodation to support the academic success of our students.

Attendance

Equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility are fundamental principles embedded in our student attendance policy, ensuring that all students have equal opportunities to thrive and contribute to our diverse educational community.

In online courses, attendance is gauged by the timely completion of weekly assignments. Each student's participation in the program is monitored weekly across all modules. Failure to submit weekly assignments will result in classification as absent, which may impact continued eligibility for Federal Aid. For on-campus courses, student attendance is monitored daily. Non-attendance in both instances will be communicated bi-weekly to the Dean, who will inform the Director of Bursaries/Financial Aid.

The University emphasizes the need for all students to participate in classes in order to develop the skills and attitudes necessary to compete in the highly competitive labor market. Participation is critical to proper skill building and achieving competency in the learning outcomes in each program. The guideline for class attendance states:

- Students are expected to attend all classes, laboratories, simulations, tutorials, or other class meetings.
- Students are also expected to complete all assignments.

Beal University Canada expects students to attend and arrive on time for all classes (theory, laboratories, simulations, and clinical/preceptorship) as required by the course syllabi. Students are expected to actively participate in both on-campus and distance education classes. Because of the compressed nature of the mod, absence from more than 10% of a course, including clinical placement time, may be considered unacceptable for course completion. A student will be required to either make-up work or drop the class.

For students enrolled in the *BScN program*, it is expected that there will be 100% attendance for all theory courses, laboratory courses, simulation, and clinical/preceptorship placements. Because of the compressed nature of the mod, absence from more than 10% of a course, including clinical placement time, may be considered unacceptable for course completion. A student will be required to either make-up work or drop the class. If a BScN student misses more than one (1) clinical placement time during a mod, only one (1) opportunity to make-up a missed clinical placement time will be available. This make-up may take the form of a simulation, attendance at another facility, or participation in an alternative clinical experience. Please refer to the Student Handbook and the AA-036 Student Attendance for BScN Program Policy for additional requirements for students enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program specifically.

At BUC, we strive to provide a supportive and inclusive environment that respects the individual needs of

all students, including those from diverse backgrounds. Students expecting to have difficulty meeting attendance requirements are encouraged to reach out as soon as possible. Determination regarding continuation in a course due to absence is to be made by the Dean. Students at Beal University Canada are responsible for completing all course assignments. Students who know in advance that they need to be absent must inform their instructors early so that appropriate make-up work can be arranged.

Students who do not attend class or complete necessary weekly assignments or class requirements will be considered “non-participating”. Grades or course completion may not be issued if course requirements aren't met. Most class absences should be worked out between the student and the instructor of the course. Students are advised to call the instructor of the course(s) when they are going to be absent from their course(s). Office hours are 8:00 am. to 5:00 pm AST, Monday through Thursday, and 8:00 am. to 4:00 pm AST on Friday. A message may be left with anyone answering the phone.

In consideration of students' mental health and wellbeing, our university recognizes the importance of fostering a supportive environment. We understand that mental health challenges can affect attendance, and we are committed to working with our students to ensure they receive the necessary support and resources to maintain their mental wellbeing while meeting their academic requirements. Our attendance policy considers the unique needs of our students, and we encourage open communication to address any concerns related to attendance and mental health.

In a case where a student misses a class for medical reasons, a leave of absence may be requested for continuation in the next mod, or a refund may be issued.

Homework

In addition to participating in all courses, students will be required to complete out-of-class assignments. These assignments include, but are not limited to, reading, exercises and problem solving, projects, research, papers, and presentations. A student can anticipate out-of-class activities that equal about two (2) hours for every one (1) hour of lecture.

Out-of-class assignments such as papers, projects, and presentations, and sometimes exercises and problem solving, will be graded and included in the final evaluation of a student's grade in a course. The syllabus for each course provides the criteria used to determine the grade in the course.

Class Size

The maximum class size is sixty (60) students for face-to-face courses, forty-six (46) students for computer laboratory courses and sixty (60) students for online courses. Clinical placement rotations will have a maximum ratio of 8:1 instructor and clinical lab will have a maximum ratio of 11:1 per instructor.

Course Schedules

Courses may be scheduled any day of the week, Monday through Sunday, morning, afternoon, and evening. Students may be scheduled for online or on-ground course delivery. Days and times of day may vary by program and may change from mod to mod.

Registration

Students are registered for courses by the Registrar's office. The Registrar provides the student with a prospective schedule of the classes in the program upon request and identifies, for each mod, the courses will be taken until graduation. The Registrar's office enrolls the students in the next mod's classes and students are notified four weeks in advance of the classes they are expected to take. The student confirms

the schedule to the Registrar's office either in person, by phone, or email. The student can revise the schedule through notification to the Registrar's office prior to the mod commencing. The student must do so within the first five (5) days after the mod starts to add/drop courses.

Course Cancellations

Courses may be cancelled if the minimum enrollment is not met or for various other administrative problems. In the event a cancellation occurs, notice will be given to each participant as quickly as possible. A full refund will be issued to the participant, or the participant's payment will be retained by the University and enrollment in the next offering on the same topic selected by the individual.

Auditing of Classes

A student may audit any course if space is available. The Audit Fee of \$150.00 per credit and any applicable lab fees must be paid in full prior to the start of the class and are non-refundable. Financial aid is not available for audits. Since the student is enrolled in the course solely for experience, the auditing student's participation in quizzes, tests, and examinations are not required; therefore, no grade will be assigned, nor credit granted for the audited class.

In certain instances where a student has previously received credit at least one year prior for a course, the student may be interested in auditing the course before continuing to the next level. If a student wishes to convert a class that has previously been audited to credit, they may take a proficiency exam in the course.

Transfer Students

Students transferring to Beal University Canada from other post-secondary educational institutions must have a copy of their official transcript from the college or university previously attended submitted to Beal University Canada. Faxed transcripts, and transcripts that are carried or mailed by a student or applicant, are not considered official and will not be accepted. To be considered official, a transcript must be mailed or sent electronically from the previously attended college or university directly to Beal University Canada. Transfer credits will be evaluated by the Registrar's office and the Dean to determine if minimum grade requirements have been met.

Transfer credit will be considered from an institution of higher education accredited by an agency recognized by the Provincial Regulatory Authority or by the Department of Education. Course credit will be awarded for courses that are comparable in scope, content, and number of credits to courses offered at Beal University Canada. While it is acknowledged that credit hours may be calculated differently across institutions, in such instances, course content will be evaluated by a subject matter expert to ensure alignment with 80% of the same course at BUC. Courses must be at the 100-level or higher and completed with a grade of "74" or higher or the equivalent. Core Concentration coursework must be current and no older than ten (10) years; general science coursework should be current and no older than ten (10) years; anatomy and physiology and microbiology courses must be no older than five (5) years, however if a student has been using the content of these subjects in practice, this will be assessed at the time of evaluation. Course Prerequisites and course sequencing must be observed to ensure appropriate skill development. Partial credit for a course will not be granted; however, similar courses may be combined to allow for full credit transfer.

Students who have completed a bachelor's degree, with no time limitation imposed, prior to transferring to BUC will receive transfer credit for courses as appropriate for the discipline (if applicable to program enrolling in at BUC).

When evaluating transfer credit from other institutions, it may be necessary to convert the transfer credits to semester credits. When converting quarter credits to semester credits, the quarter credits are divided by one-and-a-half (1.5).

To obtain transfer credit, the Beal University Canada Registrar's office must receive an official transcript in one of the two official languages of Canada which are either English or French, from the other institution prior to the course's scheduled start date. The transcript will be reviewed by the Registrar's office to determine if similar coursework from their specific institution has been accepted in the past. In the event that coursework has not been accepted, the transcript will be sent to the Dean for evaluation and then processed by the Registrar as suggested. Academic team decisions on transfer credit will be recorded by the Registrar and used for future transfer credit scenarios. In the event that the Dean is not qualified to assess the level of coursework, a subject matter expert will be consulted. A student is required to produce a catalog, course description, syllabus, or other supporting documentation. Transfer credit evaluation must be completed prior to a student starting a program. A student cannot receive transfer credit for a course they are currently attending.

Readmitting Students

Students wishing to re-enter Beal University Canada after a period of absence of six or more consecutive Mods (one year) are required to submit an updated Application for Admission. Re-entering students will be required to complete the academic requirements of their program under which they are re-admitted.

Graduates of Beal University Canada who wish to return to complete a new program of study or to continue their education will also be required to submit a new Application for Admission. The application fee is a one-time only fee; re-entering students and graduates do not need to pay the fee a second time, provided that adequate proof exists of prior payment.

Acceptance

The University will notify the applicant of an acceptance decision as soon as the candidate's application for admission and application fee (or fee waiver) are received and the applicant has achieved the required entrance exam score or qualifies for an exemption. Applicants should understand that all offers of admission are conditional, pending receipt of all documents for admission, and compliance with the admissions policies.

Leave of Absence

In the event that circumstances beyond the control of the student prevent them from continuing their program, the student may apply for a leave of absence. A leave of absence could affect the student's financial aid and/or student loans. If granted, a leave of absence is a period of time during which the student is not required to register, no fees are assessed, and the time granted is not counted toward the maximum time period permitted for degree completion. A leave of absence must meet eligibility criteria. The request for leave is first made to Student Services at ss@bealuniversity.ca. Student Services will then forward the request to the Dean who will decide if leave is to be granted. A student may normally apply for only one leave of absence during a degree program. Normally a leave of absence will not exceed twelve (12) months.

A student requesting a leave of absence must complete a Leave of Absence Form prior to the start of the mod. Approved leaves of absence must be requested in writing. Forms to declare a leave of absence are available through the Student Services Office. On this form, the student must indicate the future return date and the reason for leave. A student returning from a Leave of Absence must resume training at the

same point in the academic program that he or she began the Leave of Absence. Please refer to the Financial Aid Office for further information.

Since some courses are offered at Beal University Canada in a particular sequence or only one time per year, a leave of absence (approved or unapproved) may delay a student's expected graduation date and may impact their financial aid package.

Related Policies and Documents

AA-011 Grading and Scholastic Requirements Policy

AA-016 Admissions Policy

AA-017-F Leave of Absence Form

AA-021 Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition Policy

AA-036 Student Attendance for the BScN Program

HR-004 Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Policy

HR-013 Gender Inclusion Policy

HR-014 Accommodations for Religious and Cultural Observance Policy

SA-002 Add/Drop, Withdrawals, Dismissals, and Refund Policy

SA-003 Student Access to Accommodations Policy