

ACADEMIC RENEWAL POLICY

1. The Academic Renewal policy allows University System of Georgia degree-seeking students who have experienced academic difficulty at an institution to have one opportunity to make a fresh start at that same institution after an absence of five calendar years from any postsecondary institution. Students can be granted Academic Renewal only once. A student who has been suspended/dismissed from a System institution and has attended one or more System institutions during the period of suspension/dismissal will not be eligible for academic renewal. Student must apply for Academic Renewal in the Office of the Registrar.
2. All previously attempted coursework remains on the student's official transcript. The Board of Regents' cumulative grade point average, CGPA, that includes all credit courses taken, excluding Learning Support courses, and an Academic Renewal Grade Point Average (AR-GPA) must be shown on each Academic Renewal student's academic record.
3. An Academic Renewal Grade Point Average (AR-GPA) is begun when the student resumes taking coursework following the five-year period of absence once Academic Renewal has been granted. Macon State College will place a statement on the student's transcript indicating the Academic Renewal status and the beginning of a separate CGPA. (The Academic Renewal GPA will replace the institutional GPA for those students who are granted Academic Renewal.)
4. The Academic Renewal GPA will be used for determining academic standing and eligibility for graduation. At least 50% of work toward a degree must be completed after the granting of Academic Renewal status for a student to be eligible for honors at graduation.
5. Academic credit for previously completed coursework, including transfer course work, will be retained only for courses in which an A, B, C, or K grade has been earned. Credit for D grades will be forfeited. Retained grades are not calculated in the Academic Renewal GPA but are counted in the Academic Renewal Hours Earned. Further, all remaining courses for the current degree objective must be completed at the Academic Renewal institution, i.e., no transient credit will be accepted.
6. To earn an **associate degree**, students must fulfill Macon State College's residency requirement of 20 semester hours. To earn a **baccalaureate degree**, students must fulfill Macon State College's residency requirement of 30 semester hours, including 21 hours in upper division courses in the major area. The retained hours earned prior to Academic Renewal (i.e., A, B, C grades) will not apply toward the residency requirement.
7. Any scholastic suspensions that occurred in the past will remain recorded on the student's academic record.
8. If a student does not request Academic Renewal status at the time of reenrollment after a five-year or greater period of absence from any postsecondary institution, the student may do so within two academic semesters of reenrollment or within one calendar year, whichever comes first.
9. A student who has not been suspended/dismissed from a system institution but who has been absent from that institution five years or more and who has attended a school other than that institution may choose only one of the following options:
 - A. A student may return to the same institution subject to all relevant transfer and re-entry policies. No renewal GPA is calculated and transfer credit will be granted for applicable courses taken during the absence. **(Choosing Option A results in NO Academic Renewal in lieu of transfer credit being awarded)**
 - B. A student may apply for Academic Renewal. If Academic Renewal is approved, no transfer credit will be granted for course-work completed during the absence.
10. The Academic Renewal GPA begins with the first term following reenrollment.
11. Reentry into any program is not automatic.
12. The granting of Academic Renewal does not supersede financial aid policies regarding Satisfactory Academic Progress.
13. Once granted Academic Renewal, students must complete twelve semester hours of academic courses for an associate degree (in the specific program's core curriculum) at Macon State College with a 2.0 or higher GPA before being considered for admission to a specific allied health program.