What happens to my financial aid if I take a leave of absence, go on inactive status, or completely withdraw from the University, before the semester ends?

If you take a University leave of absence (LOA) or go on inactive status, or withdraw from the University prior to or in between semesters/quarters, then all charges and aid will be canceled for subsequent terms. You may reapply for financial aid upon reactivation of your enrollment at the University.

If you take a University leave of absence (LOA), go on inactive status, or withdraw from the University after the start of the semester and before the sixty-percent point of the semester (typically around November 1 in the fall semester and April 1 in the spring semester), you have not earned all of the federal aid (Direct Loans, Pell, Perkins, SEOG, TEACH Grant, and PLUS loans) that was awarded to you.

Tuition charges and financial aid disbursements will be pro-rated based on the University’s Refund Policy and your effective date of withdrawal. For example, if a period of enrollment is 100 days and you complete 25 days, then you have earned 25 percent of your aid. You will receive a revised student bill and financial aid award once the adjustments have been made. You may consult with the Bursar’s Office about your adjusted charges for the semester/quarter. Students receiving financial assistance may also consult with the Financial Aid Office to understand how withdrawal will affect financial aid.

International students seeking to withdraw, take a leave of absence or go on inactive status must also meet with the International Services Office in advance to determine eligibility and impact on their immigration status. Please see the office of university registrar’s website at rochester.edu/registrar/policies for complete refund policy information.

If you are receiving NYS TAP, you will not be eligible for funds in the semester subsequent to your withdrawal/LOA, inactive status should you return to the University.

If you are receiving Federal Title IV aid, you earn your aid based on the period of time you remain enrolled. Unearned Title IV funds, other than federal work-study, must be returned to the appropriate federal agency. During the first 60 percent of the enrollment period, you earn Title IV funds in direct proportion to the length of time you remain enrolled. A student who remains enrolled beyond the 60 percent point earns all the aid for the payment period and incurs full tuition liability.

Unearned Federal Title IV aid must be returned to the specific programs, in order, up to the total net amount disbursed from each source. The order of return is as follows: Unsubsidized Direct Loan, Subsidized Direct Loan, Perkins Loan, Direct Graduate PLUS Loan, Direct Parent PLUS Loan, Pell Grant, FSEOG, Iraq & Afghanistan Service Grant.

If you have additional questions, please contact your financial aid counselor.

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Impact:

Taking a Leave of Absence, Withdrawal, or Inactive Status after the first week of the semester and prior to the end of the semester may affect your eligibility to receive institutional, federal, and New York State student aid during future semesters at University of Rochester. A student must be meeting the appropriate Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) guidelines, namely PACE and GPA requirements, in order to receive aid such as Rochester National Grants, UR merit scholarships, NYS Grants, HEOP, federal grants, work study, Perkins loans, Direct loans, and PLUS loans. Please be aware that courses attempted and not completed will impact your PACE. Also, courses assigned a grade of F will impact your PACE and GPA. Please refer to University of Rochester’s complete standards of academic progress requirements at rochester.edu/registrar/policies.

Note: Under some circumstances, students are allowed to have their previous coursework graded below a C- removed from their academic records. Federal regulations do not recognize any provision for academic amnesty or renewal. All academic coursework taken at any time a student is in attendance at Rochester must be included in determining eligibility for financial aid.