Retroactive Medical Leave Request

What is a medical leave?

A student medical leave is a university-verified designation indicating that a personal health condition had a catastrophic impact on a student's ability to remain enrolled. This exceptional remedy is intended to offer students time and space to prioritize their health and wellness in an individualized time frame.

A student medical leave means withdrawing or dropping all of your classes in a given semester. Withdrawing from college is a big decision and can have a huge impact on finances, on-campus housing, immigration status and more.

Before applying for a medical leave, please review the medical leave policy and the required steps at reg.msu.edu/roinfo/notices/withdrawal.aspx.

When considering a medical leave, timing is important. It affects how your withdrawal and medical leave are processed, how the withdrawal appears on your official transcript and the outcome of a refund review.

You can self-withdraw until the midpoint of the course. You can then request a current medical leave once withdrawn until the Class Ends Date of the semester. After this date, the request becomes a retroactive medical leave, which can be requested up to the commencement date of the term a year later. For example, if you want to take a medical leave for fall 2025, you have until the commencement date in the fall 2026 academic calendar to apply.

Whether a medical leave is granted, granted with readiness to return required, or is not granted is decided by OSSA upon review of details completed on the treatment provider assessment.



