

## BEFORE YOU WITHDRAW. . .

- Talk to your instructor. You may be able to work out an “Incomplete” if it is near the end of the semester. You may be able to bring a grade up if you are borderline in your grade.
- Seek out tutoring in the Individualized Learning Support Center.
- Speak with an Academic Advisor or Counselor before you make a decision. They can help you sort out your best options.
- If you are receiving Financial Aid, always check with Financial Services before you withdraw.

## REASONS TO AVOID WITHDRAWING

- Withdrawing delays graduation. Every time you withdraw you have missed an opportunity to complete more credit hours towards your degree.
- Withdrawing can dramatically impact your ability to use Financial Aid.
- Multiple withdrawals can reflect poorly on your academic transcript.
- Lastly, withdrawing can cost you money. Check with the Financial Services Center to fully understand any potential financial consequences.



*Lorain County  
Community College*

*Great works are performed  
not by strength  
but by perseverance.*

*-Samuel Johnson*

**Academic Withdrawal**

*What Students need to know*

**How it can impact you,  
both academically  
and financially.**

**Lorain County Community College**

**1-800-995-LCCC (5222)**

**[www.lorainccc.edu](http://www.lorainccc.edu)**

## WHAT IS AN ACADEMIC WITHDRAWAL?

An academic withdrawal is formally exiting or leaving a course after the schedule adjustment period (first week of classes). Students who withdraw before the established deadline (typically about 3/4 through the term) earn non-punitive grades that are not calculated in a student's Grade Point Average.

Students often think "withdrawing" is the same as "dropping" the course but withdrawing is different. A drop occurs during the schedule adjustment period (first week) and isn't part of a student's academic record whereas a withdrawal is a permanent entry on the student's academic record and transcript.

If an individual must stop attending a course due to a work change or personal/family issue it is better to formally withdraw versus earning a failing grade due to non attendance.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:  
THE CONNECTIONS CENTER - 440-366-4032  
FINANCIAL SERVICES CENTER - 440-366-4034**

## IMPACT OF WITHDRAWING: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### *How does withdrawing impact my financial aid?*

Withdrawing can impact your financial aid in two ways:

1. If your withdrawal is complete (withdrawing from all classes enrolled in during the term) and you receive federal financial aid (Direct Student Loans, etc.), federal regulations require that your eligibility for aid during the term of withdrawal is recalculated. This means that if you withdraw from classes before the 60% point in time during the semester, you will owe money. Please check with the LCCC Financial Services Center to learn about the timing of your withdrawal and how it will affect you financially.
2. Each semester a recipient of Title IV financial aid (i.e., Federal Pell Grant, Federal Work Study, Federal Stafford Loan program, Federal Parental Loan to Undergraduate Students, Federal Supplemental Opportunity Grant) must complete a predetermined percentage of the credit hours for which the recipient originally registered. W (withdrawal), I (incomplete), NR (not recorded), U (unsatisfactory), F (failure) and FAW (failure due to administrative withdrawal) are considered not completed. A repeated course with a grade of D, F, I, U, NR, FAW or W is considered not completed.

The minimum completion rate is:

<u>Number of Sem. Hours Completed</u>	<u>Required Minimum Completion Rate</u>	<u>Minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average</u>
0-29	50%	1.60
30-43	60%	1.75
44 or more	70%	1.90

### *What happens if I do not obtain the necessary completion rate or earn my degree in the appropriate time frame?*

You will not be eligible for federal financial aid the next semester. However, students are encouraged to appeal especially if it is their first appeal. If a student believes there is a valid reason why the required minimum percentage of hours was not completed, the academic program was not completed within the maximum time frame, or while they are pursuing an additional degree(s); the student may file a Satisfactory Academic Progress appeal, which will be forwarded to the Satisfactory Academic Progress committee for review. They should include any relevant information with that appeal. The Satisfactory Academic Review committee will either approve the appeal, allow the student to continue but only with an academic plan, or deny the appeal. SAP appeal forms are available on the LCCC Financial Aid and Scholarships webpage.

### *How does withdrawing impact my academic status and progress towards my degree?*

If withdrawing drops your credit hour load below 12, you will not be considered to be a full-time student for most insurance purposes. It also can dramatically slow your progress towards your academic degree, especially if the course you withdraw from is only offered once per year.

### *When is it appropriate to withdraw from a course?*

It is appropriate when you are unable to attend a course due to a work change, family or personal emergency. It is also appropriate if you are failing a course.

### *What happens if I just stop attending a course?*

If you stop attending a course and are not participating in class assignments or exams you may receive a midterm grade of FAW which will calculate as an F in your final grade. Because of this lack of course pursuit you would not be eligible for the second disbursement of your student loan. Additionally if you stop attending all courses and do not formally withdraw you will receive a grade of F in all courses. Withdrawing or receiving F's in all courses will also cause your federal financial aid to be subject to recalculation and you may end up owing money.