



SRI BALAJI VIDYAPEETH

Deemed-to-be University

U/S 3 of UGC Act 1956

Accredited with 'A' grade in the First Cycle by NAAC

SBV POLICY AND GUIDELINES ON DEFERMENT OF STUDIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM STUDIES - 2019

(Revised edition of 2014)

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PILLAIYARKUPPAM, PONDICHERRY 607 402



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ABSENCE FROM STUDIES - 2019**

(Revised edition of 2014)

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Document Revision History

Date	Edition Number	Brief Description of change	Change Request Number
29.05.2014	Original	----	
17 th December 2019	First revision	New template for Policies implemented. The information on the Purpose of the policy, Scope and Responsibility were revisited. The process for appeal has been revised.	SBV/ADP/PL/ 2014: Pages 3,5,6

TITLE AND APPLICABILITY: SBV POLICY AND GUIDELINES ON DEFERMENT OF STUDIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM STUDIES - 2019

The Policy on Deferment of Studies/leave of absence from studies, as applicable to the students enrolled at Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth would henceforth be known as **ACADEMIC DEFERMENT POLICY OF SRI BALAJI VIDYAPEETH (SBV) - 2019.**

PREAMBLE

Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth is a young Health Sciences deemed-to-be-University which has medical, dental, nursing sciences, allied health sciences and pharmacy programmes. At any given point of time, SBV would have nearly 4,000 students on rolls, which automatically necessitates a firm policy to grant academic deferment based on justifiable and genuine reasons, but at the discretion of the competent authority. The procedure supports the conditions under which the deferment of studies and leave of absence can be considered on the basis of genuine applications received from the students. It could include deferment prior to commencement of studies or leave of absence, following commencement. Students with a pre-existing disability/health condition or such of those students under prolonged adverse circumstances may be deemed eligible for assistance and support, depending upon the approval of the administration.

PURPOSE OF THE POLICY

Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University u/s 3 of UGC act 1956) is a health sciences Higher Education Institution that essentially has under its ambit, medical, dental, nursing and Pharmacy institutes. Besides, a School of Pharmacy, Physiotherapy and Allied Health Sciences are also in place. In view of the fact that, SBV offers diverse academic programs that are both under the purview of the regulatory and non-regulatory streams, the need arises to prepare a generic policy that complies with the aforesaid guidelines.

The procedure supports the conditions under which the deferment of studies and leave of absence can be considered on the basis of genuine applications received from the students. It could include deferment prior to commencement of studies or leave of absence, following commencement. Students with a pre-existing disability/health condition or such of those students under prolonged adverse circumstances may be deemed eligible for assistance and support, depending upon the approval of the Management. SBV Rules on deferment would be subject to changes effected by the Statutory/Regulatory Council/Commission from time to time. The rules of SBV pertaining to Academics or/and Research would be suitably amended from time to time and the policy on deferment/leave of absence would be in the light of the rules/regulations prevalent at that point of time.

SCOPE OF THE POLICY AND PROCEDURE FOR DEFERMENT OF STUDIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The procedure applies to all domestic students of the Constituent Colleges/Centres/Schools of Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth (SBV), Deemed-to-be-University, pursuing higher education programs, regardless of the training/delivery mode (on-campus, off-campus and online) including those offered through partner providers. However, it does not apply to applications lodged by international students which will be accessed according to the Deemed University's deferment guidelines.

The following points provide a succinct account of the proposed policy that would come into force with the approval of the Board of Management.

- Any deferral, leave from studies or withdrawal from all studies applications received must be treated by all parties as strictly confidential.

- Information forming part of the application shall only be discussed with, or made available to, a person who is a party to the application, is or has been legitimately involved in the Management of that application or has a formal management role in following up the consequences or implications of the application.
- Parties must be aware of the consequences, if there is any breach of confidentiality, which may warrant disciplinary action.
- Students admitted into the academic programs at Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth who wish to defer must essentially submit a Request for deferment to the Office of The Registrar, through the Faculty Dean. Requests will be considered strictly based on the bonafide reasons cited therein and on a case-by-case basis.
- Deferral of studies means the postponement of the commencement of studies at the Deemed University, available only to commencing students who choose to defer the commencement of their courses of their studies until a later teaching period rather than accepting the offer to begin in the current teaching period. This is different from applying for leave of absence during a course.
- A student can defer his/her studies for a maximum period of one year, subject to the sanction granted and based on the circumstances on case to case basis.
- In order to make a request seeking deferment, the student must duly complete the application form that must be necessarily endorsed by the Faculty Dean.
- Upon application seeking deferment, the candidate cannot claim approval as a matter of right. The application can be rejected, if the reasons cited therein are apparently not genuine. However, if the candidate wishes to appeal, he/she may do so by addressing it to the Vice Chancellor who would be the Appellate Authority, whose decision will be final and binding.

- Leave of Absence means and amounts to Intermission of studies (or) temporary suspension of the course that is awarded officially by the Deemed University after the student joins the course.
- Except for those courses which provide otherwise, the student may be permitted a maximum of two years for a leave of absence, which shall be granted only on medical grounds, after being duly certified by the Competent Authority.
- Seeking leave of absence, by faculty who has registered as internal candidates in various programs (CBCS) of SBV, citing official workload is strictly not permitted.
- To apply for a Leave of Absence the candidate should complete the form duly endorsed by the Faculty Dean.
- While on a Leave of Absence the candidate would not be permitted to gain access to University premises or resources or subject himself/herself to any form of assessment or evaluation.
- If the candidate takes a Leave of Absence following enrollment, but before completing the module, any summative (graded) assessment submitted will be carried forward and will contribute to further assessment result for that module upon the return of candidate from LEAVE OF ABSENCE, provided the same assessment regulations remain.
- Retrospective claims for Leave of Absence will not be considered on any grounds. Hence, it is imperative to request as soon as the candidate is aware of the problem.
- If the candidate fails to return from the permitted Leave of Absence and does not enroll within a fortnight from the expected date of return, the candidature will be summarily cancelled and discharged from the course. The Candidate can appeal for consideration for rejoining the course, if her crosses the notified period of fortnight but not above 21 days of the expiry period.
- In case of approval or rejection the student will be notified accordingly.
- The student has the right to withdraw his/her application up to the point that the decision has been made and will need to make their intent known to the Faculty Dean.

RESPONSIBILITY

- Vice-Principal (Curriculum/Students) of the Constituent Colleges, senior most Assistant Professor in the Institute, senior most faculty at the Centres (excluding the Director of the Centre) will be responsible for monitoring the

implementation, outcomes and scheduled review of this policy and its accompanying procedure.

- Registrar, SBV is responsible for maintaining the content of this policy, as delegated by the Faculty Dean.
- Academic Officer/Secretary to the Dean/Principal is responsible for the administration support for the maintenance of this policy as directed by the Faculty Dean.

INVOLVEMENT OF MEDIA, IF ANY

NIL

INVOLVEMENT, IF ANY OF MAJOR FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS CONCERNING EXTERNAL AGENCIES

Yes, it is related to the tuition fees and any other special fee that would be levied from time to time.

EXCEPTIONS, IF ANY

NIL

ANY OTHER PERTINENT DETAILS

NIL

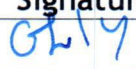



ENQUIRIES

All enquiries related to this policy should be addressed to the Dean or Principal of the Constituent Colleges/Director of Centres with a copy addressed to the Registrar and General Manager (Admin), SBV.

APPELLATE AUTHORITY

For all difficulties pertaining to this policy, the power to remove difficulties rests with the Vice Chancellor, who is the Chairperson of both the Academic Council and the Board of Management.



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