

Athletic Competition Related Class Absence Policy

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Academic / Instructional Policy

Policy Owner: Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Effective date: April 5, 2006

Approval date: March 6, 2025

Schedule for Review: Fall 2029

Policy Summary:

This policy establishes the responsibilities of and protections to Student Athletes, Student Athletic Trainers and Student Managers while traveling to compete or accompany a Fort Lewis College intercollegiate team in off-campus athletic events.

Policy Statement:

The number one priority for student-athletes, student-athletic trainers and student managers at Fort Lewis College is to complete their education in a timely and efficient manner. First and foremost, they are students.

When a student-athlete represents the College in sanctioned intercollegiate varsity sport athletic competition, or when a student-athletic trainer or student manager accompanies a team to a sanctioned intercollegiate varsity sport athletic competition, they should be permitted to make up any course work missed while representing the College.

Student-athletes, student-athletic trainers and student managers, included on the official travel roster issued by the athletic department, have the responsibility for arranging with their instructors to make up any missed class work, test, project, or other assignment before leaving for an off-campus athletic contest.

Each instructor has the discretion of requiring the student to make up any assignment or course work either before or after the scheduled athletic event. When a student-athlete, student athletic trainer or student manager is appropriately excused from a class as a result of submitting an official student-athlete travel form and the missed work is satisfactorily completed, the student's grade for that class should not be negatively affected as a result of the absence.

The FLC Athletic Compliance Committee will review all athletic team schedules and projected missed class days and work with the coaches to minimize the number of class days missed as the result of team travel. The FAC will also coordinate with the Athletic Department in advising student-athletes to pay particular attention to their selection of classes taken during the season in which their sport is played. Every effort will be made to encourage student-athletes to enroll in high-level-student-participation courses during the off-season for their particular sport.

Any instructor who has concerns or questions regarding travel-related absences or a student-athlete's academic status is invited to contact the head coach (name, phone #, and e-mail address included on student-athlete travel form), Skyhawk Athletic Advisor, Faculty Athletic Representative (FAR), Assistant Athletic Director- Compliance and Student Success, or Athletic Director. Each student-athlete, student athletic trainer or student manager is required to submit a completed student-athlete travel form at the beginning of the applicable semester before leaving for any off-campus athletic contest.

Fort Lewis College is proud of its varsity student-athletes and appreciates the time and effort they dedicate to training and competing. Their accomplishments reflect favorably upon this institution. The College supports each athlete's efforts to balance academic and athletic endeavors.

Responsibilities:

For oversight of the policy: Athletic Director, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

For procedures for implementing policy: All student athletes, student athletic trainers and student managers are notified through their Athletic Student Handbook.

For enforcement of the policy: FLC Athletic Compliance Committee, Athletic Director or designee, Provost

Definitions:

Student Athlete: A student athlete is defined as a student included on the official travel roster issued by the athletics department for a specific varsity level intercollegiate sport OR a Dual Enrollment student who is on the roster of a high school team.

Student Athletic Trainer: a student who accompanies a varsity level intercollegiate sport to a competition to provide athletic training support and is listed on the official travel roster.

Student Manager: a student who accompanies a varsity level intercollegiate sport to a competition to provide support and coaching assistance and is listed on the official travel roster.

Procedures: (Optional)

Cross-Referenced Policies: (Optional)

Consequences of Non-Compliance:

Students who do not comply with the policy will be subject to the grading and attendance policies outlined in their course syllabus without exception.

Review and Revision History:

This policy statement was approved by the Fort Lewis College Faculty Senate on 4/5/2006. Policy language was updated in Fall 2023, no substantive changes were made. Language was further clarified in Fall 2024 to include dual enrollment students on official rosters of their high school varsity teams. This policy was previously titled "Student Athletes' and Athletic Training Students' Class Absence Policy" and was updated to "Athletic Competition Related Class Absence Policy" on 7/10/2025.