College of Education and Human Development
Student Petition for Waiver or Variance

Any student in the College of Education and Human Development may petition for a waiver or variance of established policy, procedure, rule, or guideline governed by the College of Education and Human Development.

The Student Petition for Waiver or Variance must be submitted by the end of the term prior to the term in which the exception is needed.

NOTE: Teacher education majors should understand that program requirements and certification requirements are not necessarily the same. As teacher certification requirements are beyond the control of Georgia State University, exceptions to programs of study may result in denial of Georgia State teacher certification.

1) Fill out and print the petition. Be clear and concise. Be thorough, but limit remarks to those having direct bearing on the request. Persons considering petitions rely on the student’s ability to present a clear and well-written rationale.

2) Complete the personal information at the top of the form.

3) State the policy, procedure, rule, or guideline (cite reference) from which you seek a waiver or variance and the precise deviation being sought.

4) Attach a typed statement giving the reason(s) the petition should be granted. Before submitting a petition, the student should check with his or her advisor to determine what options are available and what information may be required for a specific request. Attach written documentation to support the petition.

NOTE: If the exception concerns substitution of one course for a required course, a syllabus for each course must be attached as documentation for the request. If a substitution is due to scheduling conflicts, justification must be provided as to when the course(s) in question will be offered, why the circumstances preclude enrolling in the course when offered, and when the substituted course will be taken.

5) Present the petition to either your departmental faculty adviser, who, after making his or her recommendation, forwards the petition to the department chair, or to your adviser in the College of Education Office of Academic Assistance and Graduate Admissions, who acknowledges the petition and forwards it to the department chair.

NOTE: If the petition concerns a course outside the student’s major department, the petition must be considered by the chair of the department offering the course in question before being sent to the chair of the major department. If your major department has its own petitions review committee, that committee considers the petition and forwards a recommendation to the Office of Academic Assistance and Graduate Admissions.

6) The petition and all supporting documentation (including rationales from advisor and department chair) are forwarded to the Office of Academic Assistance and Graduate Admissions and then presented to the College of Education and Human Development Petitions Review Committee within 10 business days of the student submitting the petition to the department.

7) Keep photocopies of all papers submitted. If you have questions about this form, please contact your departmental advisor or the Office of Academic Assistance and Graduate Admissions at 404-413-8000.

8) If you are not satisfied with the results of this petition, you can appeal the decision in writing to the Provost’s Office within 10 business days of being notified of the college’s decision. If you need more information, you can call the Provost’s Office at (404) 413-2574. The full description of the university student petition and appeal policy is listed at http://www.gsu.edu/enrollment/appeals.html.
This petition is for use by students in the College of Education and Human Development who are seeking a waiver or variance from an established policy, procedure, rule, or guideline governed by the College of Education and Human Development. Graduate applicants appealing an admission decision may not use this form.

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**NOTE: RATIONALE FOR THE PETITION FROM THE STUDENT, ADVISOR, AND DEPARTMENT CHAIR MUST BE ATTACHED**

I have read the petition instructions on the opposite side of this form and understand them. I have attached a typed statement giving the reason(s) why I believe this petition should be approved, along with any needed documentation justifying the petition.

Student Signature: ____________________________ Date: ______________

The petition should be forwarded to the appropriate persons in the order listed. All student documentation must remain attached to the petition. After securing appropriate signatures and rationales, submit the petition and supporting documentation to the Office of Academic Assistance and Graduate Admissions.

1) OAA or Faculty Advisor: □ Acknowledge (if OAA) □ Approve □ Disapprove
   Adviser’s Signature: ____________________________ Date: ______________
   Attach a rationale from advisor to petition and forward to major department chair or outside department chair if the petition involves any courses outside the student’s major department. All signatures and rationales must be submitted within 10 business days of the student submitting the petition to the department.

2) Outside Department Chairperson: □ Approve □ Disapprove
   Outside Department Chair’s Signature: ____________________________ Date: ______________
   Attach a rationale to petition and forward to major department chair

3) Major Department Chairperson: □ Approve □ Disapprove
   Major Department Chair’s Signature: ____________________________ Date: ______________
   Attach rationale to petition and forward to the Office of Academic Assistance and Graduate Admissions within 10 business days of the student submitting the petition to the department.

4) Associate Dean: □ Approve □ Disapprove
   Associate Dean’s Signature: ____________________________ Date: ______________
   Comments: __________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________________