**Graduate Student Dismissal Policy**

Graduate degree programs have the right to dismiss graduate students who do not make adequate academic progress or engage in illegal, fraudulent, unethical, or unprofessional behavior as defined in any of the university codes or policies pertaining to academic and research integrity or contained in departmental/program codes of professional conduct.  There may also be other unusual situations in which a student may be dismissed from a degree program. In each case, the dismissal should comply with the following procedures.

**Lack of Adequate Academic Progress**

Students may be dismissed per the academic probation policy of the Graduate School, and students should familiarize themselves with this policy. In addition, students who have not been placed on probation, but who are not making adequate academic progress, may also be dismissed. They must be warned in writing of the possibility of dismissal and will be given a clear statement about what must be done within a specified time period to alleviate the problem. A copy of this warning letter must be filed with the Graduate School. These expectations must be reasonable and consistent with expectations held for all students in the program. If the student does not meet the requirements within the time frame specified, he/she may be dismissed by the degree program with notification to the student and the Graduate School. Students dismissed in this way will not necessarily be dismissed by the Graduate School. Students may appeal this dismissal to the Graduate School, following the procedures outlined in the Graduate Student Grievance Policy. Students who receive two consecutive unsatisfactory academic progress reports may be immediately dismissed by the degree program and the Graduate School.

**Academic or Research Misconduct and Violations of the Code of Student Life/**

For the process for dismissing students as a result of academic misconduct, please see the University of Arkansas Academic Integrity Policy; for dismissing students for research misconduct, please see the Research and Scholarly Misconduct Policy and Procedures. For violations of the Code of Student Life, please see the University of Arkansas Student Handbook.

**Unethical and Unprofessional Conduct [new section]**

Departments/programs may dismiss students for unethical or unprofessional conduct in accordance with their own stated and published policies. Such policies must have been reviewed and approved by the Graduate Council and the Faculty Senate prior to implementation. Students will be made aware of the existence of these policies when they enter the program and the department will retain a signed statement from the students indicating that they are aware of the policies. Such policies must provide processes that include both initial review of the charges and a process for appeal. Dismissals as a result of departmental/program conduct codes will not be reviewable except when violations of those processes/policies can be demonstrated. If evidence of university error in the application of these policies can be demonstrated, the *Graduate Student Grievance Policy and Processes* may be available to the student. Students dismissed in this way from the department/program will not be dismissed by the Graduate School unless there is also evidence of a violation of the Code of Student Life.**Other Situations**

Departments may dismiss students for situations other than those specified above. When doing so, the department must notify the student in writing of the possibility of dismissal and send a copy of this letter to the Graduate School. If it is possible for the student to rectify the situation, he/she must be given a clear statement about what must be done within a specified time period to alleviate the problem. These expectations must be reasonable and consistent with expectations held for all students in the program. If the student does not meet the requirements within the time frame specified, he/she may be dismissed by the degree program with notification to the student and the Graduate School. Students dismissed in this way will not necessarily be dismissed by the Graduate School.

If the situation cannot be rectified, the student will be notified in writing of the grounds for dismissal and the date when the dismissal will be effective. This will normally be the end of the semester in which the student is enrolled, but the circumstances of the dismissal will be important in determining this date.

If students feel that there has been a violation of university policy in their dismissal, they may appeal to the Graduate School, following the procedures outlined in the Graduate Student Grievance Policy.