

Call to Active Duty

UC Merced understands that students who are members of the National Guard or Military Reserves may be called to active duty. When students are called to active duty, training, or qualifying state service, the university is committed to minimizing disruption and ensuring compliance with federal protections. Upon receiving orders for covered service, a student enrolled at UC Merced may select from the following options based on their individual situation within the term:

1. Withdrawal from all enrolled courses for the term
2. Request Incomplete (“I”) grade for all enrolled courses

Withdrawal

Students may fully withdraw from all enrolled courses and receive a 100% refund of tuition and fees, including housing fees, and health insurance for that academic term. No punitive grade will be assigned, including ‘W’ grades. Students receiving federal, state, and institutional financial aid or military/veterans benefits will have their aid reviewed in accordance with federal, state, and institutional policies as of the date of their leave.

Incomplete Grade

Students may request to receive an Incomplete (I) grade for all enrolled courses during the term and will be given the opportunity to complete the work after the period of service. Financial aid will be reviewed and adjusted in accordance with applicable federal, state, and institutional policies effective as of the student’s leave date. Tuition, fees, and health insurance premiums will not be refunded under this option. However, housing and meal plan charges will be prorated based on the student's leave date.

Reinstatement Guarantee

In compliance with Public Law 117-328, UC Merced guarantees re-admission without penalty or loss of academic standing for students returning from covered service. Application and processing fees will be waived, and students will be reinstated to their original academic program.

Next Steps for Students Called to Active Duty

To begin the process, a student being called to active duty must talk to their academic advisor to discuss their options then provide a copy of his/her orders to the UC Merced Veterans Services Office. For questions about this process or to discuss unique circumstances, the student should contact UC Merced Veteran Services at veteranservices@ucmerced.edu or (209) 228-7641.