The Fresh Start Program and Reinstatement

A first-year student whose grade point average is 1.5-1.99 after the first semester is eligible to apply for the Fresh Start Program. Applicants for the Fresh Start Program must withdraw from the Law Center and inform the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs in writing that he/she desires to be considered for the program. After entering the Fresh Start Program, the student must reapply for admission to the Law Center through the regular admission process. Readmission to the Law Center is not guaranteed to students who select the "Fresh Start" option. When reviewing a "Fresh Start" student's application for admission, the Admission Committee will consider circumstances that affected the student's law school performance, whether the circumstances will not generally repeat themselves, and steps the applicant has taken to remove the obstacles that prevented satisfactory performance. A student that is readmitted under the "Fresh Start" program must enroll in an advanced two-week summer academic assistance program that will include instruction in writing, critical-thinking, analysis, time management, etc. After completing the summer program, the "Fresh Start" student will be enrolled in the first-year class. First semester grades from the previous year will not count against his/her average.

Students with an overall grade point average of 1.8-1.99 after the second semester may also apply for the Fresh Start Program. The same requirements stated above apply to students who enter the Program after the second semester.

A student who is readmitted under the Fresh Start program must earn a 2.0 grade point average or greater at the end of the first regular semester that he/she is readmitted. A student who fails to earn the required grade point average cannot be considered again for the "Fresh Start" program and will not be considered for readmission to the Law Center.

Applications for the "Fresh Start" program must be submitted to the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs no later than spring registration for students choosing the option after the first semester and immediately after grades are submitted for eligible students after the spring semester. The application letter shall explain the reasons for the student's poor performance.

A student who has completed three or more regular semesters of work has the right to petition for reinstatement if the student has earned a grade point average of 2.0 in at least two of the three preceding regular semesters. In the case of successive petitions, the student may petition for reinstatement only if the other conditions in this paragraph are met and the student's semester GPA in the regular semester immediately preceding the petition was 2.0 or better.