

## Proposal to Consider Changing the Drop Limit Policy in the Catalog

*For consideration by the Faculty Senate Academic Standards and Admissions Committee*

*First submitted Tuesday, April 28, 2011 – no vote; didn't have a quorum  
Resubmitted Tuesday, February 7, 2012*

**Requested change:** Consider increasing the drop limit for students who enroll at Iowa State University as an undergraduate **after receiving a bachelor's degree**. One suggestion is to increase the limit for this group of students to four, which is the same limit established for other students who enter Iowa State not direct-from-high-school.

**Rationale:** The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has noticed an increase in the number of students returning for a second bachelor's degree, often in a discipline very different from their first degree. These students are currently restricted to two course drops. The Registration and Classification Committee (RCC) has requested the Academic Standards and Admissions Committee consider if this drop limit should be raised. RCC has no history on why this particular drop limit was established at two.

### Drop Limit in the 2011 Catalog

Students are limited in the number of courses they may drop during their academic career. (This refers to drops processed after the fifth day of classes of each semester.) Students who entered Iowa State University ~~as freshmen direct from high school~~ are allowed to drop a maximum of five courses during their undergraduate career. If they entered ~~at a level above freshman at a classification other than direct-from high school classification~~ or in the College of Veterinary Medicine, they are allowed to drop a maximum of four courses. Courses dropped during their first term at Iowa State are not included in this limit, nor does the summer count as a first term for this purpose. ~~Students who enroll at Iowa State University as undergraduates after receiving a bachelor's degree are permitted two drops.~~

Exceptions to the drop limit may be made for courses that must be dropped for reasons beyond the student's control. These exceptions are granted only by the dean or other authorized person in the student's college.

The number of drops students have left is indicated on their grade report (available on AccessPlus) each term. Students are responsible for not exceeding their limit. Students who attempt to drop a course beyond the limit without special permission by the dean of the student's college will continue to be enrolled in the course and will receive a grade at the end of the term.

Submitted by Laura Doering  
on behalf of the Registration and Classification Committee  
February 7, 2012