

Salem State University
Academic Advising
352 Lafayette Street
Salem, MA 01970

FRESH START PROGRAM AT SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY

The Salem State University Fresh Start program gives a second chance to students who left the university after struggling academically. We recognize that with a certain time away, students may gain a developmental awareness that helps them do better academically.

POLICY

Students can re-apply to Salem State University through the Fresh Start program after a minimum of two academic years away from the university. Students who have been academically dismissed twice from the university may not re-apply through the Fresh Start program until four years have passed since the date of the most recent academic dismissal. Note that students would be able to take Continuing Education courses as a non-matriculated student at the university during this time.

All previous grades that a student earned at the university will remain on the transcript. Only grades that are C- or better will be counted as credit toward graduation. However, grades that are earned upon re-applying and entering the Fresh Start program will be calculated in the new GPA; in other words, the GPA starts anew upon admission to the Fresh Start program.

Students must meet the academic requirements of the university at the time of re-admission into the Fresh Start program, and must follow the academic flow sheet that is current at the time. Individual programs and departments at the university may place further restrictions on eligibility for re-admission, some may not participate in the Fresh Start program at all.

Only one Fresh Start re-admission will be allowed. Once students opt into the Fresh Start program they cannot change their minds. Students must apply for re-admission to the university as a Fresh Start student. The application should include a personal statement which addresses why the student is re-applying, how life has changed since the student last attended Salem State, and why the student should be given this second chance. Also included in this statement should be a student action plan, and a list of resources and supports the student plans to use if needed. Applications will be reviewed by committee.

Students re-admitted under Fresh Start would be eligible to graduate with honors, provided that they complete 60 credits after Fresh Start.

Special consideration will be given to currently matriculated students for whom Fresh Start was not available at the time of their re-admission to the university.

FRESH START PROGRAM AT SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY

Student name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Home address (# and street) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

Salem State University Student ID (SSN if ID unknown) _____

GUIDELINES

1. You must have spent a minimum of two academic years (four for students who were academically dismissed twice) away from the university.
2. You must submit a personal statement which addresses why you are re-applying, how life has changed since you last attended Salem State, and why you should be given this opportunity. Also included in this statement should be a student action plan, and a list of resources and supports you plan to use if needed.

POLICY

Please read the following completely before signing this form:

1. I understand that all grades for courses taken prior to my readmission under the Fresh Start program will not be counted in my grade point average and that I will only receive graduation credit for those courses in which I received a grade of C- or better. Only grades taken after my admission under the Fresh Start policy will be used to calculate my grade point average.
2. I understand that I must meet the academic requirements of the university at the time of re-admission under the Fresh Start policy, and must follow the academic flow sheet that is current at the time of my readmission into the major.
3. I will not be eligible to receive degree honors unless I complete a minimum of 60 credit hours at Salem State University after having been re-admitted through the Fresh Start program.
4. I will not be able to use the Fresh Start option again.

AUTHORIZATION

- I have read and understand all of the above policies with regard to my application to the Fresh Start program, and I agree to comply with them if granted approval.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

- I have read and understand the above policies and do NOT wish to be considered for the Fresh Start program. I understand that this decision means that, if I am readmitted to Salem State University, all of my prior coursework will be included in my grade point average and will be used to monitor my academic progress.

Student Signature _____ Date _____