

Dear Peabody Students,

I thank you again for your flexibility and dedication to your studies and to your art during this difficult time. As we all work through adjusting to the realities of the semester amid the disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic, I wish to make you aware of several important policy and deadline changes I hope will ease some of the unexpected financial and academic pressures many of you face.

Extended Deadline to Request Leave of Absence

- This semester only, all degree-seeking Peabody students studying for the BM, BFA, MM, MA, or DMA may take a Leave of Absence (LOA) with a 40% tuition refund, prorated for financial aid, if the request is made **by 4:00 pm on Friday, April 17, 2020**, extending the published deadline of March 27, 2020, by three weeks.
- This semester only, Peabody students electing to take a late LOA may have until July 15, 2020, to signal an intent to return for fall semester studies.
- International students must also consult the Office of International Services (ois@jhu.edu) regarding the implications of a leave of absence to their immigration status prior to finalizing any leave.
- All other [Peabody LOA policies](#) remain in place this semester.
- Students who must complete a 9th semester of study (undergraduates) or 5th semester of study (graduate students) related to their COVID-19 Leave of Absence will also be eligible to receive an additional semester of financial aid.

Deadline to Drop a Course

- The last day to withdraw from a class has been extended to **Friday, April 17, 2020**. [Petitions](#) are due to Academic Affairs no later than 4:00 pm.

Option for Full-time Graduating Students to Petition to Drop Credits

- Students graduating in May 2020 who are studying for the BM, BFA, MM, MA, or DMA and need fewer than 12 credits to meet degree requirements will be permitted to [petition](#) to drop the courses they do not need. Petitions will require review and approval by Academic Affairs and must be initiated before 4 p.m. on **Friday, April 17, 2020**. If approved, students will be permitted to adjust their registration to part-time for the Spring 2020 term.
- Students graduating in May 2020 will receive a 40% refund of the per-credit tuition rate associated with the number of credits they are dropping below the undergraduate 12-credit full-time minimum/graduate 9-credit full-time minimum, or \$503 per credit hour based upon the [per-credit tuition rate](#) of \$1,258. Peabody financial aid and scholarships will be adjusted at the same rate.
- Students must continue classes while the petition to drop classes is being reviewed.
- A switch to part-time status may accelerate repayment schedules for federal student loans.
- International students on visas that require full-time status are not eligible.
- Peabody students may not drop recitals required for their degree, irrespective of that requirement being waived for the Spring 2020 semester. Courses taken as an audit may be dropped, but tuition will not be refunded for those credits.

Please note that dual-degree students are governed by the policies of the Homewood undergraduate schools in these matters.

In addition, I want to make you aware that Peabody will add a note to the transcripts for all currently enrolled students indicating that grades for the Spring 2020 semester were "COVID Impacted." Across Peabody, we are prepared to support and assist you in navigating this change. The offices of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs, as well as your faculty and Peabody administrative leadership stand ready to do our part to help you explain these unique and unprecedented circumstances through recommendations and references that reflect the caliber of work you have produced throughout your education at Peabody.

If you have questions regarding these policy decisions or other needs at this time, please contact Academic Affairs at 667-208-6685 or mathews@jhu.edu, or Student Affairs at 667-208-6700 or PeabodyStudentAffairs@jhu.edu for help.

The world has changed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, but Peabody's pride in your accomplishments and our commitment to you has not. We truly value having you as a member of the Peabody and Johns Hopkins communities and will do all we can to help you to succeed, now and in the future.

Sincerely,

Fred Bronstein

Dean