

To Withdraw or Not to  
Withdraw?

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That is the Question

# What does “Withdraw” mean?

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- Withdraw means to officially unenroll in a class through the Mt. SAC portal after the drop deadline and before the withdraw deadline
- The class will appear on your transcript with a grade of “W”
- Your “W” will not affect your GPA
- Check your portal to find the “W” deadline for your class.

# Is it always bad to get a “W”?

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- No, being proactive and choosing to get a “W” can be a great way to keep your GPA safe from a class that you are not passing.

# When could withdrawing be a good idea?

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- If you are not passing the class and based on your conversation with the instructor you know it is unlikely you will pass.
- If something in your life changes (like you got a new job) and you can no longer attend class.
- If your goals change and you no longer need the class based on your new goal.

# What are things to consider when withdrawing?

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- Leaving class can affect how much grant money you will be awarded during the semester
- If you withdraw from too many classes you can be placed on progress probation.
- If you withdraw from too many classes you could lose your financial aid eligibility.
- If you withdraw from too many classes it could affect transfer at elite universities. (Most universities do not take “W” grades into consideration.
- If you have already taken this class before this will count as an attempt and Mt. SAC limits students to 3 attempts per class.
- For some majors like nursing there may be stricter limits to how many times you can repeat a specific required course.

# Who should you talk to if you have questions?

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- Your professor to discuss your ability to succeed in class
- A counselor to learn how withdrawing could affect probation status, course repeats, and transfer
- The Financial Aid Office to learn how it could affect your financial aid.