

Medical Leave

A medical leave is intended for students to take time away from the Institute for up to one year to focus on their recovery from various health conditions and be able to resume graduate studies once the health issues have been addressed. [Extensions](#) beyond one year may be granted in exceptional circumstances and should follow the same procedures. In order to be placed on leave, the student must petition for a medical leave, and get the recommendation of the Caltech Health and Counseling Center, Option Representative, Adviser, and the permission of the Dean of Graduate Studies. Students on medical leave are eligible for Caltech health care benefits for up to one year, but are not eligible for a stipend, unless the leave falls under the Pregnancy Leave policy.

Students qualifying for leave will receive a letter setting out the purpose of the leave, any specific [conditions](#) that they must fulfill to be on leave, and the procedure for returning from leave. Conditions that must be met after the return from leave may also be specified.

Students who need to apply for an extension of their leave beyond the terms of the original leave and/or who are requesting special access to campus resources or facilities should complete the petition for [Medical Leave Extensions/Exceptions](#).

If a student is studying or carrying out research or an educational internship at another institution, then they must apply for "Detached Duty" and get the approval of their Adviser and Option Representative.