

NOTICE OF PROPOSED REGULATION

Date: February 14, 2017

REGULATION TITLE:
Religious Observances

REGULATION NO.:
4.052

SUMMARY: The Board of Governors Regulation 6.0115 mandates that each university board of trustees adopt a regulation to reasonably accommodate religious observance for students. This proposed new regulation codifies the University's existing policy on religious attendance for students, allowing reasonable accommodation for students who provide prior notification to their instructors of their desire to observe a religious holy day of their faith.

AUTHORITY: BOG 1.001

COMMENTS CONCERNING THE PROPOSED REGULATION SHOULD BE SUBMITTED WITHIN 14 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE TO THE CONTACT PERSON IDENTIFIED BELOW. The comments must identify the regulation you are commenting on.

THE PERSON TO BE CONTACTED REGARDING THE PROPOSED REGULATION IS: Sandy L. Mitchell, Legal Assistant II, 123 Tigert Hall, Post Office Box 113125, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611, 352-392-1358 office, 352-392-4387 facsimile, regulations@ufl.edu.

NAME OF PERSON WHO APPROVED THE PROPOSED REGULATION:
Joseph Glover, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs.

THE FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSED REGULATION IS ATTACHED TO THIS NOTICE.

REGULATIONS OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

4.052 Religious Observances.

(1) The University of Florida will reasonably accommodate the religious observances, practices, and beliefs of individual students in regard to admissions, class attendance, and the scheduling of examinations and work assignments. If a student desires to observe a religious holy day of their faith, the student must provide prior notification in order to be excused from classes to observe a religious holy day of their faith. Such prior notice to their instructors should be done at the beginning of the academic term or at a minimum well in advance of the proposed date for accommodation.

(2) The student is responsible for any material covered during the excused absence, but shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up the material or activities covered in their absence. If the faculty member is informed or aware that a significant number of students are likely to be absent from class because of a religious observance, then such faculty members should make reasonable efforts not to schedule major examinations or other academic events at that time.

(3) Students who have notified their instructors that they will be absent from academic or extra-curricular activities because of a religious observance shall not be penalized for that absence.

(4) A student who believes that they has been unreasonably denied an educational benefit due to their religious belief or practices may seek redress in accordance with the Student Grievance Procedure, as outlined in UF Regulation 4.012.

Authority: BOG Regulations 1.001.

History—New _____.