



Campus Administrative Policy

Policy Title: **Fall and Spring Semester Breaks**

Policy Number: 70221017 Functional Area: ~~Student Affairs~~ Faculty and Academic Affairs

Effective: ~~July 1, 2011~~ January 1, 2020 (Pending) July 1, 2021
Date Last Amended/Reviewed: July 1, 2011
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Supersedes: Fall and Spring Semester Breaks (July 1, 2011), ~~April 7, 2004~~

Approved by: ~~Roderick Nairn~~
~~Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs~~ Dorothy A. Horrell Michelle Marks
Chancellor, University of Colorado Denver

Prepared by: ~~Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs~~ Registrar Provost's Office
Reviewing Office: Provost Office
Responsible Officer: Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Office of Academic and Student Affairs

Applies to: ~~University of Colorado-CU~~ Denver Campus

A. INTRODUCTION

In conjunction with the Auraria Campus, ~~T~~the University of Colorado Denver uses an academic year calendar in which the Fall Semester starts on a Monday in August, the Spring Semester starts on the Tuesday after Martin Luther King ~~Jr.'s~~ Birthday holiday, and both semesters end on a Saturday/Sunday. Changes were made in the schedule in 2004 to include a week-long Fall Break that (1) make the spring and fall semesters equal in meeting pattern—a 17-week semester with one full week and one Monday of break—and (2) satisfy the Colorado Department of Higher Education (CDHE) guidelines for contact time for all regular class meeting patterns.

B. POLICY STATEMENT

Effective with the Fall Semester 2004, the CU Denver academic calendar has been

modified to include a week-long Fall Break during the week in November in which Thanksgiving falls. In both the Fall and Spring Breaks, [the University-CU Denver](#) is open but classes do not meet, with the exception of official holidays when the campus is closed.

C. IMPLEMENTATION

It is essential that the deans inform and remind faculty of this policy and instruct them to include the Fall and Spring Breaks in course syllabi. Deans must also ensure that the CDHE guidelines for contact time are maintained for all courses. Alternate class meeting patterns must also be adjusted to ensure compliance with CDHE guidelines for contact time.

Notes

1. Dates of official enactment and amendments:
April 4, 2004: Adopted
July 1, 2011: Revised and reissued by the Provost
April 12, 2019: Modified
[January 1, 2020 \(Pending\): Revised](#)
2. History:
April 12, 2019: Modified to reflect a Campus-wide effort to recast and revitalize Campus policy sites into a standardized and more coherent set of chartered policy statement organized around the several operational divisions of the university. Article links, University branding, and formatting updated by the Provost's office.
[January 1, 2020 \(Pending\): Minor Clarifications made.](#)
3. Initial Policy Effective Date: April 4, 2004
4. Cross References/Appendix: N/A
 - [Campus Policy 4018, Holidays](#)