



Cornell University

Cornell Health

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Cornell University Health Excuse Policy

Cornell Health does not provide excuses for routine illnesses, injuries, and mental health problems that may lead to missed classes, labs, studios, exams, or deadlines. This longstanding policy resembles those of most other major universities and is consistent with the recommendations of the American College Health Association.

Cornell University expects that students are honest with their professors regarding their ability to complete work, and professors are expected to work with students on these issues.

Academic advising staff and associate deans are available to provide assistance to students or faculty members who have concerns about attendance issues.

Assistance with serious, ongoing illness or injury

When a student is hospitalized or has a serious, ongoing illness or injury, and with the student's consent, Cornell Health will contact the Office of Student Support and Advocacy Services to provide support regarding navigating sudden situations and resources as appropriate.

If the student believes that their medical or mental health concern may be a *significant* and *ongoing* health problem, the student is encouraged to contact Student Disability Services (SDS) to discuss potential accommodations: sds.cornell.edu.

For health concerns that last less than a week, students can refer to the Student Disability Services [Temporary Injuries and Illnesses](#) page for guidance.