Leave of absence and program expiration

Background: The Office of Graduate Studies has clarified that leaves--whether requested or not--are cumulative over course of a student’s degree program, and that after 5 years of absence from a program, the student loses status as a graduate student and must reapply.

The student is subject to the regulations in force at the time of admission as a degree-seeking student. If degree requirements change, the student may opt to follow the new requirements or to continue under the regulations in force at the time of admission. Students whose programs have expired, must be must fulfill the requirements in effect upon the date of their readmission to their graduate program.

If readmitted, the student may apply up to 8 credit hours of coursework from her/his previous (but uncompleted) program, provided that coursework is consistent with the SoE’s established “stale dates” for graduate coursework. Additional coursework may be waived (under the same provision), with the understanding that these course credits will not apply toward the degree credit hour minima established by the School and University. (effective date: June, 2011)