



Boulder Faculty Assembly

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

BFA Student Affairs Committee Resolution
Resolution Regarding Student Appointment Verification Notes- Amended
BFA-R-1-030118

Moved forward by the BFA Student Affairs Committee to the BFA Executive Committee on 2018 February 12
Moved forward by the BFA Executive Committee to the full Assembly on 2018 March 1
Amended by the BFA Student Affairs Committee and emailed to BFA Representatives 2018 April 30
Resolution was passed by BFA Representatives with 27 in favor; 1 opposed; and 2 abstentions on 2018 May 5

WHEREAS Appointment Verification notes provided by Wardenburg merely document that students had appointments, rather than indicating the severity or duration of students' conditions, or suggesting whether students were well enough to attend class or complete coursework, and

WHEREAS faculty frequently require Appointment Verification notes from students if they are to be excused for absences from classes, and

WHEREAS ill students sometimes feel driven to go to Wardenburg to obtain an Appointment Verification note, and/or to attend class to receive attendance credit, both of which might jeopardize the ill students' health and contribute to the spread of illness, and

WHEREAS course attendance policies are the purview of individual faculty, and

WHEREAS no one attendance policy is appropriate for all courses offered at CU Boulder:

BE IT MOVED that the BFA recommends:

- Whenever appropriate, faculty be discouraged from accepting and/or requiring Appointment Verification notes from Wardenburg as documentation of illness.
- When a student has an ongoing medical reason to miss classes and assignments (e.g. extended illness, serious injury), faculty should be encouraged to refer students to Student Support and Case Management. This organization will review the case and will communicate to all relevant faculty if the student has a documented need for leniency with respect to attendance and/or makeup work.
- Faculty are encouraged to explore alternative attendance policies that could serve both the academic purpose of the policy, while diminishing the pressure on students to risk their health and the health of the community for the sake of providing appointment documentation. Some faculty, for example, have found it useful to state on their syllabi the number of allowable absences for a course, without distinguishing whether those absences are "excused" or "unexcused."

Approved by the BFA Executive Committee: February 12, 2018

Approved by the BFA General Assembly: May 5, 2018

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