ACCOMMODATIONS FOR
STUDENT RELIGIOUS AND
SPIRITUAL BELIEFS

Policy Statement
A student will be granted up to three days each academic term to take
holidays for reasons of faith or religious or spiritual belief system, or
participate in organized activities conducted under the auspices of any
religious or spiritual organization. Kent State University shall not impose
an academic penalty as a result of a student being absent as permitted in
this policy.

Students will be provided with alternative accommodations with regard
to examinations and other academic requirements missed due to an
absence, if both of the following apply:

• The student’s sincerely held religious belief or practice severely
  affects the student’s ability to take an examination or meet an
  academic requirement; and
• Not later than 14 days after the first day of instruction in a particular
  course, the student provides the instructor with written notice
  of the specific dates for which the student requests alternative
  accommodations.

The instructor shall accept without question the sincerity of a student’s
religious or spiritual belief system. An instructor shall keep requests for
alternative accommodations confidential. An instructor shall schedule
a time and date for an alternative examination, which may be before or
after the time and date the examination or other academic requirement
was originally scheduled but shall do so without prejudicial effect.

Additional Resources
• Office of the Student Ombuds
• Office of Compliance, Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action

Frequently Asked Questions
There is no FAQ associated with this policy.

Definitions
• Ohio Revised Code: The codified law of the state of Ohio found at
codes.ohio.gov/ohio-administrative-code.
• Instructor: Instructor of record with the primary responsibility for
course instruction, including the assignment of appropriate grades.
• Syllabus: An outline or a summary of the main points of what will be
expected of students in a course, provided by the course’s instructor.

Related Information
• Class Attendance and Class Absence policy

Revision History
Effective April 2023: Establishes a formal university policy regarding
accommodations for student religious and spiritual beliefs.