Physical or Financial Hardship Withdrawal Policy

If a student is unable to successfully complete his or her courses due to documented financial, physical, or mental health reasons, he or she may request a hardship withdrawal through the Office of the Dean of Students. <u>Students may request a hardship withdrawal when the emergency or situation that they are experiencing makes it impossible for them to continue in the course(s) for which they are registered.</u>

Examples of physical or financial hardship shall include, but are not limited to:

- Serious injury or illness;
- Chronic illness;
- Medical issue of a family member in which the student has to become the part-time or full-time caretaker of that family member;
- Mental health condition;
- Sudden or consistent lack of transportation, which impedes the student's ability to attend class;
- Significant cost of living increase

Before requesting a physical or financial hardship withdrawal, students need to understand the following:

- Hardship withdrawals can only be requested after the official withdrawal/drop period.
- As a general rule, students are not eligible for hardship withdrawals in courses in which they have completed the course requirements (e.g., sat for the final exam or submitted the final project/paper/portfolio).
- Hardship withdrawals are processed according to the last date of class attendance. The Dean of Students Office will contact instructors to establish the last date of class attendance.
- A student who files, or attempts to file, a fraudulent application for a hardship withdrawal (e.g. to avoid a potential or pending poor or failing grade, avoid potential or pending disciplinary action or bypass current policies or processes) will be considered in violation of the <u>First</u>
 Institute Training & Management's Code of Conduct and subject to disciplinary sanctions.

Students experiencing a physical or financial hardship who wish to appeal tuition charges and/or fees are encouraged to complete <u>this form</u>. **Supporting documentation related to the physical or financial hardship is required.**