Intermitting

Intermission, also known as “disregarding terms”, allows students to take time out of their studies for reasons of medical or grave cause. This could include physical or mental illness, bereavement or unforeseen financial difficulties.

When you intermit, you cease to be a registered student and therefore you cannot continue living in College accommodation.

Information on the intermission process can be found here:
https://www.cambridgesu.co.uk/advice/information/academic/intermission/

Financial implications of intermitting

Intermitting has considerable financial implications, and these must be taken into account when deciding whether or not to apply to intermit. Three components of student financial support are relevant: the University tuition fee, the College fee (for non-Home/EU students) and Student Loan Company.

If a student goes out of residence within 21 days of the start of Full Term, they are not then liable for the University tuition fee for that particular term, or thereafter during the period of absence from Cambridge. After 21 days, the student is liable for fees for the term or terms in which they have been in residence.

A student’s entitlement to a Student Loan ceases for any term during which they intermit, but restarts when the course is resumed. Entitlement to help with University fees is limited, in total, to the number of terms of the original course plus one further year. Any tuition fee loan entitlement remaining when the student intermits is transferred to the final terms of the extended course.

When intermission is agreed

A student will be asked to see their Director of Studies and the College Wellbeing Advisor before going on intermission. The College Wellbeing Advisor will remain in contact during a period of intermission and will support the student to return to study effectively.

Intermission poses particular challenges for international students. The International Students’ Office will be able to advise international students on factors relating to intermission:
https://www.internationalstudents.cam.ac.uk/

Returning to study

The student will not be allowed to return into residence without medical evidence that they are fit to resume their course (in the case of intermission for medical reasons). In addition, the College may require an academic assessment of fitness to study before permission to return is granted.