A. College Forward may exit or suspend a Member for compelling personal circumstances if the member documents that:

1. The Member has a disability or serious illness that makes completing the term of service impossible;

2. There is a serious injury, illness, or death of a family member which makes completing the term of service unreasonably difficult or impossible for the Member;

3. The Member has military service obligations;

4. The Member has accepted an opportunity to transition from welfare to work; or

Some other unforeseeable circumstance beyond the Member’s control makes it impossible or unreasonably difficult for the Member to complete his/her term of service, such as a natural disaster, a strike, relocation of a spouse, or the non-renewal or premature closing of a project or the program.

B. Compelling personal circumstances do NOT include:

1. Enrolling in school;

2. Obtaining employment, other than moving from welfare to work; or

3. Dissatisfaction with College Forward.

C. College Forward’s Program Director must authorize any release from service for compelling personal circumstances.

D. If a Member exits the program early for compelling personal circumstances:

1. He/she may earn a partial Education Award, pro-rated based on the number of hours served at College Forward (if the Member has completed at least 15 percent);

2. His/her benefits will be terminated;

3. The term of service and the Education Award he/she receives will count toward the total of two Education Awards he/she may receive through service with AmeriCorps programs;

4. The term of service will count toward the total of three opportunities to enroll in an AmeriCorps program.

E. If a Member suspends his/her term of service for compelling personal circumstances:

1. He/she will have up to two years to either (a) return to the College Forward program, or (b) apply to a similar AmeriCorps program to complete his/her term of service;

2. His/her benefits will be terminated during the suspension of the term of service;

3. In order to be eligible for a full education award upon returning to service, the Member must complete the balance of his/her service hours and all other graduation requirements in the balance of the time remaining in his/her term of service.