



March 8, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

Timothy (Tim) Teets is a current student in The Evergreen State College's Master of Environmental Studies Program (MES), and will be in his final academic quarter April to June, 2020. His proposed National Guard service at the National Training Center April 27 to May 27, 2020 will be in direct conflict with our academic calendar, and Tim's ability to complete his degree requirements.

Tim's absence for this training period will make it impossible for him to complete his final 4 credits of elective course work, and his graduate thesis requirement, on time. His absence may result in his having to delay his degree completion until June of 2021. His absence would also place a burden on his faculty advisor, who will have to mentor Tim through a long absence, and may not be on contract to support his research when Tim is able to return.

In short, our program structure does not support mid-course and long-term absences, and Tim's absence would place a burden on our faculty and administrative staff. We request that Tim's required training be moved to June 7, 2020 or later to allow him to complete his degree requirements in the confines of our regular academic calendar.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

If you have any questions, please reach out to me at francisk@evergreen.edu or 360-867-5831.

Sincerely,

Kevin Francis
MES Program Director
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