

### **1.3 Satisfactory Academic Progress**

In order to maintain eligibility for financial aid, a student must make adequate academic progress toward their degree as required in 34 CFR 668.34. Satisfactory academic progress (SAP) for federal financial aid (Title IV funds) is determined using both a quantitative and qualitative measure.

The Satisfactory Academic Progress policy is applied to all matriculated, degree-seeking, Undergraduate and graduate, full- and part-time enrolled students for the academic year beginning August 31, 2020 through May 14, 2021 with summer session as a trailer (May 24, 2021 – August 13, 2021). The payment periods are the fall semester, winter term, spring semester and summer term all using credit hours to determine billing and enrollment.

To satisfy the quantitative requirement, a student must successfully complete 67% (66.66%) of all attempted credits. Graduate Students must also successfully complete 67% (66.66%) of all attempted credits. The pace at which the student is progressing is calculated by dividing the cumulative number of credits completed by the cumulative number of credits attempted. Successfully completing a course means earning a passing grade of D or better. Any course that a student withdraws from and earns a W grade is considered as not successfully completing the course. An Incomplete grade on a course is not reviewed or considered for SAP evaluation until the course is complete with either a passing or failing grade. Credit hours earned from another institution during a semester (i.e. study abroad) is considered for both attempted and earned credits for evaluation of SAP for the term. Courses graded as "pass/fail" are considered for quantitative requirement, but excluded for qualitative requirement.

All undergraduate students must achieve the following cumulative grade point average (GPA) at the end of each semester:

- 0-26.9 credits must achieve a GPA of 1.75
- 27-56.9 credits must achieve a GPA of 1.90
- 57 or more credits must achieve a GPA of 2.0

All graduate students must achieve a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 at the end of each academic term.

The Director of Financial Aid will measure a student's SAP at the end of each spring semester. Students who do not meet the SAP measure described above will lose eligibility for federal financial aid for the next academic year.

A student who fails to meet SAP may appeal to have their financial aid continued. A student must document the mitigating situation that best applies to the reason they were unable to make academic progress; such as a medical situation, death of family member, or other circumstance. Additionally, a student must document in the appeal what has changed in the student's situation that will allow the students to demonstrate satisfactory academic progress at the next evaluation. If the appeal is accepted by the Financial Aid Office, the student will be assigned a probation status for financial aid purposes. The student is to use this probationary semester to bring his/her academic standing up to the required standards and may receive financial aid during this semester. Students granted a probationary semester will be required to meet the requirements of the academic plan designed by their advisor. So long as the student meets the requirements of the academic plan and/or minimum SAP requirements, the student will be eligible to receive financial aid.

Eligibility for financial aid is terminated if a student takes more than 150% of the established credit requirements to complete his/her course of study. Undergraduate students cannot attempt more than 184.5 credits to meet their degree requirements. Undergraduate students seeking a second Bachelor's degree may receive financial aid for an additional 90 credits. Graduate students cannot attempt more than 79.5 credits to meet their degree requirements.