

Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy For Financial Aid Eligibility at Appalachian State University

In order to be eligible for federal, state, and institutional financial aid, a student must be making satisfactory academic progress toward the completion of a degree or a teaching certificate.

Satisfactory Academic Progress is Evaluated for Three Standards

- 1) the student's academic standing, **and**
- 2) completing the degree requirements within the maximum number of terms, **and**
- 3) successfully completing a minimum number of cumulative credit hours each year.

Standard 1 - Academic Standing – All Students

A student is in good academic standing if they are not suspended according to the *Good Academic Standing Policy* as stated in the General Bulletin or the *Suspension and Dismissal Policy* in the Graduate Bulletin. Students must always maintain the cumulative grade point average requirements.

Standard 2 - Maximum Number of Terms Allowed to Complete A Degree

Type of Student	Maximum Number of Terms Allowed*
Undergraduate	10
Teaching Certificate	5
Graduate Student	6
Doctorate Student	8

* *Terms are defined as semesters, summer school periods of enrollment (whether enrolled for one or more sessions), and every 15 transfer credit hours (rounded down). All periods of enrollment, regardless of receiving financial aid, will be counted as a term.*

Standard 3 - Minimum Cumulative Credit Hours Earned – Minimum Requirement

All students must successfully complete 67% of their ASU attempted cumulative credit hours as of the end of each term. Example: At the end of a spring semester a student has attempted 92 credit hours. The student must successfully complete 61 of those credit hours.

Evaluation Periods

Satisfactory Academic Progress will generally be evaluated at the end of each spring semester. However, if your financial aid application is received after the end of the spring semester, the most current academic information on record will be used for the evaluation. The evaluation will include all terms of enrollment whether or not financial aid was received for a term. Summer terms will be included in the evaluation. Transfer credit hours and the equivalent terms will also be included in the evaluation. Academic suspension will be evaluated each term.

Grades

All grades – including withdrawals, incompletes, repeats, and non-credit – are considered in the evaluation.

Readmitted Students

Readmitted students will be evaluated for Satisfactory Academic Progress according to the last term of attendance. Financial aid eligibility will be based on that evaluation.

Review Process, Notification of Non-eligibility, and Re-establishing Eligibility

It is the responsibility of the student to be aware of their satisfactory academic progress status. A student's academic record will be evaluated annually after the spring semester grades are available or when the financial aid application is received – whichever is later. When a student is not meeting the minimum satisfactory academic progress requirements, the student will be notified that he/she is not eligible to receive financial aid until eligibility is regained. Once all requirements are again met for satisfactory academic progress, a student may request in writing a reconsideration of eligibility for financial aid. The awarding of financial aid will depend on the time of the request, the type of aid requested, and the availability of funds.

Appeal Process

A student who is not maintaining satisfactory academic progress under standards 2 and 3 of this policy as stated above, may appeal their status in writing. Appeals will only be considered for the following reasons:

1. Seeking a second undergraduate degree
2. Change in degree program
3. Change in major
4. Part-time attendance
5. Enrolled in required courses that did not generate credit hours
6. Enrolled in University courses while still enrolled in high school
7. Written documentation of extended personal illness or injury
8. Written documentation of the death or extended illness of an immediate family member
9. Written documentation of required prerequisite courses for a graduate degree

Appeals on the basis of GPA deficiency will not be considered

All appeals must be made in writing on the *Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal Form* (reverse side of this document). All appeals along with all required documentation are to be submitted to: **Teresa Johnson, Office of Student Financial Aid, Appalachian State University, ASU Box 32059, Boone, NC 28608-2059**. Telephone: (828) 262-2190.