

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Policy for Federal Student Aid

Purpose

Federal regulations (Sections 668.16(e).668.32(f) and 668.34) require that schools monitor the academic progress of each applicant for federal financial assistance and that the school certify that the applicant is making satisfactory academic progress toward earning his/her degree. This determination of progress is made on an academic year basis, at the conclusion of the Spring semester for all full-time and part-time undergraduate and graduate degree candidates. Please note that decisions for academic probation and institutional scholarship eligibility are separate from this process.

In order to remain eligible for federal student aid, each student must maintain academic performance in compliance with the SAP standards seen below. Additionally, students are permitted to receive federal student aid up to the maximum timeframe of 150% of the published length of the education program in attempted and transfer credits. Students are not eligible to receive federal financial assistance beyond this point.

ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM Cumulative Attempted Credit Hours:	Minimum Grade Point Average <i>(Qualitative Standard)</i>	Min. Completion Ratio Earned/Attempted Credits <i>(Quantitative Standard)</i>
<i>0 to 31</i>	1.00	60 percent
<i>32 or more</i>	2.00	80 percent

BACHELORS DEGREE PROGRAM Cumulative Attempted Credit Hours:	Minimum Grade Point Average <i>(Qualitative Standard)</i>	Min. Completion Ratio Earned/Attempted Credits <i>(Quantitative Standard)</i>
<i>0 to 31</i>	1.00	60 percent
<i>32 to 63</i>	1.75	60 percent
<i>64 or more</i>	2.0	80 percent

MASTER DEGREE PROGRAM Cumulative Attempted Credit Hours:	Minimum Grade Point Average <i>(Qualitative Standard)</i>	Min. Completion Ratio Earned/Attempted Credits <i>(Quantitative Standard)</i>
<i>0 to 34</i>	3.00	75 percent

- Transfer credits are counted in both the cumulative number of successfully completed and attempted credits.
- Attempted credits include incompletes (I), repeated courses, failures, or withdrawals (W).
- Change in Majors: Students who change their majors will normally be expected to complete all degree requirements before reaching 150% of normal program completion.

Reviewing SAP

Students meeting all minimum SAP standards are packaged for the full academic year. Students not meeting all minimum standards are subject to loss of financial aid eligibility or financial aid probation.

Financial Aid Suspension

Students who are not meeting SAP will be placed on Financial Aid Suspension. Students on Financial Aid Suspension have lost eligibility to participate in federal student aid programs. Such students can regain that eligibility by enrolling at Maritime College without federal financial assistance, until they regain the minimum qualifying standards for academic progress.

Right to Appeal

Students have the right to appeal any decision of ineligibility to continue to receive financial assistance. An Appeal must be made in writing to the Dean of Students by completing the Satisfactory Academic Progress Request for Review and submitting it along with all required statements and documentation. The appeal may not be based upon your need for the assistance OR your lack of knowledge that your assistance was in jeopardy. An appeal would normally be based upon some unusual situation or condition which prevented you from passing more of your courses, or which necessitated that you withdraw from classes. Examples of possible situations include documented serious illness, severe injury, or death of a family member. The student must also demonstrate that the conditions that caused the student to fall below SAP requirements can reasonably be expected not to be an issue for subsequent semesters.

If the student does not have grounds for an appeal, or if the appeal is denied, the student will remain on Financial Aid Suspension but may still be able to regain eligibility for future semesters. This is done by enrolling at Maritime College at your own expense -- without federal financial assistance -- and regaining the Qualitative and Quantitative standards listed above.

Appeal Approval Conditions

Appeals can only be approved if the Dean of Students determines that the student should be able to meet the college's satisfactory academic progress after a probationary period. If an appeal is granted: Students whose appeals are granted will be placed on financial aid probation and will receive aid on a conditional basis. Students who fail to meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards after their financial aid probationary period are not be eligible to submit subsequent appeal.

Financial Aid Probation

Probation periods will generally be granted for an academic year. The student will remain eligible for financial aid and will continue to receive financial assistance during the approved probationary period. Students who meet the SAP standard at the end of their probationary period will be restored to Satisfactory Academic Progress status and continue to receive aid. Students who do not meet the SAP requirements at the end of the probationary period will be placed on Financial Aid Suspension.