

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA

A Multi-Campus System

Student Financial Aid

Satisfactory Academic Progress Statement

In order to receive financial aid from any of the Federal aid programs, the State of Alaska programs or from institutional funds¹, a student must be **fully** admitted to an eligible degree or certificate program. In addition, the student must maintain satisfactory academic progress toward his/her educational goal as defined below:²

1. Federal regulations found in 34 CFR 668.34 require, as a condition to participation in federal student aid program, that the University have a satisfactory academic progress (SAP) policy that monitors
 - a. Quality—this is monitored by the cumulative grade point average (GPA). To maintain eligibility for financial aid students must stay in good academic standing by maintaining a 2.0 cumulative GPA for undergraduates and 3.0 for graduates.
 - b. Quantity—this is monitored by evaluating the percentage of attempted credits in which passing grades are earned. The minimum satisfactory completion rate is 67% (rounded to nearest 1%). Passing grades for this purpose are letter grades of A, B, C, D, or P. This is an ongoing average, and not a semester or annual percentage.
 - c. Maximum Timeframe—the final component requires that students complete their degree program within 150% of the required credits of the program. For example, if you are in a bachelor program that requires 120 credits to graduate, you may receive funding for the first 180 credits attempted.
2. Academic progress will be reviewed at the end of each semester to ensure that the student has completed 67% of attempted credits at the University of Alaska and credits that have been taken at other institutions and transferred into the student's degree program.
3. Grades of AU, DF, F, I, W, NB, NC and NP indicate unsatisfactory completion of courses for financial aid purposes. DF grades assigned for thesis work in progress will be allowed as satisfactory for one year only. Failure of a student to satisfactorily complete the required percentage of credits will result in the suspension of most types of financial aid.
4. First-time freshmen and transfer students with no prior academic history within the University of Alaska system are considered to be making satisfactory academic progress for the first semester of enrollment.
5. Satisfactory academic progress must be maintained even during terms in which aid is not received.
6. Academic Disqualification, Dismissal or Removal from Program will result in immediate loss of aid.

Incomplete Grades: Incomplete courses will not be considered complete until official confirmation has been received in the financial aid office showing satisfactory completion of the incomplete with a passing grade.

Repeat Courses: Students may receive financial aid funding once for repeating a previously passed class; a failed course may be repeated until it is passed.

Remedial Coursework: Students who enroll in remedial coursework (less than 100 level) may receive financial aid.

Telecourses and Distance Delivered Courses: These courses count toward the credit hour load and may be used to fulfill credit hour requirements for financial aid if the courses are required for a student's degree program. *Note: Students are still required to complete these classes within the term that they enroll (year-long correspondence courses are NOT eligible for financial aid).*

Challenge courses and 500-level courses: These courses are **NOT fundable** by any type of financial aid.

Withdrawals: Students who totally withdraw from the university, after receiving financial aid, may be liable for refunds and/or return of Title IV funds. Additional information can be found in the **Financial Aid** section of your campus's academic catalog.

Institutional Funds: Students receiving scholarships, grants, or tuition waivers from UA are expected to meet the satisfactory academic progress requirements listed in this document. Please be advised, however, that some scholarships and waivers require a higher GPA for continued receipt; requirements for scholarships will be stipulated on the UA scholarship web site.

Other Sources of Aid: Students receiving scholarships or financial aid from such sources as BIA, regional and village corporations, civic groups, and private organizations will be evaluated under the requirements of the funding agency.

Notification: Notifications regarding satisfactory academic progress and appeal decisions will typically be emailed to the University assigned email address.

Financial Aid Warning: A student in good standing who falls below the minimum percentage of cumulative credits will be placed on Warning for the first semester s/he falls below the 67% standard.

Financial Aid Suspension: Financial aid suspension will result from:

1. Failure to complete the minimum percentage of credits required after being on financial aid warning.
2. Academic Disqualification, Dismissal, or removal from program as defined by the academic catalog.
3. Exceeding the maximum number of credits allowed for the student's program prior to graduation.
4. Failure to meet the requirements of an appeal approval. A student, who is suspended again after failing to meet these requirements, **MUST** attend on his/her own without financial aid and earn the required cumulative GPA in order to regain eligibility (see **Reinstatement** below). *Subsequent appeals may be considered if a student has experienced unusual, extenuating circumstances.*

Appeals: A student whose financial aid has been suspended may appeal that decision to the financial aid office if the student's failure to meet academic progress requirements is based upon the death of a relative of the student, an injury or illness of the student, or other special circumstances. Appeal forms are available in the financial aid office or under the "Forms" section on each campus's web page. Written documentation is required for appeals for financial aid reinstatement: at a minimum, the student must specify what caused him/her to fail to pass the required number of credits and what has changed that will allow the student to succeed in a future term. If the student will not be able to reach the 67% standard within one semester, the appeal must include an academic plan that maps out the student's planned courses for as many semesters as required to get back into good standing.. The financial aid office will review all appeals to determine whether reinstatement of aid will be granted. If, after evaluating the academic plan, it is determined that a student cannot graduate within the 150% time frame, the appeal will not be approved. If the appeal is approved, the student will be placed on financial aid "Probation" and evaluated each semester. Continued funding will be based on adherence to the approved academic plan or reaching the 67% threshold.

Reinstatement: A student who does not wish to appeal or whose appeal has been denied may regain eligibility by attending course(s) without financial aid. The student will be reinstated once the 67% cumulative completion rate has been reached if the student is within the 150% timeframe and is in good academic standing with the University.

Disbursements: Funds cannot be disbursed for prior semesters when a student had failed to maintain satisfactory academic progress. Approval of appeals is for the semester of the appeal only and not for a preceding term.

¹ Employee and Dependent Tuition Waivers do not require admission to a degree or certificate program.

² Private loans, grants and scholarships may have different criteria for satisfactory progress.