

Federal Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Policy for Degree Programs

(effective 7/1/2011 for 2011-12 academic year)

To receive federal financial aid for attendance at Nebraska Methodist College, students are required to make academic progress toward completion of a degree. Satisfactory progress is evaluated at the end of each term. Below are the detailed requirements that must be met and a description of the consequences if they are not met. This policy applies to all federal and state aid programs, including Pell Grant, SEOG Grant, Perkins Loan, Stafford Loan, PLUS Loan, Nursing Student Loan, Nurse Faculty Loan, and the Nebraska State Grant program. In addition, NMC applies this policy to determine eligibility for Methodist Grant funds.

To be considered eligible for the financial aid programs named above, a student must be meeting **all** of the following conditions:

- **Qualitative – Grade Point Average**
 - Undergraduate students must maintain a semester grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 each semester as well as a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.
 - Graduate students must maintain both a semester and cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- **Quantitative – Pace of Progress**

All students must successfully complete at least 67% of their cumulative attempted credit hours to stay on pace with the Maximum Time Frame requirements.

 - Attempted credits are determined on the census date of each term.
 - Transfer credits accepted toward the student's program are included in both the attempted credits and completed credits.
 - Courses dropped after the Registrar's census date will be counted as attempted but not completed.
 - Grades of Incomplete are counted as attempted but not completed. If a student subsequently completes the course requirements and wants to request a recalculation of the percentage completed, he/she must notify the Financial Aid Office.
- **Maximum Time Frame**

All students must complete their program requirements within 150% of the time it normally takes to complete the degree program (as measured in credit hours).

- The student is enrolled in a program longer than two academic years (i.e. a bachelor's degree program) and does not have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 at the end of the second year.
- The student failed to meet either or both the Qualitative and Quantitative standards by the end of the Warning Period.
- The student has attempted 150% of the credits required for the degree program.

Appeal

A student whose financial aid eligibility was terminated may submit an appeal to the Financial Aid Appeals Committee.

- An appeal must be written or typed and must describe why the student failed to make progress during the term, what has changed in the student's situation that would allow the student to demonstrate satisfactory academic progress at the end of the next term, and a copy of an academic plan that has been developed with and is signed by the student's advisor.
- Reasons for an appeal may include: death of a relative, injury or illness of the student, or other special circumstances.

Probationary Period

A student whose appeal is approved will have financial aid eligibility reinstated on a Probationary basis for one term. The student may continue to receive financial aid during this Probationary Period but must meet the regular SAP standards or be making progress under an approved academic plan by the end of the Probationary Period. A student who fails to make progress under the approved academic plan will not be allowed to submit another appeal.

Re-establishing Eligibility

A student who failed to make progress during the Probationary Period may re-establish his/her financial aid eligibility after meeting the following conditions:

- Enroll at the student's own expense until both the Quantitative and Qualitative SAP standards are met, while not exceeding the Maximum Time Frame.

Warning Period

A student who fails to meet either or both the Qualitative and Quantitative standards will be given a Warning Period of one term. During the Warning Period, a student may continue to receive the financial aid for which he/she is otherwise eligible.

Suspension/Termination

A student's financial aid eligibility will be suspended or terminated if any of the following occurs:

Notification

Students will be sent written notification if their status changes as a result of the SAP evaluation.