

UNIVERSITY OF EVANSVILLE OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID
Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy (updated fall 2011)

The United States Department of Education (Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended) requires that students maintain satisfactory progress toward completing their degree in order to receive financial aid. The Office of Financial Aid is required to check three standards: quantitative (pace of progression), qualitative (GPA), and maximum time frame for receiving aid.

These standards, known as Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), govern eligibility for students who want to establish or continue aid eligibility. These standards govern eligibility for financial aid from federal, state, and institutional sources in the form of grants, scholarships, work-study, and federal student and parent loans. Many private loans also require SAP. The standards apply to a student's entire degree program, including terms in which financial aid was not applied for or disbursed.

Each May, the UE Office of Financial Aid reviews Satisfactory Academic Progress. If a student falls below the standards, NO financial aid of any kind may be renewed until the deficiencies are corrected.

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QUANTITATIVE STANDARDS (PACE OF PROGRESSION)

Students must complete 67% of all attempted credit hours with a passing grade. Every May, a student's total hours successfully completed will be divided by the hours attempted to determine whether the 67% requirement has been met.

Completed credits include grades of A, B, C or D (including plus or minus) and credits taken pass/fail, in which a P was earned. Grades of F, W, I, and classes taken for audit do not result in completed credits. Credits earned by examination will be considered completed credits. Transfer credits that count toward the UE degree will be considered completed credits.

Attempted credits include hours earned in classes with letter grades, transfer credits that count toward the UE degree, and credits earned by examination. Grades of I or W will count as hours attempted, but not completed. If incompletes are later completed, they will be reflected when progress is again checked, or sooner, at the student's request. Courses that are retaken to improve a grade are counted in attempted hours but only one passing grade is counted toward the credit completion pace rate. Students may repeat a course in which they have received a passing grade only one time. After one allowable time, the student cannot use federal assistance for future repeats. However, if the course is added to full-time enrollment of 12 or more credit hours, the student can receive federal aid based on full-time status.

QUALITATIVE STANDARDS (GPA)

The minimum cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) requirement is:

- 1.60** or higher at the end of spring semester for -
 - Freshmen who entered UE in 2011-12
 - Global leadership students completing first year of program
 - Transfer students who entered UE with less than 30 hours earned toward UE degree
- 2.00** or higher at the end of spring semester for all other students

Note: UE Merit-based Scholarships have higher GPA expectations. Renewal GPA requirements are communicated at the time of scholarship award and can also be found at <http://www.evansville.edu/financialaid/docs/FAQ1.pdf>.

MAXIMUM TIME FRAME FOR ELIGIBILITY

Federal Aid Standards: Federal regulations govern the maximum length of time a student may receive federal aid. For students pursuing a bachelor's degree, this timeframe is defined as 150% of the scheduled length of the program. For example, students in an academic program requiring 120 credit hours may attempt up to 180 credit hours (150% of 120 is 180 hours). Students pursuing an associate's degree requiring 72 credits may attempt up to 108 credit hours (150% of 72 is 108 hours). Other degree programs with differing credit hour requirements will have up to 150% of the required hours as their maximum. All UE attempted hours, including hours taken in a change from one major to another will apply toward the 150% total. For transfer students, the number of transfer credit hours accepted at the point of admission to UE will be used to calculate the student's remaining eligibility for the 150% maximum timeframe calculation. Second undergraduate degree students are only eligible to receive loan funds. Students enrolled in a degree program which is equal to or lower than a degree already earned, will have the previous degree's accepted credit hours applied toward the student's current certificate or degree. The accepted credit hours will be counted toward the 150% maximum time frame calculation.

State of Indiana Grants: Full-time students in four-year degree programs may receive Indiana grant aid for a maximum of eight semesters or until the first bachelor's degree is earned, whichever comes first.

University of Evansville gift-assistance: For academic programs designed to last four years, University of Evansville gift-assistance (scholarships and grants) are available for four years, or eight semesters, or until the first bachelor's degree is earned, whichever comes first. If a student finds that he will not graduate in four years, the student may appeal for an extension of the aid. Appeal forms for Fifth Year of UE Aid are available in the Office of Financial Aid. Financial need must be demonstrated in order for the appeal to be considered.

Programs that are formally designed to last longer than four years - health services administration BS/MS degree, applied exercise science/PTA, athletic training/PTA, exercise science/health services administration, and music education/music therapy, and DPT (3+3 and 4+3) have very specific policies governing aid renewal. See a counselor in the UE Office of Financial Aid for assistance.

Aid denial due to lack of satisfactory academic progress:

Students who fail to meet the above standards will be ineligible for financial aid. The summer can be used at the student's expense to correct the deficiencies. It is important to remember that grade deficiencies can only be corrected at UE, but credits to correct a deficiency in hours can be taken elsewhere and transferred to UE through arrangement with the Office of Academic Advisement.

Official Aid Denial Notification

Both a letter and an email to UE email address will be sent each May notifying students who are ineligible for further financial aid until deficiencies are rectified. Students are responsible for maintaining awareness of their SAP status for aid renewal whether or not they receive the official notifications. The Office of Financial Aid is not responsible for address changes that are not reported or for other problems with postal mail or email delivery.

Appeals to Regain Eligibility

Students who fail to meet these standards may appeal. Appeals that are based upon serious illness or accident affecting the student; death, accident or serious illness in the student's immediate family, or other serious extenuating circumstances are reasonable. Appeals should be submitted to the OFA in writing and must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documents. The reasonableness and likelihood of the student's ability for improvement to meet the appropriate standards for the degree will be taken into consideration. The student is limited to two appeals. Appeals will be approved or denied in writing, and a letter sent with academic expectations attached. The student must sign and return the letter indicating acceptance of the expectation imposed. If approved, one semester of aid will be granted. The student is considered to be on Financial Aid Probation for this semester. Aid will be continued if the student meets the stated expectations during probation.

If the appeal for aid is denied, the student may choose to enroll without using financial aid in an effort to repair the SAP deficiencies. Students may request a review of their record following any term. If the SAP standards are met at the time of review, financial aid eligibility may be regained for subsequent terms of enrollment that year.