

Hastings College

Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy for Federal & State Financial Aid

Hastings College is required to establish minimum academic standards that students must meet in order to maintain eligibility for federal and state aid. These guidelines are established to encourage students to successfully complete courses for which aid is received.

Below are the required minimum standards for students who are receiving financial aid or for those who seek financial aid in the future.

Qualitative Requirements

Minimum cumulative AND semester grade point average:

After one semester, 1.65

After two semesters, 1.8

After three semesters, 1.9

After four or more semesters, 2.0

Quantitative Requirements

The quantitative requirement is based upon your enrollment status on the last day to drop a course with no notation on your transcript. You must successfully complete the number of hours for which your financial aid was awarded.

Full time enrollment is defined as 12 or more credit hours; a minimum of 12 hours must be earned after each regular term. Part time enrollment is defined as 11 credit hours or less; a minimum of 67% attempted vs completed hours must be earned after each regular term.

The pace requirement is a component of the policy that is measuring the pace at which a student must progress through their program of study to ensure completion within the maximum time frame permitted. Pace is calculated by determining the cumulative number of credit hours the student has successfully **completed** divided by the number of cumulative credit hours the student has **attempted**. To meet the pace requirement, the student's cumulative completion rate must be 67% or higher. Credit hours transferred in from another institution are included in BOTH attempted and completed credits.

Successful completion is defined as receiving one of the following grades, A, B, C, D, or P. Credit hours that will not count as successfully completed include the following, F (fail), I (incomplete), or W (withdraw) AND their credit hours count in a student's attempted hours.

Maximum Time Frame Requirement

The maximum time for the completion of a student's academic program is 190 hours. Maximum time frame is based on total credit hours attempted at Hastings College plus any transfer credits accepted. These limits apply regardless of whether or not the student received federal financial aid for any or all of the credits attempted. Students will be suspended from financial aid eligibility the semester following the semester their attempted hour exceed their limit. There is NO warning semester for maximum time frame.

Warning Semester

Students who fail to meet one or more of the requirements will be placed on financial aid warning status for the following semester. Notification will be sent to your Hastings College email account. Students will be able to receive their federal financial aid (if they are otherwise eligible) during their warning semester while they work to restore their academic progress standing. If you fail to meet one or more of the requirements again in the subsequent semester, the student will be placed on financial aid suspension and no longer eligible for financial aid.

Suspension of Federal Financial Aid

At the end of the warning semester, if a student does not meet the SAP requirement, the student will have their federal financial aid suspended. The Financial Aid Office will notify the student by HC email and mail to their permanent address.

Regaining Eligibility

Students can still enroll without financial aid and regain eligibility for financial aid in subsequent semester by meeting all quantitative and qualitative standards listed above in the policy. (Term and cumulative GPA, based upon number of semesters having attended Hastings College; completing 12 hours, if enrollment status is full time; and by bringing their pace requirement up to 67% or higher)

Academic standing is reviewed after each semester. If a student believes that they have met the minimum standard in order to have their financial aid re-instated, they should notify the Financial Aid Office.

Students in suspension status may appeal their suspension by completing a Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal Form. It should be submitted to the Financial Aid Director by the deadline designated in the notification letter (usually two weeks). A successful appeal must be based on significant extenuating circumstances that seriously impacted academic performance. (for example, serious illness or injury of the student, death of a close relative). In the appeal the student is expected to demonstrate an understanding of what SAP measures were failed and what has changed that will allow the student to meet SAP at the next evaluation. Supporting documentation is highly recommended and may be required depending on the circumstances for the appeal. The Satisfactory Academic Progress Committee will determine whether a probation semester will be granted. Please note that merely filing an appeal does NOT guarantee continued eligibility for Federal financial aid.

Appeal Approval (Probation)

If a student's appeal is approved by the Committee, the student will be notified and given a probationary semester. For the probationary semester the student will be considered academically eligible for federal aid for which the student has applied and is otherwise eligible.

Once a probationary semester has concluded, the student may re-establish eligibility to be considered for federal aid for their next semester of enrollment by taking action that brings him or her into compliance with the requirements of Hastings College's policy.

Once a probationary semester has concluded in cases where it is not possible to meet all SAP standards in one semester, the student will be given an individualized academic plan. The student must demonstrate in a timely fashion the meeting of the academic plan and standards as established by the Appeals Committee in order to re-establish eligibility for the next semester of enrollment.

Appeal Denial

If an appeal for a probationary semester is denied by the Academic Progress Committee, the Financial Aid Office will notify the student by HC email. Notice will also be mailed to the student's most recent permanent mailing address on file in the Financial Aid Office. The decision is final for that semester. The student may re-establish eligibility to be considered for federal aid for a subsequent semester by taking action that brings him or her into compliance with requirements of Hastings College's SAP standard.

Additional Information

Academic Affairs

The Academic Affairs Office has its own process and policy standards with regards to academic progress. If a student has been academically suspended and does not successfully appeal, the student will not be eligible to return.

Return of Federal Funds

Students who receive federal financial aid, but fail to complete any coursework will be subject to a Return of Federal Funds calculation and may be required to repay a portion of the aid that has been awarded. Your latest day of attendance, in one of the enrolled classes, will be used as the date for the Return calculation.

Frequency of Academic Progress Evaluation

The Financial Aid Office will review student's academic record for satisfactory progress at the end of each term: Fall, Spring and Summer.

Academic Plans

Sometimes it is mathematically impossible for a student to meet the minimum policy standard at the end of the semester. In those cases, the student will be required to meet with their academic advisor and develop an academic plan. The academic plan must be included with the appeal form and it should include the point in time at which student will be able to meet the standard.