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SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP) FOR FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID POLICY

Applies to: Undergraduate Students at NewU University Receiving Federal Financial Aid

Purpose

To ensure continued eligibility for federal Title IV aid (e.g., Pell Grants, Direct Loans), students must meet Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) standards in accordance with federal regulations under 34 CFR § 668.34.

1. Evaluation Frequency

SAP is evaluated **once per year** at the end of the **spring semester**.

2. SAP Standards

To maintain eligibility for aid, students must meet **all three** of the following standards:

A. Minimum Cumulative GPA

- Students must maintain a **cumulative GPA of at least 1.5** after completing two semesters.
- By the time of graduation, students must have a **minimum GPA of 2.0**, per degree requirements.

B. Completion Rate (Pace)

- Students must successfully complete at least **66.67%** of cumulative credits attempted.
 - Example: If a student attempts 30 credits, they must pass at least 20.

C. Maximum Timeframe

- Students must complete their degree within **150% of the published program length**.
 - Example: For a 3-year bachelor's degree (120 credits), students may attempt up to **180 credits**.

3. Definitions and Treatment of Credits

- **Attempted credits** include all enrolled courses, regardless of withdrawal, incomplete, or failing grades.
- **Completed credits** are those in which a passing grade was earned.
- **Transfer credits** accepted toward the degree count as both attempted and completed.
- **Repeated courses** count toward attempted credits each time; only the latest grade counts toward GPA.

4. Financial Aid Warning

- Students who fail SAP for the first time are placed on **Financial Aid Warning** for one academic year.
- Aid continues during the warning period; no appeal is needed.

5. Financial Aid Suspension

- If SAP is not regained after the warning year, the student's aid is **suspended**.
- Students may appeal to regain eligibility (see below).

6. Appeals Process

Students may appeal their suspension by submitting:

- A **written explanation** of extenuating circumstances (e.g., illness, death in family, housing insecurity),
- **Supporting documentation** (if applicable), and
- A plan for returning to good standing.

If the appeal is approved, the student will be placed on **Financial Aid Probation** for one semester or enrolled in an **academic plan**.

7. Academic Plan

- Created with an academic advisor,
- Must be followed term-by-term until SAP is regained,
- Reviewed each term to determine ongoing aid eligibility.

8. Reinstatement of Financial Aid

Aid may be reinstated when:

- SAP standards are met again, or
- The student successfully follows the academic plan.

9. Notification

Students are notified in writing of their SAP status after each annual review.

[End]