


**SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC
PROGRESS**

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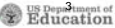
CURRENT REGULATIONS




Student Eligibility

Maintains satisfactory progress in his/her course of study according to school's published standards

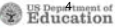
- § 668.32(f)
- § 668.34






Administrative Capability

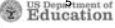
Establishes, publishes, and applies reasonable standards for measuring if a student is maintaining satisfactory progress in his/her educational program
§ 668.16(e)





Consumer Information

- Publish and make readily available to current and prospective students
 - > standards for making satisfactory progress
 - > criteria for reestablishing eligibility if SAP is violated
- § 668.42(c)(2)





SAP Standards


- Apply to all Title IV programs
- Consistently Applied
- Reasonable




SAP Standards

Must be same as or stricter than standards for non-Title IV students in same educational program

- Are you using your school's academic standards or standards specifically for Title IV?






SAP Standards Must Include

Two Components


- Qualitative
- Quantitative
- ❖ Both must be cumulative




Qualitative Standard

To assess quality of academic work


- Use standards measurable against a norm
 - grades
 - work projects
- May use fixed or graduated standard






Fixed Standard Example - Current

A student must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 after two terms of enrollment, and subsequently, each year.







Graduated Standard Example

Grade Point Average Requirements


- 1 to 30 credits = 1.6
- 31 to 60 credits = 1.8
- 61 to graduation = 2.0





Academic Programs Longer Than Two Years


- By the end of the second academic year, student must have:
 - a "C" average or its equivalent
- OR
- academic standing consistent with graduation requirements
- Years measured in time, not grade level



**Mitigating Circumstances Regarding "C"
After Two Years - current**


These standards may be set aside if certain circumstances affect progress

- > death of a relative
- > injury or illness of student
- > other special circumstances



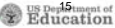
Quantitative Standard - Current

To measure progress toward course completion.




Maximum Time Frame

- Undergraduates may receive aid for a maximum of 150% of the published length of the educational program
 - > cumulative, including periods without Title IV assistance



Maximum Time Frame


School must develop a written policy establishing a maximum time frame in which a graduate student must complete the program.



Credit Hour Schools

May define maximum time frame in

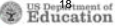
- Academic Years
- Credit Hours Attempted
- Terms



Academic Years

Degree program takes 4 years to complete


- ➔ $4 \times 150\% = 6$ years is maximum time frame
- ➔ $4 \times 125\% = 5$ years is maximum time frame



Credit Hours Attempted

Degree program requires 120 credits for completion


➤ $120 \times 150\% = 180$ attempted credits is maximum time frame



Terms

Degree program takes 6 terms to complete

➤ $6 \times 150\% = 9$ terms is maximum time frame

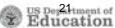


Clock Hour Max Time

Must use calendar time


- 900 clock hour program takes 8 months to complete

➤ $8 \times 150\% = 12$ months is maximum time frame



Evaluating Student Progress

- How often should students' progress be evaluated?



US Department of Education

Evaluating Time Frame

- Must be divided into equal evaluation periods
 - Evaluation periods cannot exceed the lesser of one half of the program or one academic year

US Department of Education

Programs One Year Or Less

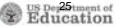
School must evaluate progress at least once, at the half-way point.

US Department of Education

Clock Hour Program Example

8 months/900 clock hours

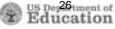
- program is one year in length
- one half of the program = 4 month evaluation periods



Credit Hour Non-Term Program Example

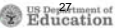
6 months/24 quarter credits

- program is less than one year
- one half of the program = 3 month evaluation periods



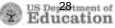
Programs Longer Than One Year

School must evaluate progress at least once per year.



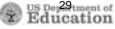

Credit Hour Term Degree Program

- Must evaluate progress at least once year
- May evaluate progress at end of each term



Evaluating Student Progress

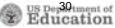
How much work must be completed at end of each evaluation period?



Student Must Complete Within Maximum Time Frame

Your policy may require


- > a fixed amount of work that must be completed in each evaluation period
- > a percentage of work that must be completed in each evaluation period



Credit Hour - 6 Year Max Time

Student must complete 1/6 of the work required for the degree each year

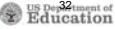
- degree requires 120 credits
- $1/6 = .16666$
- 20 credits per year required to finish within 6 years



Credit Hour - Attempted Credits

$120 \text{ credits} / 180 \text{ credits} = 67\%$

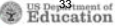
- Student must earn 67% of credit hours attempted



Clock Hour Program - 12 Month Max Time

$4 \text{ months} / 12 \text{ months} = 34\%$


- $34\% \times 900 = 306 \text{ clock hours}$
- 306 clock hours in 4 month period



Course Repeats

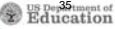
Effect on progress

- Qualitative - average grades, count both grades, or count the higher grade
- Quantitative - included in maximum time frame
- ❖ May only count toward enrollment status if receiving credit



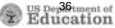
What About?


- Incompletes
- Withdrawals
- Non-credit remedial courses



Transfer Students


- May make initial disbursement
- If no credits transferred in, then SAP evaluated solely on work at current school
- If received transfer credits, those must be included when determining progress toward maximum time frame






Probation/Warning

- Optional
- Length of probation
- Stipulations a student must meet
- Notification process



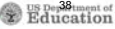



Major/Degree Changes

Effect of/on maximum timeframe

- > Take credits earned and apply toward max time
- > Student eligible for aid for 150% of remaining required credits

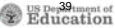
Does it require an appeal?






Appeal Policy

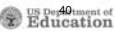
- Specific procedures for student to appeal if not making satisfactory progress






How To Re-establish Eligibility

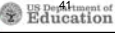
If an appeal is unsuccessful or the institution does not have an appeal process.






Disbursement of Funds


Make certain that student meets satisfactory academic progress standards as of last time your policy required evaluation.





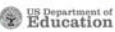
PROPOSED REGULATIONS






Negotiated Rulemaking


- Hearings in Denver, Little Rock, and Philadelphia—June 2009
- Federal Register Notice—September 2009
- Two Teams—Program Integrity and Foreign Schools






Program Integrity


- 14 issues
- Three meetings—November and December 2009 and January 2010
- Consensus not reached






Program Integrity

- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking—June 18, 2010
- Comment period ends—August 2, 2010
- Final regulations—November 1, 2010
- Effective date—July 1, 2011

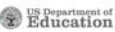





Program Integrity

Why was Satisfactory Academic Progress on the agenda?

- Last comprehensive look in 1983
- Inconsistent terminology used by institutions
- Repeated, sequential use of probationary periods
- More structured, comprehensive and consistent approach







§ 668.16(e) Standards of Administrative Capability

Current Regulations

- Require institutions to establish, publish and apply reasonable SAP standards
- Specify what is reasonable






§ 668.16(e) Standards of Administrative Capability

Proposed Regulations


- Require institutions to establish, publish and apply reasonable SAP standards that meet the requirements of § 668.34



**§ 668.32 Student Eligibility--
General**

Current Regulations


- Require a student to meet the standards in § 668.16 and § 668.34



**§ 668.32 Student Eligibility--
General**

Proposed Regulations


- Require a student to maintain SAP according to the institution's standards that meet the requirements in § 668.34



**§ 668.34 Satisfactory Academic
Progress**

Current Regulations

- List specific requirements for students enrolled in programs longer than two years



§ 668.34 Satisfactory Academic Progress


Proposed Regulations

- Describe all of the required elements of a satisfactory academic progress policy
- Retain significant institutional flexibility




§ 668.34 Satisfactory Academic Progress

- Required elements for a reasonable SAP policy
- Continued flexibility for institutions in establishing their SAP policy
- Additional flexibility for institutions that monitor SAP more often than annually




§ 668.34 Satisfactory Academic Progress

- Makes explicit—
 - Policy must specify the pace of progression to ensure completion within the maximum time frame; and
 - Pace is measured at each evaluation




§ 668.34 Satisfactory Academic Progress

- Requires institutions to count transfer hours accepted toward completion of the student's program as both hours attempted and hours completed



§ 668.34 Satisfactory Academic Progress


- In general, a student who is not making SAP is no longer eligible for Title IV aid



§ 668.34 Satisfactory Academic Progress

Financial Aid Warning


- Status assigned to a student who fails to make SAP at an institution that evaluates SAP at the end of each payment period
- Student may continue to receive Title IV aid for one payment period
- No appeal necessary



§ 668.34 Satisfactory Academic Progress

Financial Aid Probation


- Status assigned by an institution to a student who fails to make SAP and who has appealed and has had eligibility for Title IV aid reinstated
- Institution may impose conditions for student's continued eligibility to receive Title IV aid



§ 668.34 Satisfactory Academic Progress

Appeal


- Process by which a student who is not meeting the institution's SAP policy petitions the institution for reconsideration of the student's eligibility for Title IV aid



§ 668.34 Satisfactory Academic Progress

Appeal (continued)


- Must specify the conditions under which a student may appeal
- The student's appeal must include—
 - Why the student failed to make SAP; and
 - What has changed that will allow the student to make SAP at the next evaluation



§ 668.34 Satisfactory Academic Progress

Institutions that evaluate SAP each payment period


- Student loses eligibility for Title IV aid
- Student may be placed on Financial Aid Warning
- Student may be placed on Financial Aid Probation



§ 668.34 Satisfactory Academic Progress

Institutions that evaluate SAP each payment period


- After one payment period on Financial Aid Warning, student must make SAP or appeal and be placed on Probation after an appeal



§ 668.34 Satisfactory Academic Progress

Institutions that evaluate SAP each payment period


- After Financial Aid Probation, the student must be making SAP or be successfully following an academic plan



§ 668.34 Satisfactory Academic Progress

Institutions that evaluate SAP less often than each payment period


- Student loses eligibility for Title IV aid
- Student may appeal and be placed on Financial Aid Probation



§ 668.34 Satisfactory Academic Progress

Institutions that evaluate SAP less often than each payment period


- After Financial Aid Probation, the student must be making SAP or be successfully following an academic plan



§ 668.34 Satisfactory Academic Progress

Student Notifications


- Must notify student of results of SAP review that impacts the student's eligibility for Title IV aid
- If the institution has an appeal process, must describe the specific elements required to appeal SAP




§ 668.34 Satisfactory Academic Progress

Student Notifications

- If the institution does not have an appeal process, must describe how a student who has failed SAP reestablishes eligibility for Title IV aid



QUESTIONS ??



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