

Satisfactory Academic Progress for Financial Aid Eligibility

Policy. To maintain eligibility for financial aid, students must make Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) as defined by their grade level classification and program of study. Failure to meet the prescribed standards may result in loss of financial aid eligibility. All students are reviewed after each payment period or period of enrollment.

Undergraduate Students. To maintain satisfactory academic progress, undergraduate students must sustain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.00 and must successfully complete at least 75% of all credits attempted (including transfer credits). Failure to meet either requirement automatically puts students on *Financial Aid Warning* status after the first payment period/period of enrollment. In the event that students fail to meet the requirements after the subsequent payment period/period of enrollment, they are put on *Financial Aid Suspension* status. At this point, students may appeal, by letter, to the Director of Financial Aid to regain eligibility for *one* additional payment period/period of enrollment. If approved, students are placed on *Financial Aid Probation* status. If students fail to demonstrate satisfactory academic progress after the probationary payment period/period of enrollment, they return to *Financial Aid Suspension* status.

The only way to continue receiving financial aid while suspended is to complete an *Academic Plan* (defined below). All *Academic Plans* must be approved by the Financial Aid SAP Committee. The Financial Aid SAP committee is comprised of at least five members, including the Director of Financial Aid, Registrar, and Academic Support Coordinator. The Director of Financial Aid chairs the committee.

If at any review point students are found to be in compliance with SAP requirements, they are automatically removed from Warning, Probation, or Suspension status.

In addition to the above grade point average and completion rate requirements, all students must complete their programs of study by attempting no more than 150% of the credit hours normally required for completion. If, for example, a program of study is normally completed with 120 credit hours, financial aid eligibility ceases once a student has attempted 180 credit hours or more.

Graduate Students. To maintain satisfactory academic progress, graduate students must sustain a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.00 and must successfully complete at least 75% of all credits attempted (including transfer credits). Failure to meet either requirement automatically puts students on *Financial Aid Warning* status after the first payment period/period of enrollment. In the event that students fail to meet the requirements after the subsequent payment period/period of enrollment, they are put on *Financial Aid Suspension* status. At this point, students may appeal, by letter, to the Director of Financial Aid to regain eligibility for *one* additional payment period/period of enrollment. If approved, students are placed on *Financial Aid Probation* status. If students fail to demonstrate satisfactory academic progress after the probationary payment period/period of enrollment, they return to *Financial Aid Suspension* status.

The only way to continue receiving financial aid while suspended is to complete an *Academic Plan* (defined below). All *Academic Plans* must be approved by the Financial Aid SAP Committee. The Financial Aid SAP committee is comprised of at least five members, including the Director of Financial Aid, Registrar, and Academic Support Coordinator. The Director of Financial Aid chairs the committee.

If at any review point students are found to be in compliance with SAP requirements, they are automatically removed from Warning, Probation, or Suspension status.

In addition to the above grade point average and completion rate requirements, all students must complete their programs of study by attempting no more than 150% of the credit hours normally required for completion. If, for example, a program of study is normally completed with 36 credit hours, financial aid eligibility ceases once a student has attempted 54 credit hours or more.

Definition of Terms. The following paragraphs define key terms related to Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP):

Academic Plans are personalized plans designed to enable a student to meet SAP requirements at a subsequent review. They are developed by the Director of Financial Aid in conversation with the student and other University representatives as determined by the Director. The timeframe for the plan is developed on a case-by-case basis. As long as students remain in compliance with the *Academic Plan*, they are eligible to receive financial aid. If they fail to meet the requirements of the *Academic Plan*, they return to Financial Aid Suspension status.

Financial Aid Probation is a status assigned to students on Financial Aid Suspension after they successfully appeal, by letter, to the Director of Financial Aid. Such students retain financial aid eligibility for *one* additional payment period/period of enrollment as they attempt to demonstrate Satisfactory Academic Progress. Students may be on probation multiple times during their enrollment at Johnson University as long as the periods are not consecutive.

Financial Aid Suspension is a status assigned to students after a Warning or Probation period in which they failed to demonstrate compliance with SAP requirements. Students on Financial Aid Suspension are not eligible to receive financial aid. They remain under this status until they meet SAP requirements.

Financial Aid Warning is a status automatically assigned to students after the first payment period/period of enrollment in which they fail to comply with financial aid satisfactory academic progress requirements. Students on Warning are still eligible to receive financial aid. They may remain on Warning for only *one* payment period/period of enrollment. Student may be on warning status multiple times during their enrollment at Johnson University as long as the periods are not consecutive.

Successfully Completing a Course means earning the grade necessary to apply the course toward graduation requirements for a given academic program. Most programs require a “D-“ or above for the course to be “completed.” In the event that a program requires a grade higher than “D-“ for a given course, students must earn the required grade for the course to be considered “complete.” A grade of “P” (Passing) is also satisfactory. Students earn no credit for grades of “F” (Failing), “I” (Incomplete), “E” (Emergency), “W” (Withdrawal), and “WX” (Administrative Withdrawal). Such courses count as courses attempted but not successfully “completed.”