

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS – Financial Aid Policy

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) at Grace Bible College relates to both your academic status, as well as your eligibility to receive financial aid. The guidelines outlined below relate to your eligibility to receive federal financial aid. Contact the Director of Financial Aid for information about maintaining your eligibility for state and institutional aid. Determination as to whether or not you are meeting SAP requirements is made at the end of each academic year based on three factors mandated by federal policy. These factors include cumulative grade point average (GPA), completion ratio, and maximum time frame as described below.

Semester Hours Attempted	Cumulative GPA Required	Completion Ratio
3-27	1.50	The required completion ratio for all levels is 67%
28-55	1.75	
56 and up	2.00	

- You must have earned the required cumulative GPA based on the semester hours attempted to maintain financial aid eligibility. The Director of Financial Aid has the authority to grant limited exceptions to first-time freshmen who fail to meet this requirement but whose cumulative GPA is at or above 1.50.
- The maximum time frame limits the number of credits you may earn when pursuing a degree. For example, in a program of study that requires 124 credits, you may not exceed 186 credits and remain eligible for financial aid.
- The completion ratio is determined by using the following formula:

$$\text{Completion Ratio} = \frac{\text{Cumulative semester hours earned}}{\text{Cumulative semester hours attempted}}$$

- When determining SAP, grades and credits are tallied according to the following guidelines:
 - ✓ Earned semester hours include all grades of A, B, C, D, and P.
 - ✓ Attempted semester hours include the grades listed above, as well as E, U, W, WF, and XF.
 - ✓ For repeated courses, credits from each time you are enrolled are applied to the attempted/ earned credits. However, only the most recent grade earned is used when calculating the cumulative GPA.
 - ✓ Transfer credit accepted at the time of admission, if applicable, is not included when calculating cumulative GPA. Such credits are, however, included in the determination of a student's cumulative GPA required.
 - ✓ Transfer credit is also included when calculating the completion ratio and maximum time frame.

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS STATUS

The Financial Aid Office evaluates whether or not you are meeting SAP requirements at the end of each academic year. If it is determined that you failed to meet the SAP standards outlined above, you will be disqualified from receiving federal financial aid until such time you demonstrate that you are meeting SAP standards.

REINSTATEMENT OF FINANCIAL AID ELIGIBILITY

If you lose your eligibility to receive federal financial aid because you are not meeting SAP standards, you may regain eligibility in one of the following ways:

1. By successfully appealing the loss of eligibility. To appeal, you must submit a *Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal Form*, available from the Director of Financial Aid. The extenuating circumstances that may justify reinstating your eligibility for financial aid on a temporary basis are outlined on this form. If this appeal is successful, your eligibility for financial aid will be reinstated according to the following:
 - a. When considering any extenuating circumstances, financial aid probation can only be granted if it is also determined that you should be able to meet SAP standards by the end of the next semester. Failure to meet SAP standards at that time would make you ineligible for federal aid without the right to further appeal.
 - b. Under certain circumstances, the Financial Aid Appeal Committee has limited authority to approve an academic plan that would reinstate your eligibility to receive federal aid provided you are able to meet SAP standards by the end of the next academic year. This academic plan also includes a minimum threshold that must be achieved at the end of the first semester in order to maintain eligibility to receive federal aid. Failure to meet this threshold would make you ineligible for federal aid without the right to further appeal.
2. By using your own financial resources to complete one or more semesters at GBC with at least half-time enrollment. Reinstatement of your eligibility for financial aid will be determined at the end of each semester, dependent on whether or not you meet SAP standards at that time. Courses taken must be approved by the Registrar and must advance you toward earning your degree.