

Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy

James Sprunt Community College

JSCC is required to ensure that students receiving federal student aid are making adequate progress toward completing their degree. Your Satisfactory Academic Progress will be monitored for all periods of enrollment whether or not you have received financial (fall, spring, summer). This is applied to all students who received private, institutional, federal, or state funds.

JSCC's Federal Student Aid SAP policies are similar, but not identical, to the institution's Academic Retention requirements. Students should review both sets of policies and ask for clarification as needed. Questions about federal student aid SAP policies should be directed to the Financial Aid Office.

Conditions for Meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy

1. Qualitative Measure (Cumulative GPA)
 - a. Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 (equivalent to C average).
 - b. Passing grades are A, B, C, D, or P (Pass). Grades of F or R (Repeat) may cause your grade point average to drop below a 2.0.
2. Quantitative Measure (PACE/Semester Hour Progression)
 - a. Students must complete 67% of semester hours attempted to remain compliant with SAP Policy. Semester hour progression will be based on a cumulative total of attempted hours to earned hours. For example, a full-time student who attempts 16 semester hours in a semester must complete at least 12 semester hours to meet the 67% requirement. Semester hours that are not completed with a passing grade will also count toward maximum units attempted toward degree objective. Grades of I, W, or F may cause your completion rate to drop.
3. Maximum Timeframe to Complete a Degree
 - a. The maximum allowable timeframe for receiving aid is equal to 150% of the length of your academic program. For example, if you are pursuing a Major that requires 64 semester hours for graduation, you would reach the maximum timeframe at 96 semester hours.
 - b. If you are a transfer student, you accepted transfer coursework will be counted in the maximum time frame. You can repeat a course, but the credits will also be applied toward the maximum timeframe
 - c. Required remedial coursework will not be counted toward your maximum timeframe (Up to 30 semester hours of remedial coursework will not be counted toward your maximum timeframe).

Consequences of Failure to meet Satisfactory Academic Progress

The Financial Aid Office measures SAP at the end of each academic semester (fall, spring, summer). If the student meets the SAP Policy Criteria, they are eligible to receive federal student aid funds in the following semester of enrollment. If the student does not meet the SAP Policy, one of the following SAP Status designations will be assigned to the student.

Financial Aid Warning

If, after the end of an academic semester, a student's SAP status fails to meet any or all of the SAP conditions, the student will enter Financial Aid Warning status the following semester. The student will be notified of this status via email from the Financial Aid Office. The student will continue to be eligible to receive federal student aid funds while in Financial Aid Warning status.

Financial Aid Suspension

A student on Financial Aid Suspension is ineligible to receive federal student aid funds. Students on Suspension may submit a SAP Appeal to the Financial Aid Office. If the appeal is approved by the Financial aid Office, students will be placed on a strict Conditional Probation Status with the financial aid office. Failure to meet the conditions of the Conditional Probation Status will jeopardize Financial Aid eligibility.

Submitting an appeal does not guarantee approval. Students awaiting a response from the SAP Appeal are responsible for paying their tuition fees by the payment deadline to avoid being dropped from their classes.

Conditional Probation

A student on Conditional Probation must meet the criteria of their probation. Students cannot withdraw from or fail a class under this status. They must also maintain a 2.0 GPA for the conditional semester. Students must also complete 15 hours of study time during the semester. This study time is required every semester until students regains satisfactory status. Failure to meet all criteria will result in loss of Financial Aid eligibility (Termination).

Terminate

A student with the status of Terminate has lost financial aid eligibility due to the failure to meet the conditions of their previous Conditional Probation. This status cannot be appealed. Students must pay their tuition until they return to satisfactory academic progress in order to regain eligibility.

Appeal Process

Students can appeal their disqualification from financial aid by completing a Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal. The SAP Appeal Form is available under the financial aid forms section on the institution's website, and in the Financial Aid Office. Students should provide an explanation of extenuating circumstances that prevented them from maintaining satisfactory academic progress throughout the semester(s) in question. Supporting documentation regarding the conditions for appealing will be accepted and reviewed. All appeals are reviewed by the Financial Aid Director and the decision is final. The review time for appeals may take up to 1 week. Students will be notified of the results by email.

Students awaiting a response in regards to their SAP Appeal are responsible for paying their tuition fees by the payment deadline to avoid being dropped from classes.