



LEHIGH UNIVERSITY®

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

All students receiving financial aid must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). SAP policies exist for both federal financial aid as well as all institutional financial aid. For both federal and institutional aid purposes, academic progress will be checked annually at the end of each academic year, unless a student is on Financial Aid Probation, in which case SAP will be checked at the end of each semester.

Federal

SAP for Federal Financial Aid Eligibility differs from the academic progress policy for institutional aid. To maintain eligibility for Federal aid, students are expected to maintain satisfactory academic progress based on both qualitative (cumulative GPA) and quantitative standards (pace of progression). Students who are placed on academic probation by the University (see the [Guide to Academic Rules and Regulations](#) for the University policy) will lose eligibility for Federal aid. The policy states:

All undergraduates are required to maintain a 2.00 cumulative average, the minimum average required for graduation, to remain in good academic standing. Students who do not meet this GPA requirement will be placed on scholastic probation.

Any undergraduate student who achieves a 1.69 or lower cumulative grade point average in a given term, or who fails more than eight hours of coursework, or is identified as failing to make academic progress by the student's college, is eligible to be reviewed by the Committee on the Standing of Students, and may be placed on scholastic probation.

In addition, per Federal Guidelines, students have a maximum of 12 semesters of Federal Aid to complete their graduate requirements (aggregate loan limits apply as well). Students must successfully complete a minimum of 67% of their attempted coursework.

Institutional

In order to maintain eligibility for Institutional financial aid, students must make progress toward their degree by 1) enrolling and passing no fewer than 12 new credits each semester, 2) earning a minimum GPA of 2.0 for each semester, and 3) maintaining a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0.

NOTE: Institutional aid is provided to assist students in obtaining a bachelor's degree. Additional aid will not be available to students who choose to enhance their bachelor's degree with additional credentials (i.e., second major/minors) and are unable to do so within the eight consecutive semesters.

Failure to Meet SAP: Students who fail to meet SAP are notified via email and mailed letter and can view this status on the Lehigh Portal. Students who do not meet SAP standards may petition to the Academic Committee on Financial Aid. The petition is an opportunity for students to explain why they failed to meet Satisfactory Academic Progress standards and may result in continued financial aid support on a

probationary status. The following must be submitted in order to be considered for review by the committee:

- The "Petition for Review of Financial Aid Eligibility" form.
- An expansive self-statement about what contributed toward the academic performance that failed to meet the minimum standards for financial aid renewal, as well as what has changed that will allow the student to make satisfactory academic progress.
- An approved academic plan, approved and signed by the student's academic adviser (a template is attached to the petition form)
- Two faculty endorsements. These should be statements concerning recent (within two semesters) classroom performance and potential for future success in the Lehigh classroom. While a note from the coach may be helpful, it is not necessary and would not count as one of the two faculty endorsements.
- A copy of the Degree Audit Report, which can be accessed via Banner Self-Service (instructions on how to get a copy of this report are available on the petition form).
- Unofficial Transcript from Banner Self-Service