

DSU Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy

In order to receive Federal student aid, the U.S. Department of Education requires that students maintain satisfactory academic progress toward the completion of their chosen degree. Federal student aid includes Pell Grants, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG), TEACH Grants, Iraq & Afghanistan Service Grants, Work Study, Perkins Loans, Subsidized and Unsubsidized Direct Stafford Loans, and PLUS Loans. Other Federal agencies may require students to maintain satisfactory academic progress for their aid programs as well. The academic record of all students will be monitored to ensure compliance with the requirements specified below. The academic record of those who have not received Federal student aid in the past may impact future eligibility. ***Failure to meet the following standards will result in suspension of eligibility for all types of Federal student aid.***

QUALITATIVE MEASURES (cumulative grade point average)

Undergraduate Students:

An undergraduate student must meet minimum academic progression standards as established by the South Dakota Board of Regents. These standards are based on the student's cumulative grade point average and system term grade point average. The system term grade point average is based on credits earned from the six Board of Regents universities during a given term. The cumulative grade point average includes all credits earned (transfer plus system credits) and recorded on a student's academic record. All remedial and audited coursework is excluded from this calculation. Making satisfactory academic progression is as follows:

1. A student with a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better is considered to be in good academic standing.
2. If a student's cumulative grade point average falls below 2.0 in any academic term (summer, fall, or spring), the student is placed on academic probation for the following term.
3. While on academic probation, the student must earn a system term grade point average of 2.0 or better.
4. A student on academic probation who fails to maintain a system term grade point average of 2.0 or better is placed on academic suspension for a minimum period of two academic terms.
5. When a student on academic probation achieves a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or better, the student is returned to good academic standing.

Graduate Students:

A graduate student must meet all requirements listed above with a minimum grade point average of 3.0.

An academic review takes place at the end of every spring semester. A student may be academically suspended as well as being suspended from federal financial aid. **Being reinstated academically does not guarantee financial aid reinstatement.** The student must separately appeal the financial aid suspension as outlined in this policy.

QUANTITATIVE MEASURES (completed credits versus attempted credits)

In order to maintain satisfactory progress toward the completion of their chosen degree, **all students must successfully complete 67% of their cumulative attempted credit hours.** Attempted credit hours include all hours that would appear on a student's academic transcript at the end of any given term, including withdrawals, incompletes, repeated courses, remedial coursework, transfer credits and credits attempted at any time when not receiving Federal financial aid. Audited coursework is not included. Hours that are part of a successful academic amnesty appeal will be included. If a student changes majors, the credits earned under all majors will be included in the calculation of attempted, earned, and maximum attempted credits, as well as the GPA calculation. Successfully completed hours for both graduate and undergraduate students include grades of A, B, C, D and RS. A grade of EX for undergraduate students is also considered successful completion. All other grades would not be considered successful completion. Evaluation of this quantitative standard will be measured once per year, at the end of the spring term for students in good standing, or the last semester attended. Students on financial aid probation will be evaluated after each semester while on probation. Students enrolled in financial aid eligible certificate programs will be reviewed at the end of each semester since these are one-year programs.

MAXIMUM ATTEMPTED CREDIT HOURS

The U.S. Department of Education has established a limit on the number of credit hours a student can attempt and still remain eligible for Federal Student Aid. This limit is 150% of the credit hours needed to complete the degree for which the student is pursuing. **Only the certificate programs listed below are eligible for Federal financial aid; all others, undergraduate and graduate, are not eligible for federal financial aid.**

Type of Degree	Maximum Credit Hours to Attempt
Certificate – Health Care Coding (34-hour program)	51
Teacher Certification (44-hour program)	66
Associate of Science (60-hour program)	90
Associate of Arts in General Studies (60-hour program)	90
Associate of Science in Health Information Technology (64-hour program)	96
Associate of Science in Respiratory Care (69-hour program)	104
Bachelor of Business Administration (120-hour program)	180
Bachelor of General Studies (120-hour program)	180
Bachelor of Science (120-hour program)	180
Bachelor of Science in Education (120-hour program)	180
BSE Elem Education/Special Education (140-hour program)	210
Bachelor of Science in Professional Accountancy (150-hour program)	225
Master of Business Administration in General Management (36-hour program)	54
Master of Science in Information Systems (30-hour program)	45
Master of Science in Information Assurance & Computer Security (30-hour program)	45
Master of Science in Applied Computer Science (30-hour program)	45
Master of Science in Analytics (30-hour program)	45
Master of Science in Health Informatics (33-hour program)	50
Master of Science in Education in Educational Technology (36-hour program)	54
Doctor of Science in Cyber Security (61-hour program)	92
Doctor of Science in Information Systems (88-hour program)	132

APPEAL OF FINANCIAL AID SUSPENSION

Students who have had their eligibility for Federal student aid suspended may complete an appeal form to explain extenuating circumstances. There is no guarantee of approval of a financial aid appeal. Such appeals will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis by a committee. The Satisfactory Progress Appeal Form is available in the DSU Financial Aid Office or in the MyDSU portal at <https://portal.sdbor.edu/dsu-student/financial/financial-aid/Pages/default.aspx>. To ensure a timely review, students must have submitted an appeal prior to the start of the term for which they wish to receive aid.

FINANCIAL AID PROBATION

If a financial aid appeal is approved, the student will be placed on mandatory financial aid probation. Terms of financial aid probation are 100% completion of semester courses with a 2.0 or greater semester GPA. Based upon the circumstances of an approved appeal, the FA Appeal Committee reserves the right to place additional conditions which the student must meet in order to be considered for financial aid on a probationary basis for subsequent semesters. Students can continue on probation for the number of semesters outline in their probation letter by meeting the terms of the probation each semester. Students not meeting the terms of the probation will be suspended from federal financial aid.

REINSTATEMENT OF FINANCIAL AID ELIGIBILITY

Students who have lost their Federal Aid eligibility, but have subsequently met the qualitative and/or quantitative standards as stated above, will have their aid eligibility reinstated. Reinstatement will be considered effective with the next term of attendance.