

<b>Policy Name:</b>	Academic Progress
<b>Original Approval Date:</b>	09-18-2020
<b>Approving Officer/Committee:</b>	Medical Curriculum Committee
<b>Revision Dates and Notes:</b>	
<b>Related LCME Element(s) (if any):</b>	

**A. Policy** - LSU Health Shreveport School of Medicine’s Academic Progress Policy requires a student to complete the medical curriculum by meeting both a qualitative (grade requirement) and a quantitative (work completed) requirement as prescribed by the faculty. All students must complete the curriculum of each year and receive a grade of “P” or better in all required courses before proceeding to the next year or graduating. Students also must complete the graduation requirements by the time of regular spring graduation during the sixth year following the first enrollment.

The Student Promotions Committee makes the determination for Academic Progress. The committee is responsible for reviewing the progress of students at the end of each course or clerkship and at the end of an academic year. Continued enrollment, remedial work and/or repeat of one or more courses, must be approved by the Student Promotions Committee.

**B. Purpose** - The Higher Education Amendments that govern Title IV Federal Financial Assistance Programs state a student shall be entitled to receive federal student assistance benefits only if that student is maintaining progress in the course of study he/she is pursuing, according to the standards and practices of the institution.

**C. Scope** – This policy applies to all School of Medicine students.

**D. Procedure/Process** –

**Satisfactory Academic Progress**

The Federal Student Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy differs from other institutional academic policies, but is consistent with the minimum graduation requirements in place prior to the start of the effective school year. The Financial Aid SAP policy considers only an "F" grade as a failing grade, whereas, the academic programs consider "D" and "F" grades as failing grades. The Financial Aid SAP policy does not monitor the number of "C" or "D" grades received by a student. The academic departments, however, limits the number of "C" and "D" grades that students can receive while enrolled in their current academic programs. Revisions to this policy and implementation, thereof, may not coincide with changes to mid-year academic program policy. A student who has an academic dismissal recommendation overridden by the Dean is not automatically eligible for financial aid. The student is still required to meet Financial Aid SAP requirements or appeal successfully to the Financial Aid Appeals Committee. It is possible for a student to be in good academic standing with their academic program and be

ineligible for financial aid because of the student's failure to meet the Financial Aid SAP requirements.

Aid applicants and recipients will be assigned one of the following statuses after SAP evaluations: Good Standing, Financial Aid Warning, Financial Aid Probation, Academic Plan, and Unsatisfactory. Refer to the [Financial Aid Academic Requirements](#) for more information.

### Evaluation Measures

The U.S. Department of Education requires that a financial aid applicant and recipient meet standards that measure progression through their educational program. The two standards are **Qualitative Measure** and **Pace (Completion Rate and Maximum Timeframe) Measure**.

1. **Qualitative Measure (Grade-based):** Official grades are recorded by the Registrar's Office and will be used to compute a cumulative grade point average or total course score. The minimum qualitative requirement varies by student category (undergraduate, graduate, professional).
2. **Pace Measures (Time-based):**
  - a. **Completion Rate:** The completion rate is determined by dividing the total number of hours successfully completed by the total number of hours attempted. Percentages are not rounded. All LSU Health Shreveport coursework taken for the student's current academic program are counted in the completion rate, even if financial aid was not awarded during the term that the coursework was taken.
  - b. **Maximum Timeframe:** The maximum time allowed for each degree starts with the first term of enrollment after initial acceptance in a LSU Health Shreveport academic program, even if financial aid was not awarded during those terms. If a financial aid SAP evaluation determines a student cannot graduate within the maximum timeframe allowed, the student will become ineligible immediately regardless of the length of time enrolled or the number of hours the student has pursued during his or her academic career.