

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP)

12.1 SAP Standards

As mandated by the HEA, institutions of higher education must establish minimum standards of SAP. WU makes these standards applicable to all Federal, State and Institutional financial aid programs. The intent of this policy is to ensure that students receiving financial aid are making progress towards completion of their declared major. A student's SAP status is determined based on all credit hours, including transfer credits, and all periods of attendance at Wingate University, including periods in which the student did not utilize financial aid. Students must meet the standards outlined below to remain in good SAP standing and maintain their eligibility for financial aid.

Cumulative GPA

A student must achieve and maintain a cumulative GPA as defined for their program of study below.

Degree Program	Earned Hours	Minimum Cumulative GPA
Undergraduate	0-23	1.6
Undergraduate	24-56	1.8
Undergraduate	57 or more	2.0
Doctor of Pharmacy	All students	2.0
All Other Graduate/Professional Degrees	All students	3.0

Completion Rate

All students must pass (earn) at least 67% of their credits attempted. Multiple attempts of the same course will be counted (each attempt) for financial aid purposes. Standard rounding applies when calculating completion rate.

Maximum Time Frame

Students must complete their degree requirements within 150% of the published length of their academic program to remain eligible for Title IV aid. This is the maximum allowable time for receipt of financial aid regardless of whether the student did or did not receive financial aid during any period of his/her enrollment.

12.2 Evaluation Period

SAP will be calculated annually at the conclusion of the Spring term for all students. Students who do not meet SAP standards will be placed on Financial Aid Suspension (FAS) and ineligible to receive financial aid for future term(s). The student will receive an email notification detailing the loss of financial aid and options for an appeal. Students are placed on FAS if any of the following are true:

- Failure to meet minimum GPA requirement
- Failure to meet minimum completion rate requirement
- Attempted hours \geq 150% of published program length

Students are notified of their SAP standing by email during the annual review period. Students are responsible for staying informed of WU's SAP standards, to monitor their own progress, and to review their University email account frequently for updates.

12.3 Appeals

Students placed on FAS who have extenuating circumstances are eligible to appeal to the FPO Committee. Students are subject to the following maximum approved appeal limits during their academic career:

- Undergraduate: maximum of 2 appeals during their enrollment at WU. A second appeal will not be granted for the same circumstance and must be well documented.

- Graduate/Professional: maximum of 1 appeal during their enrollment at WU
- Maximum Time Frame: maximum of 1 appeal during their enrollment at WU

Documentation

Extenuating circumstances may include, but are not limited to, a death of an immediate family member or extreme medical emergencies / illness. The SAP appeal must include:

- Why the student failed to make SAP
- What has changed that will allow the student to make SAP at the next evaluation (end of the next semester)

Deadlines and Decisions

Appeal deadlines are provided on the SAP Suspension letter issued by the FPO. A student must submit a completed appeal form and supporting documentation by the required deadline in order for the appeal to be considered for that term. Appeal results will be provided to the student via their WU email address.

Academic Plans

Students who appeal, and subsequently have their appeals approved, will be placed on an Academic Plan. Once the Academic Plan is finalized and signed, the student will regain eligibility and be placed on Financial Aid Probation. Academic Plans are available for up to four semesters, and students placed on an Academic Plan must continually meet the terms of the plan (each semester) as outlined. If a student fails to meet the terms of the Academic Plan for any given period, the student loses financial aid eligibility and will be placed on FAS.

12.5 Regaining Eligibility

If a student has lost financial aid eligibility due to not meeting the established SAP standards, the student may regain financial aid eligibility for a subsequent term if they meet SAP standards on their own prior to the start of any given term. Students regaining SAP in this manner must request a review at the end of the term once final grades are reported. There is no official SAP check for any term other than the annual Spring checkpoint.

12.6 Special Considerations

Select Aid Programs

Student athletes must satisfy the eligibility requirements established by WU and by the NCAA to be eligible for athletically related financial aid.

Programs administered by outside agencies, or states other than North Carolina, may have their own academic standards for students (the student may be eligible if the outside agency does not require the student to meet SAP guidelines). Students are responsible for reviewing the requirements with the agency that is providing funding.

Select Grades & Courses

Withdrawn Courses: Courses the student has withdrawn from and has been given a grade of “W” will count as attempted but not earned credit hours and are not included in the GPA calculation.

Incomplete Courses: Courses the student has not completed and has been given a grade of “I” will count as attempted but not earned credit hours. These courses are counted as a grade of “F” in the cumulative GPA calculation.

Failed Courses: Courses the student failed and has been given a grade of “F” will count as attempted but not earned credit hours. These courses are included in the cumulative GPA calculation.

Passed Courses: Courses that the student has passed and has been given a grade of “P” will count as earned and attempted credit hours. These courses will be calculated as a “C” in the cumulative GPA calculation.

Audit Courses: Courses that the student has audited are not considered in the cumulative GPA or completion rate calculation. Students are not eligible to receive financial aid for courses that are audited.

Repeated Courses: All repeated courses are considered in the cumulative GPA and completion rate calculation. Students are eligible to receive financial aid for a completed course one time after receiving a passing grade (D or higher).

Transfer Credits: Credit hours from another institution that are accepted toward a student’s educational program must count as both attempted and earned hours. Attempted / earned hours also include credits earned through Advanced Placement (AP), College Level Examination Program (CLEP), or other similar testing programs.

Academic Bankruptcy: Credit hours dismissed through academic bankruptcy will be considered as attempted credit hours in the completion rate calculation.

Additional Considerations

- Students required to restart their degree program will have all prior SAP components calculated in their cumulative totals.
- Students who change their major are responsible for maintaining SAP in accordance with the procedures as outlined (all hours attempted and earned at WU will be counted in the SAP calculations).
- Students who are readmitted to WU following a period of non-enrollment must meet WU’s SAP policy in order to regain eligibility for financial aid. The SAP status will be calculated at the time of re-entry.
- A student may change from one degree to another during attendance at WU. Students who change from one major to another are required to maintain SAP and complete the coursework within the maximum timeframe. All attempted hours from a previous major are included in the total attempted hours.
- Students seeking a second degree and students with a double major may reach the maximum time frame standard at an accelerated pace. A student becomes ineligible for federal aid when they complete the degree requirements for their declared major (regardless if the student applies for graduation or accepts the degree at that time).