



Financial Aid Office
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SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS STANDARDS (SAP)

The Financial Aid Office at Augusta State University administers Title IV Federal Student Aid under guidelines from the U.S. Department of Education. The secretary of education requires schools to develop and implement policies by which academic progress is evaluated and monitored. **Students must meet satisfactory academic progress (SAP) standards each academic term in order to continue to receive Title IV financial aid and the Hope scholarship.** Title IV aid includes the Federal Pell Grant, the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, the Federal Work-Study Program, the Federal Family Education Loan Program (Stafford, PLUS), the Federal Perkins Loan, the State Direct Student Loan (Service-Cancelable), and the Robert C. Byrd and Paul Douglas Scholarship Programs.

SAP requires a student to proceed in a positive manner toward fulfilling degree or certificate requirements. **It necessitates progression in both qualitative and quantitative measures.** The minimum acceptable standards for receiving Title IV aid or HOPE at ASU are as follows:

- I. **QUALITY-** All financial aid recipients are expected to earn the minimum required grade point average (GPA) that corresponds with the total number of hours attempted.

Undergraduate Credit Level (Hours Attempted)	Minimum Required Term GPA	Minimum Required Overall GPA
00 – 16	1.00	.50
17 – 29	2.00	1.30
30 – 59	2.00	1.60
60 – 89	2.00	1.90
90 and above	2.00	2.00

Graduate students must maintain an Overall GPA of 3.0. Additional degree and post-baccalaureate students must maintain an Overall GPA of 2.0. HOPE scholars must maintain a *cumulative* GPA of 3.0.

- II. **QUANTITY** – All financial aid recipients are expected to earn a minimum percentage of total hours attempted (learning support attempted hours and transfer hours earned), and must complete degree requirements within the maximum allowable time frame (learning support attempted hours and transfer hours earned).

- A. Students must successfully complete courses attempted. The minimum acceptable course completion rate is **67%** of the total hours attempted. Successful completion is limited to the grades of **A, B, C, D and S**. The grades of **F, WF, W, U, V, I, IP,** and **NR** are considered unsuccessful attempts.
- B. Students must complete the program of study within a reasonable time frame. The maximum allowable time frame is **150%** of the total hours required for degree completion.

Example: Majors requiring **125** hours will be allowed up to **188** attempted hours ($125 \times 1.5 = 188$). Double majors will be allowed up to **233** attempted hours. Additional degree candidates will be allowed up to **45** attempted hours not to exceed **233** attempted hours for completion of both degrees.

- III. EVALUATION-** SAP standards will be monitored, after grading, each semester upon the completion of twenty-four (24) attempted semester hours. Any student found in violation of these standards will receive a warning letter at the end of the term in which their first violation occurs. At the end of their second consecutive term in which a violation occurs, a suspension letter with an appeal opportunity will be sent.
- IV. TRANSFER STUDENTS-** If a transfer student has earned the equivalent of twenty-four (24) or more semester hours of transfer work, the SAP standards of ASU will be in effect upon matriculation. If a transfer student has not earned twenty-four (24) semester hours previously, the student will be reviewed upon the completion of attempting twenty-four (24) hours, including transfer earned hours, learning support attempts, and ASU attempts. The one exception is if the transfer student has earned an excessive number of hours, then his/her aid may be terminated upon matriculation. The overall grade point average (GPA), which combines the transfer GPA and ASU GPA will be used to satisfy the minimum GPA requirements.
- V. LEARNING SUPPORT COURSEWORK-** Financial aid is available for learning support coursework not to exceed twenty-four (24) attempted hours of learning support course work. Students required to take learning support coursework will be monitored each semester, after grading, upon the completion of twenty-four (24) attempted semester hours including transfer earned hours, learning support attempts, regular coursework attempts, and/or ASU attempts. Students required to take learning support coursework must adhere to the Institutional standards of academic progress in order to maintain their financial aid eligibility. Students who volunteer for learning support coursework are ineligible for Title IV aid and the HOPE Scholarship. Any student who registers for learning support coursework, knowingly or unknowingly, in excess of the maximum allowable attempted learning support hours must repay all funds received.
- VI. COURSE REPEATS-** Financial aid is available for repeat coursework. However, each attempt is factored into the completion rate and the time frame allowance.
- VII. WITHDRAWALS-** All withdrawals are factored in the completion rate and the time frame allowance. Also, those students who borrow under the Federal Stafford, PLUS, or State Direct loan programs and completely withdraw or drop below half-time (6 hours) during the loan period will forfeit all subsequent loan disbursements.
- VIII. INCOMPLETES-** All incomplete courses are factored into the completion rate and the time frame allowance. Title IV aid does not cover repeat coursework for which an incomplete grade was previously earned. Any student who registers for such a course, knowingly or unknowingly, must repay all funds received.
- IX. ELIGIBILITY-** All financial aid awarded is subject to acceptance or readmission to ASU. A student is eligible for financial assistance if, at the time of disbursement, that student is making satisfactory academic progress at ASU while working toward the completion of a degree. The actual amount of aid depends upon financial need, the number of credit hours taken per semester, the number of semesters enrolled per academic year and the cost of education. Financial aid awards are not discriminatory based upon age, gender, physical/mental challenges, national origin, race, or religion.
- X. REINSTATEMENT/PROBATION/APPEALS-** The Financial Aid Office monitors the academic progress of all students receiving Title IV aid. If the aforementioned standards are not met, the student will be notified of his/her ineligibility for additional aid. When the deficiency is corrected, the student's eligibility may be reinstated. Any award made to a continuing student prior to the final calculation of grades and credits is contingent upon the above SAP standards being satisfied and will be revoked if otherwise. In cases of extreme and unusual circumstances, students may appeal loss of aid due to insufficient academic progress to the director of financial aid. This appeal must be specific, in writing and must address the student's entire previous academic performance. During the probationary period, students must satisfactorily complete all hours attempted in order to receive future financial aid. Students will remain on probation until all standards reach the minimum requirement.