

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 at the end of each grading period, unless otherwise indicated, in order to continue receiving Title IV financial aid and the Hope Scholarship.** Title IV aid includes the Federal Pell Grant, the Academic Competitiveness Grant, the National SMART Grant, the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, the TEACH Grant, the Federal Work-Study Program, the Federal Education Loan Programs (Unsubsidized FFEL/Direct Stafford Loan, Subsidized FFEL/Direct Stafford Loan, FFEL/Direct Graduate PLUS, and the FFEL/Direct Parent PLUS), the Federal Perkins Loan, state grants and scholarships.

SAP requires a student to proceed in a positive manner toward fulfilling their degree 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 upon the completion of 18 attempted hours of graduate course work.

Additional degree and post-baccalaureate students must maintain an Overall GPA of 2.0.

HOPE scholars must maintain a *HOPE GPA of 3.0*.

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

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, 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. This applies to all undergraduate and graduate programs of study.

Example #1: Majors requiring **125** hours will be allowed up to **188** attempted hours ($125 \times 1.5 = 188$). Double majors, additional degree and post-baccalaureate students will be allowed an additional 45 attempted hours not to exceed a total of 233 attempted hours.

Example #2: Majors requiring 72 hours, as in the case of our ASN Program, will be allowed up to 108 attempted hours ($72 \times 1.5 = 108$).

Example #3: Majors requiring 36 hours, as in the case of a graduate program, will be allowed up to 54 graduate attempted hours ($36 \times 1.5 = 54$).

- III. EVALUATION OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS** – SAP standards will be monitored, after grading, each term upon the completion of twenty-four (24) attempted semester hours. Any student found in violation of these standards, will receive a suspension letter; with an appeal opportunity. If the total attempted hours exceed 188 hours at the time of enrollment, the SAP standards will be in effect at the time of enrollment and the students may not qualify for aid.
- IV. EVALUATION OF NEW TRANSFER STUDENTS**- New transfer students will be monitored, at the end of their first semester of matriculation. If a transfer student has attempted twenty-four (24) or more semester hours (transfer and ASU attempted hours), the SAP standards of ASU will be in effect upon the completion of their first semester of enrollment and each subsequent semester of matriculation. Any student found in violation of these standards, at that time, will receive a suspension letter; with an appeal opportunity. If the total attempted hours exceed 188 hours at the time of enrollment, the SAP standards will be in effect at the time of enrollment and the students may not qualify for aid.
- V. EVALUATION OF ADDITIONAL DEGREE STUDENTS** – Additional degree students will be monitored, at the end of their first semester and each subsequent semester of matriculation. Additional degree students will be allowed an additional 45 attempted hours not to exceed a total of 233 attempted hours. Any student found in violation of these standards, will receive a suspension letter; with an appeal opportunity. If the total attempted hours exceed 233 hours at the time of matriculation, the SAP standards will be in effect at the time of enrollment and the students may not qualify for aid.
- VI. EVALUATION OF POST-BACCALAUREATE STUDENTS** - Post-baccalaureate students will be monitored, at the end of their first semester and each subsequent semester of matriculation. Post-baccalaureate degree students will be allowed an additional 45 attempted hours not to exceed a total of 233 attempted hours. Any student found in violation of these standards, will receive a suspension letter; with an appeal opportunity. If the total attempted hours exceed 233 hours at the time of matriculation, the SAP standards will be in effect at the time of enrollment and the students may not qualify for aid.
- VII. EVALUATION OF LEARNING SUPPORT COURSEWORK** – Financial aid is available for twenty-four (24) attempted hours of learning support coursework. 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 attempted hours, transfer learning support hours, transfer regular coursework, and/or ASU learning support hours and ASU regular attempted hours.) 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.
- VIII. EVALUATION OF GRADUATE STUDENTS** – SAP standards will be monitored, after grading each term; upon the completion of eighteen (18) attempted graduate semester hours. Graduate students must maintain a 3.0 grade point average. If a graduate student has attempted eighteen (18) or more of graduate semester hours, the SAP standards of ASU will be in effect upon completion of their first semester of enrollment and each subsequent semester of matriculation. Any graduate student found in violation of these standards, will receive a suspension letter; with an appeal opportunity. If the total attempted hours exceed 150% of the total hours required for degree completion at the time of matriculation, the SAP standards will be in effect at the time of enrollment and the students may not qualify for aid.
- IX. COURSE REPEATS**- Financial aid is available for repeat coursework. However, each attempt is factored into the completion rate and the time frame allowance.
- X. WITHDRAWALS**- All withdrawals are factored in the completion rate and the time frame allowance.
- XI. INCOMPLETES**- All incomplete courses are factored into the completion rate and the time frame allowance.
- XII. 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 packaging and disbursement, that student is making satisfactory academic progress at ASU; while working toward the completion of a degree or program.
- XIII. 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. 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.