

Satisfactory Academic Progress

In order to maintain financial aid eligibility, students receiving VA or Title IV benefits are required to maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress [SAP]. Whether you are maintaining SAP is both a qualitative and quantitative measurement.

You must maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale in all master's-level degree programs (3.0 in MAC and MABTS). Should your cumulative GPA drop below this level, you have a two-semester probationary period to attain the GPA minimum. In addition, you must satisfactorily complete: 15 semester credit hours per academic year (Fall- Spring-Summer) in the MDiv program.

For financial aid eligibility, a leave of absence [LOA] does not extend the time period allowed for degree program completion. Rather, the time limit is calculated from the date of initial matriculation (which is the first semester you enrolled for classes). The Financial Aid Office will evaluate SAP at the end of each payment period. If SAP is not met in a given semester, a Financial Aid Warning will be issued.

Academic Warning, Probation and Dismissal Policy

Academic Warning*: A student whose GPA falls below the minimum required for his/her program, or receives a grade of D+, D, D-, WF or U, will be placed on academic warning. Academic Warning means: (1) the student may be encouraged to take a reduced load of courses; and (2) the student must have a conference with his/her academic advisor or the Provost to discuss areas of concern and options for improvement. Academic warning is removed when the student's GPA reaches (2.0 for M.Div and MAM; 3.0 for MABTS and MAC) or exceeds the minimum required for the degree.

Academic Probation*: A student whose GPA remains below the minimum GPA (2.0 for MDiv and MAM; 3.0 for MABTS and MAC) or below the minimum required for the degree at the close of a semester in which they are on academic warning, will be placed on academic probation. Academic probation means: (1) the student is required to take a reduced course load; (2) the student must have monthly conferences with his other academic advisor or the Provost during the probationary period to ensure clarity about possible consequences, discuss areas of concern, and pursue options for improvement; and (3) the student may no longer be making Satisfactory Academic Progress, and as such, may no longer be eligible for some kinds of financial aid.

Academic Dismissal *: A student whose GPA remains below a minimum of (2.0 for MDiv and MAM; 3.0 for MABTS and MAC) or below the degree program requirements at the conclusion of the next fall or spring semester (subsequent to the term in which the student is placed on probation) will be dismissed from the program. To be eligible for federal financial aid, the law specifies that by the end of the second academic year (regardless of how many credits the student has accrued), the student must have a cumulative GPA consistent with the requirement for graduation from the program. Furthermore, if the Registrar determines that a student cannot mathematically finish his/her program within the maximum Timeframe for Program Completion (see page 113), the student becomes ineligible for aid. This dismissal may be appealed by petition to the faculty for a joint recommendation for retention by the faculty, the Provost, and the Dean of Students.

A student who is dismissed for failing to meet academic standards may appeal for readmission after five weeks of the next semester have passed. The student must show that there were exceptional circumstances. Appeals for readmission should be submitted to the Academic Administrative Committee.

*Written notification is given by the Office of the Registrar to the student and to the student's mentor at the time of grade report distribution. In the cases of Academic Warning, Academic Probation or Academic Dismissal a notation is placed on the student's Official Transcript.

Academic Standing

The following cumulative grade point averages must be maintained in order to remain in good academic standing:

Program	Cumulative GPA
DMin	3.0
MABTS	3.0
MAC	3.0
MDiv/APMDiv	2.0
MAM	2.0
Graduate Diploma	2.0