



SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS FOR FINANCIAL AID ELIGIBILITY

Federal and State student aid programs require that students maintain satisfactory academic progress in order to be eligible for financial aid. In order to comply with these requirements for federal student aid, the following policies have been adopted.

Different policies exist for each college at the SUNY Upstate Medical University. Generally, however, the policies consist of four parts; a minimum grade point average (GPA) that students must achieve; a minimum number of credits that must be earned each term; a minimum percentage of courses that must be completed each term; and a maximum time frame in which the program must be completed.

By the end of the second year of study at the SUNY Upstate Medical University, all students must have achieved a "C" average (2.0) or standards consistent with graduation requirements in order to remain eligible for federal student aid. The SUNY Upstate Medical University recognizes that advancement toward a degree is progressive. Students who meet the standards outlined here will be considered to have achieved standards consistent with graduation requirements.

It is important for students to be aware of the effect of their academic progress on eligibility for financial aid. Decisions to withdraw from courses, drop below full-time enrollment status, or other changes may negatively impact financial aid. In addition, the professional nature of the curriculums at the SUNY Upstate Medical University limits flexibility to modify programs of study. Students are strongly encouraged to consult with the Financial Aid Office BEFORE withdrawing from courses or making other changes in their academic program. Appeals should be submitted to the Financial Aid Office, who will make recommendations for adjudication to the Dean of Student Affairs.

LOSS OF ELIGIBILITY AND APPEALS

Students who fail to meet the academic progress standards outlined will be ineligible for federal and/or state aid for the next payment period or academic term. The financial Aid Office will notify any students who lose eligibility for aid. Students may appeal the loss of eligibility. Appeals will be approved when circumstances beyond the student's control contributed to academic problems. Appeals should be submitted to the Financial Aid Office, who will make recommendations for adjudication to the Dean of Student Affairs. Otherwise, eligibility for aid will be restored when the student has regained satisfactory academic progress.

REQUIREMENTS FOR SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS: BS and BPS DEGREES

FULL-TIME STUDY

To maintain satisfactory academic progress, the following standards must be met at the beginning of each payment period or academic term.

Payment Period/ Academic Term ****	Accumulated Credits	Minimum GPA **	Completed Courses ***
First	NA	NA	NA
Second	63	1.4	50%
Third	69	1.5	50%
Fourth	78	1.6	75%
Fifth	90	2.0	75%
Sixth	105	2.0	100%
Seventh	120	2.0	100%
Eighth	135	2.0	100%

Notes:

* For BS degree students, accumulated credits includes prerequisites taken prior to admission. Calculation of GPA and the percentage of courses completed will be based on coursework taken at the SUNY Upstate Medical University or accepted for academic credit by the College.

** Grade Point Averages will be calculated according to the approved academic policy of the student's College, as outlined in the Student Handbook.

*** The percentage of courses completed is calculated by comparing the number of courses completed (ie. final grade other than W, WF, or I) to 12 credits (minimum full-time study) or 6 credits (part-time study).

*** For TAP and APTS, part-time enrollment will be counted as part of the next payment period.

PART-TIME STUDY

The Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards for students enrolled part-time will be modified as follows:

FEDERAL STUDENT AID

Accumulated credits: The student must have earned the number of credits shown for the previous term, plus one half of the increased number of credits expected. For example, in order for a BS student to be eligible for the third payment period, they must have accumulated the 63 credits that must be earned by the beginning of the second payment period plus 6 credits by the beginning of the second payment period (one half of the difference between the second and third payments) for a total of 69 credits.

Completed courses: The percentage of completed courses will be calculated based on half-time enrollment (i.e. 6 credits) rather than full-time enrollment (12 credits). Minimum GPA requirements will be the same as for full-time students.

STATE STUDENT AID

Accumulated credits: The number of credits earned during periods of part-time study will be added together with credits earned in subsequent terms.

All other requirements (completed courses, minimum GPA and C average after two years of study) are the same as for Federal Student Aid.

TRANSFER CREDIT

Transfer credit will be considered as accumulated credits, but will not be included in calculations of minimum GPA or course completion rate unless taken simultaneously with courses at the SUNY Upstate Medical University and included as eligible for financial aid.

	Credits Required at Upstate	Attempted at Upstate		Credits Required at Upstate	Attempted at Upstate
BPS Degree			BS Degree		
Medical Imaging Sciences	48	72.0	Medical Imaging	73	117.0
Radiation Therapy	73	109.5	Medical Technology	79	118.5
			Nursing	61	91.5
BS Degree			Physical Therapy	101	151.5
Cardiovascular Perfusion	75	112.5	Radiation Therapy	73.5	110.25
Cardiorespiratory Science	68	102.0	Respiratory Care	80	120.0
Cytotechnology	52	78.0			

MAXIMUM TIME FRAME FOR PROGRAM COMPLETION

Federal Student Aid: Effective July 1, 1994, the maximum time frame for completion of an undergraduate program of study was limited by Federal legislation to no more than 150% of the published program length for a full-time student. The published program length is defined by the Financial Aid Office as the number of credit hours required for graduation from each eligible undergraduate programs.

Students meet this requirement so long as the number of credit hours attempted at the SUNY Upstate Medical University, or approved for transfer to the SUNY Upstate Medical University from other institutions, does not exceed 150% of the number of credit hours required for graduation from the academic program.

When calculating credit hours attempted, all courses, including those repeated or in which the student received grades of W, WF, or I must be counted. The only exceptions will be those courses dropped during the add/drop period at the beginning of the academic term.

As an example, the BS Cardiovascular Perfusion program requires that a student earn 75 credit hours in order to graduate. Under the maximum time frame rule, a student may attempt no more than 112.5 credit hours while pursuing this degree. If this limit is exceeded, the student will lose eligibility for Federal Student Financial Aid. Students who lose eligibility have the right to appeal.

Non – credit remedial instruction can be counted toward a full time academic load as set forth in 145 – 2.1 of the Commissioner's Regulations. The number of credits in this chart refers to work completed toward the degree.

NY STATE STUDENT AID POLICES

Eligibility to receive financial aid from New York State is determined in accordance with the following charts that have been approved for the state university of New York by the state education department. New York State does not impose a maximum time frame for completion of the degree program.

Students may receive up to the maximum number of payments so long as they continue to meet the other satisfactory academic progress requirements.

STANDARDS OF SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY FOR NYS STUDENT AID ALL CAMPUSES – STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Calendar Semester

Programs: Baccalaureate Degree

BEFORE BEING CERTIFIED FOR THIS PAYMENT	1 ST	2 ND	3 RD	4 TH	5 TH	6 TH	7 TH	8 TH	9 TH	10 TH
A STUDENT MUST HAVE ACCRUED AT LEAST THIS MANY CREDITS	0	3	9	18	30	45	60	75	90	105
WITH AT LEAST THIS GRADE POINT AVERAGE.	0.0	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
PERCENTAGE OF CREDIT COMPLETED IN THE PRIOR TERM	NA	50%	50%	75%	75%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Non-credit remedial instruction can be counted toward a full-time academic load as set forth in 145 – 2.1 of the Commissioner's Regulations. The number of credits in this chart refers to work completed toward a degree.

*This includes successful completion of credit = equivalent work in 145.1 of the Commissioners Regulations