



## Satisfactory Academic Progress for Federal Student Aid (Grants, Loans, Work-Study)

Federal aid require student to meet certain academic standards. This is called Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). Failure to meet any of the three SAP standards below may result in loss of Federal aid.

### Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards:

#### 1. Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) – Qualitative Component:

Students must maintain certain Grade Point Average requirements based on all cumulative credit hours.

All students, whether attending full-time or part-time, must have a 2.0 GPA by the end of the second year.

#### 2. Pace (Attempted Credit hours) – Quantitative Component:

a. Students must complete with a passing grade at least two-thirds (66%) of all cumulative attempted credit hours.

b. The following grades are not considered passing grades: F, W, I.

c. Transfer credits are counted as both attempted and completed courses.

d. All courses removed through academic amnesty (Fresh Start) will be counted as attempted credit hours.

e. Federal aid will only cover **required courses for your current program**. All courses taken will be counted toward your pace.

#### 3. Maximum Time Frame:

Students may attempt a maximum of 150% of the published credit hours for their current program.

#### Example:

If the program requires 60 credit hours to complete, the student may attempt 90 credit hours in this program.

The student is no longer eligible for Federal aid when the student has attempted 90 or more credit hours.

SAP includes all courses the student has attempted at SUNY Erie, whether or not Title IV aid was received. SAP also includes all credits transferred from other colleges.

### **Associate Degree**

Associate Degree Programs will be evaluated **once per year**, at the end of the Spring semester.

Degree Credit Hours Attempted	9-24	25-47	48-96
Minimum Pace	66%	66%	67%
Minimum Cumulative GPA	1.5	1.75	2.0

### **Certificate Program**

Certificate Programs will be evaluated **twice per year**, at the end of the Fall and the Spring semesters.

Degree Credit Hours Attempted	9-24	25-45
Minimum Pace	66%	67%
Minimum Cumulative GPA	1.5	2.0

### **Loss of Eligibility**

Students who fail to meet the requirements are no longer eligible for Federal aid. Students will be notified in writing.

### **Reestablishing aid eligibility**

A student may take courses without Federal aid in order to meet SAP standards.

### **SAP Appeals Process**

Students can appeal the loss of federal aid eligibility if there were events beyond their control.

Extraordinary circumstances include death of a close relative; injury or illness of the student, spouse, parents or children; and other special circumstances. **Students may appeal only once.**

If the appeal is approved, the student will be placed on Financial Aid Probation. At the end of the probationary period the student must meet SAP or Academic Plan requirements. Failure to do so will result in loss of Federal aid at SUNY Erie.

### **Academic Plan Requirements**

After a probationary semester a student may be considered for an Academic Plan if the following requirements are met:

- a. Student successfully completes all courses in the probationary semester.
- b. Probationary semester GPA is at least a 2.0.

Students placed on an Academic Plan must meet these requirements each semester until they are back in compliance with SAP standards. Failure to do so will result in loss of Federal aid at SUNY Erie.

### **Academic Amnesty (Fresh Start)**

The Federal aid programs make no provision for the concept of academic amnesty. A school must always include all courses taken when evaluating SAP, regardless of when they were taken.

### **Completed program, no degree**

A student who completes the academic requirements for a program is no longer eligible for federal aid for that program.

### **Developmental Courses**

Students may attempt a maximum of 30 credit hours of developmental courses.

Developmental coursework is not counted toward Pace or GPA.

**Incomplete Grades (I):** Incomplete grades in any class will always be counted as attempted credits; however, they will not be counted toward completed credit hours. When the incomplete is changed to a letter grade, it will be counted toward completed hours. The student must notify the Office of Financial Aid of the incomplete grade change and to request a re-evaluation of Title IV eligibility.

### **Pre-Requisite Courses**

Federal aid does not cover pre-requisite courses.

### **Repeat Courses**

Students may retake of any previously passed course once. Failed courses may be retaken until passed.