

## Satisfactory Academic Progress

By regulation, the Financial Aid Office must make sure that students who receive financial aid are making *satisfactory academic progress* toward completion of a degree. Except as noted, the satisfactory progress standards outlined here apply to all financial aid recipients, including graduate students and teaching credential students, whether or not the student received aid in any prior academic year.

### ■ PACE (UNITS COMPLETION)

To demonstrate satisfactory academic progress in your degree program, both undergraduate and graduate students must complete at least *67% of your cumulative attempted* units with a passing grade.

Attempted units by definition is the cumulative numbers of units on record in the Registrar's Office at the end of the add period for Fall, Spring and Summer terms. Repeated courses will qualify as hours attempted. The units for courses that a student drops, withdraws, receives an incomplete or fails after the last day to enroll in a class will be included in the number of attempted units.

Units for any repeated courses included in your financial aid course load count as attempted units. Courses with grades of *W*, *I*, or *NC* count as units attempted but not successfully completed. Transfer units count as units attempted and completed.

Transfer students' GPA will not be included in GPA calculation.

### ■ GPA

Federal law also specifies that, beginning at the end of the second academic year, undergraduate students must have a grade point average of at least 2.0 or academic standing consistent with the requirements for graduation. (Note that a 3.0 is required for renewal of an academic scholarship.)

For graduate and professional students, institutional policy states graduate and professional students must have a grade point average of at least 2.0 or academic standing consistent with the requirements for graduation.

### ■ MAXIMUM TIME FRAME

Schools that participate in federal financial aid programs must define the *maximum* period ordinarily required to obtain a degree. A student who doesn't complete his/her degree program within this time frame is not eligible to receive further financial aid for work toward that degree.

At Pacific, eligible *undergraduates* and *professional pharmacy students* may receive aid until the student's *total cumulative units attempted* equal **150%** of the units required for his/her degree. Units accepted for transfer are included in the number of units attempted.

*Graduate students* and *teaching credential candidates* may remain eligible for financial aid until total cumulative units attempted equal **200%** of the student's program length. Units accepted for transfer count as units attempted.

### ■ ANNUAL REVIEW

The Financial Aid Office will evaluate your academic progress every year at the end of the spring term.

If, at that time, you do not meet the satisfactory progress standards described above, you will be placed on *financial aid disqualification* and will *immediately* lose eligibility to receive financial aid. According to regulations effective July 1, 2011, there is no warning period.

**Appeal Process.** If you are disqualified from financial aid but believe that a one-time circumstance such as: a serious illness or injury of yourself or family member, death of a loved one, severe personal or family situation – have affected your academic performance, you may submit a *written appeal with supporting documentation and an academic advisor reviewed enrollment plan*. Your appeal must explain why you were unable to make satisfactory process and what actions that you will take or changes already made to achieve and maintain satisfactory academic progress.

**Financial Aid Probation.** If your appeal is approved, aid will be reinstated on a probationary basis for *one semester*, and your status will be evaluated again at the end of that semester. If, during the semester on probation, you meet all requirements specified in the *academic plan* developed for you at the time probation is granted, you can continue receiving financial aid; if not, you will again be disqualified.

**Regaining Eligibility.** If your appeal is denied, or if you have no grounds for appeal, you may *regain* financial aid eligibility by attending Pacific without aid until you again meet satisfactory progress requirements. Students who have regained eligibility do not have to file a written appeal.