

Satisfactory Progress Standard for Financial Aid

All students who receive federal financial aid must be making satisfactory academic progress (SAP). In order to ensure that the student makes progress both in number of hours completed each academic year and cumulative GPA, Trevecca will utilize the following satisfactory academic progress policy. SAP is reviewed annually at the end of the spring semester.

Minimum Standards for Undergraduate Students

Trevecca's institutional requirements for minimum SAP for undergraduate financial aid recipients are defined as follows:

1. Minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA).
The student must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA:
0-29 hours: 1.6

30-59 hours: 2.0

60-89 hours: 2.0

90 hours –completion: 2.0
2. Minimum completion rate.
The student must maintain a minimum cumulative completion rate of two-thirds of credits attempted (67 percent).
3. Maximum time frame to complete the program/degree.
The student must complete his or her educational program within a time frame no longer than 150 percent of published length of the educational program, as measured by credits attempted and including transfer credits. For example, the student must complete his or her program after attempting a maximum of 180 credits for a 120-credit program.

Students who graduate from one program at Trevecca and then enroll in a second eligible program should contact the Financial Aid Office to determine their SAP status under their new program of study. The maximum time frame of 150% includes the pursuit of a second degree.

Federal regulations require that Trevecca track the academic progress of financial aid recipients from the first date of enrollment at Trevecca, whether or not financial aid was received. All students receiving federal aid are required to have a minimum GPA of 2.0 after the completion of 4 semesters.

Academic work done at other institutions (if accepted by Trevecca toward a degree) will count for the progress standard. Summer work counts towards the cumulative requirements. Remedial work will be considered as part of the satisfactory progress for the 67% completion rate but not toward the GPA requirement. Federal funds can be used to pay for one repeated course. Incomplete grades and W's will count toward the 67% minimum completion rate.

Note: Removal from financial aid does not prevent a student from enrolling at Trevecca with his/her own finances if he/she is eligible to re-enroll. Institutional scholarships can still be awarded.

Appeals

Students removed from financial aid can appeal that decision to the Scholarship Committee. The appeal must be prepared in writing and be accompanied by appropriate supporting documents.

Reasons that may be acceptable for the appeal are:

1. Serious illness or accident on the part of the student. An appeal of this type will normally require a supporting statement from the doctor.
2. Death or serious illness in the immediate family.

Appeal letters should be sent to the Director of Financial Aid. If the appeal is approved the student is required to complete one term on probation with a full-time load of coursework and maintain the minimum grade level GPA in the following term. In circumstances where a student may not be able to meet the SAP requirements in the one term probationary period, the university may provide an academic plan under the guidance of the Financial Aid Office. The academic plan would be individualized to the student and be reviewed over multiple terms of enrollment. The goal of the academic plan would be to bring the student into compliance with the institution's SAP standards. Students are limited to a total of two appeals while enrolled at Trevecca.

ELIGIBILITY TO HAVE FINANCIAL AID REINSTATED

A student may be eligible to have his/her federal financial aid eligibility reinstated when he/she enrolls without federal financial aid and successfully completes enough hours to satisfy the minimum Completion rate and GPA.

Trevecca offers counseling and an advising system to assist students in their efforts to achieve educational goals. All students are encouraged to use these services to help make their progress toward a degree more successful.

Students who receive federal financial aid have always been required to meet SAP standards at their institutions to receive federal financial aid. That has not changed. However, effective July 1, 2011, the Financial Aid Office has greater restrictions in its ability to approve appeals for students who find that they are not able to meet these standards.

The changes that affect you are as follows:

1. There can no longer be an automatic semester of probation given to student the first time they do not meet the university's SAP standards as has been done in the past. Beginning with the fall 2011 semester, students who do not meet SAP standards must be put on Financial Aid Denied status and **no federal financial aid will be paid.**
2. The Financial Aid Office may continue to grant appeals but only under the following two conditions:
 - a. The student has an extreme personal circumstance such as hospitalization or the death of an immediate family member that can be substantiated with documentation.

AND

- b. The student will be able to regain SAP standing at the conclusion of the next semester of enrollment.
3. Students whose appeals are denied must pay their own way until they have improved their GPA and earned sufficient credits to meet the requirement of the policy.
4. Students that excessively repeat courses or take courses not related to their degree will not be considered to be making satisfactory academic progress.