STANDARDS OF ACADEMIC PROGRESS FOR ALL AID RECIPIENTS AT SCC

To receive financial aid, a student must maintain satisfactory academic progress toward a recognized program of study. This includes any student receiving grants, scholarships, work study, or any other type of financial assistance through Surry Community College. Such progress, according to the Office of Financial Aid and Veterans Affairs, is defined by two standards.

Grade Point Average (GPA) Standard

A minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0. This requirement applies to all degree, diploma and certificate programs.

Pace of Progression Standard

This standard involves two requirements:

1. Completion Rate Requirement - To meet the minimum requirement, a student must successfully complete 67% of the cumulative credit hours attempted. Example: if a student attempts 12 credit hours in a semester, he/she must successfully complete 8 credit hours (12 hours attempted x 67% = 8 hours). Successful completion is defined as earning a grade of "A," "B," "C," or "D." In some programs (e.g., Nursing), a "D" does not satisfy the course completion requirement.

2. Maximum Timeframe - The maximum timeframe for a student to complete a program is 150% of the published length of the program as outlined in the College catalog. Example: if a degree exceeding eligibility for financial aid (75 credit hour program x 150% = 113). The equivalent of one academic year of credit (30 hours) is allowed for required remedial coursework. If a student elects to pursue additional programs at Surry Community College (SCC), the Financial Aid Office will deduct the credit hours for the completed (graduated) program from their total attempted hours. This calculation prevents them from exceeding 150% on subsequent programs. In order for a student to pursue subsequent degrees without penalty the graduated program must be reflected on the transcript.

Procedures

Transcripts of all aid recipients will be reviewed at the end of each term by the Financial Aid Office. From this review, a determination will be made as to the satisfactory progress of each financial aid recipient. This review will include the student's total academic history at Surry Community College, including remedial or developmental classes. In order to receive aid, a student must be making satisfactory progress regardless of whether he or she has previously received aid.

The "Fresh Start/In-House Transfer" exclusion policy does not apply to the grade point or pace rate calculation used to qualify students for federal aid.

Eligibility Status

SATISFACTORY

Satisfactory status is achieved when the minimum standards (2.0 GPA and 67% Pass Rate) are met.

WARNING

Students will be placed on financial aid warning for one term if they fail to meet the required GPA and/or overall cumulative completed credits percentage standards. While on warning, students may still receive financial aid.

To be removed from financial aid warning status, students must attain the required cumulative GPA and/or cumulative completed credits percentage standards by the end of their warning period. Students will be suspended at the end of their warning term if they fail to attain the required standards.

SUSPENSION

If students do not attain the required cumulative GPA and/or cumulative completed credits percentage during their warning period, or exceed their maximum timeframe of 150 percent of the published degree credits required to complete their program, they will be placed on financial aid suspension. While on suspension students are not eligible for most financial aid programs. (Exceptions include some private loan programs. Students must check with private lenders to determine if they offer loans to students not meeting SAP requirements.) Students may attend SCC, at their own expense, until they attain the cumulative GPA and cumulative completed credits percentage requirement. To regain financial aid eligibility, the student's record must reflect that he/she has met these requirements. If a student failed to meet these standards due to unusual circumstances, he/she has the right to appeal his/her SAP suspension status.

PROBATION

Students will be placed on financial aid satisfactory progress probation if a satisfactory academic progress appeal is approved. Students are eligible for financial aid while on probation. During the probationary term, students must attain the required cumulative GPA and cumulative completed credits percentage or students must successfully follow the academic plan submitted with their SAP appeal. Students who are placed on a plan must attain a minimum 2.5 GPA and 75% Pass Rate for the term. Failure to attain the required GPA and/or cumulative completed credits percentage will result in Termination of financial aid eligibility. If a student does not attain the required GPA and/or cumulative completed credits percentage but successfully follows the academic plan submitted with his/her SAP appeal, he/she will continue with the set plan and must meet with a Student Success Advisor each term.

WARNING NEAR MAXIMUM TIMEFRAME

Students who have attempted approximately 100% of the maximum allowable credit hours for their program of study will receive a courtesy notification status of Warning Near Maximum Timeframe. Students receiving this status will continue to receive financial aid until they reach 150% of their program of study, at which time they will have their financial aid suspended and be assigned a status of Maximum Timeframe.

MAXIMUM TIMEFRAME

Students who have attempted the maximum allowable credit hours, 150%, of their program of study will have their financial aid suspended.

TERMINATION

Students who have successfully appealed their SAP status but failed to meet the terms of their academic plan will be placed on Termination. A student that is terminated is unable to receive financial aid and must pay until they are deemed to be in satisfactory status as a result of meeting the minimum requirement of a 2.0 GPA and 67% Pass Rate for their program.

Treatment of Selected Grades

WITHDRAWALS

Credit hours for which a student receives a grade of "W" are counted as "attempted" but not "completed" hours. A withdrawal therefore hinders academic progress.

INCOMPLETES AND FAILING GRADES

Credit hours for which a student receives a grade of "I", "F" or "R" are counted as "attempted" but not "completed" hours. In addition, grades of "F" negatively affect GPA. "Incompletes" may also hinder academic progress.

TRANSFER CREDIT

Upon enrollment at SCC, transfer students are considered to be making satisfactory progress. Transfer credits factor into both the completion rate calculation and financial aid eligibility.

AUDIT AND NO SHOW

Grades for auditing ("AU") or "No Show" ("NS") do not denote "attempted" coursework. Consequently, neither designation is factored into the grade point average or completion rate. Moreover, a course showing either designation does not meet financial aid requirements.

PROFICIENCY (CREDIT BY EXAM)

Since "Credit by Exam" ("CR") involves no enrollment hours; it is not factored in an application for financial aid. However, proficiency credits are counted in each component of the Pace of Progression standard.

REPEAT COURSES

For financial aid purposes, all hours attempted, including hours for repeated courses, will factor into each component of a student's academic progress.

DEVELOPMENTAL COURSES

Grades for courses numbered less than 100 (e.g., ENG 080, DMA 010, RED 090, etc.) are excluded from GPA and Completion Rate calculations. In calculating the 150% Maximum Timeframe, the equivalent of one academic year of credit (30 credit hours) is allowed for required developmental coursework.

Summer Session

Credit hours attempted during a summer session, as in the fall or winter semester, will be included in the calculation of satisfactory academic progress. Students must still enroll in 12 credit hours during the summer to be considered full-time.

Complete Academic Record

Progress toward a degree, diploma, or certificate must take into account a student's complete academic record at SCC, whether or not that student has received financial aid for the entire time of enrollment. Such a record includes courses taken through Career and College Promise (CCP), dual enrollment, the Huskins program, and the Early College High Schools. To be eligible for financial aid, a student completing course work in more than one program must meet college and financial aid academic progress standards for each.

Appeal Process

Students who have been suspended from receiving financial aid will be allowed one appeal process. To appeal a Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) decision, a student must explain in writing to the Financial Aid Office the reason why he/she did not meet satisfactory progress requirements and what has changed about their situation that will allow for successful completion. In addressing an appeal, SAP may take into consideration special circumstances such as accident, extreme hardship, illness, or death. Documentation to support the appeal is required.

The Director of Financial Aid will review the appeal and will communicate his/her decision to the student by email. If the appeal is approved, the student will be placed on probation for one term and be placed on an academic plan to help the student achieve satisfactory academic progress.

While on a plan, the student must meet with a Student Success Advisor in Student Services each term. The term(s) of that probation will require the student complete 75% of the classes in which he/she is enrolled, maintain a 2.5 GPA for the probationary term and any other suggested resolutions as determined by the advisor on a case by case basis. The advisor will continue to monitor the student's progress each term until the student returns to satisfactory academic standing or graduates from the active program. If the student fails to meet the requirements of probation or if the appeal is denied, the student must pay to attend until they are in satisfactory standing. The student may request a review at the end of each term to evaluate their progress toward satisfactory standing.