

Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards FAQ

Are the standards for Financial Aid's Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards the same as the Admission's Academic Progress Standards?

No. These are two separate policies.

Why do we have a Satisfactory Academic Progress Standard for Financial Aid?

Federal and state regulations require that students meet certain academic standards to be eligible.

I have never received Financial Aid before. Will I still have to meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards to receive aid now?

Yes. All students applying for Financial Aid will be evaluated based on the Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards to determine eligibility prior to awarding aid.

What is pace?

Pace is the measurement of progress toward degree completion. To calculate pace, you divide your cumulative overall college hours earned by your cumulative overall college hours attempted. A pace of 67% or greater is considered to be in good standing. An example of this would be as follows: a first semester student took 9 hours of college level work and passed 6 hours: $6 \text{ (earned)}/9 \text{ (attempted)} = 0.667$. The pace would be rounded up to 67%. If the result was 0.664, it would round down and the pace would be 66% and therefore not satisfactory.

What does it mean when I have reached my maximum time length?

The maximum time length is the reasonable amount of time for completion of a program. Generally, this is 150% of the program length. So, for a 60 hour program, the maximum length would be 90 hours. Once you have reached your maximum length, you will no longer be eligible for aid. We are also now required to ensure that a student may mathematically complete their program within the 150%

timeframe. In order to meet this regulation, we check students that have reached at least 60 attempted hours and calculate whether they can complete their degree on time or not. If not, this student is no longer eligible for financial aid due to Anticipated Maximum timeframe.

I have not reached my maximum time but I received a letter saying I was no longer eligible due to an Associate's degree. Why?

Being a two-year school, we only pay for the first Associate's degree.

If I get an Incomplete grade, how will that affect my Financial Aid?

Since your progress cannot be determined until the "I" grade has been completed, you will be placed in a review category until the grade is completed. You will not be eligible for further aid until the grade is completed and your status determined.

I have taken 30 hours of Learning Support courses; can I take more and still receive Financial Aid for them?

No. Financial Aid can only pay for 30 attempted hours of remedial and developmental coursework (including transfer work). Once these 30 hours has been reached, Financial Aid will only be based on college level courses. There is no appeal for this maximum.

I am a transfer student. How will my transfer work count?

All transfer hours posted by JSCC will be counted in determining Satisfactory Academic Progress. Therefore, it is important that all transcripts be received and evaluated in a timely manner.

What is unsatisfactory academic progress?

This is failure to meet one or more of the requirements of the Satisfactory Academic Progress policy.

If I am in an unsatisfactory academic progress standing, what can I do?

You may come back on your own and do well until you have fixed the issue. Or, if the reason for your unsatisfactory academic progress was not due to GPA and you had extenuating circumstances, you may choose to appeal. Appeals must be done in writing to the Student Aid and Awards Committee, including the appeal form, academic plan, signed student letter, and proper documentation. Note: The exception to this are students who have lost eligibility due to maximum timeframe, anticipated maximum timeframe, or Associate's degree. These students can only regain eligibility through the appeal process.

What are the appeal deadlines?

Fall – August 1st

Spring – January 4th

Summer – May 15th