

FINANCIAL AID POLICY
SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS 2022-2023
(Effective July 5, 2022; revised June 15, 2022)

1. INTRODUCTION

As required by the Department of Education, to receive federal, state, and institutional aid at Olympic College (OC), students must maintain satisfactory academic progress (SAP). There are qualitative and quantitative standards students must meet. The qualitative standard is measured by grade point average (GPA). The quantitative standards are measured by 1) pace of progression (pace) and 2) near to/exceeds maximum time frame (MTF) or has a prior degree. SAP is monitored after each quarter ends. Based on a student's SAP measure they are in good standing, warning, or suspended. There are additional rules and an appeal process for students who do not meet SAP. It is the student's responsibility to know and abide by the SAP policy, which is provided to all FAFSA/WASFA applicants. Rules are applied uniformly to all financial aid applicants, whether or not the applicant has received aid in the past. Repayment calculation is based on federal methodology and state grant repayment policy for federal and/or state aid, respectively, and OC institutional tuition refund policy.

2. SAP MEASURES

Qualitative standards

When a quarter has ended, students awarded financial aid must achieve a 2.0 quarterly and cumulative GPA to be in good standing. Credits assigned grades of F, I, N, W, NC, WP, WF, V, or Y are considered not complete and will affect eligibility. Credits earned are those credits that are assigned a decimal value or 0.7 or better or a P grade. Students that achieve a quarterly or cumulative GPA between a 1.60 – 1.99 are placed on SAP warning. A consecutive second warning for quarterly or cumulative GPA would result in a suspension. A quarterly or cumulative GPA below a 1.60 is an automatic suspension.
(See SAP MEASURE CHART- EXHIBIT A).

Quantitative standards

Pace of progression: Pace is measured by the number of credits completed in a quarter. Students are required to complete 100% all classes enrolled in during a quarter to be in good standing. A student who completes at least 50% but not 100% of their credits will be in a warning status IF combined with a quarterly and cumulative GPA in good standing (2.0 or higher) or in warning status (1.60 – 1.99). Two consecutive warnings will result in suspension, this includes any lapse in enrollment. For example, if a student attended summer quarter and ended with a warning, then does not attend again until the following spring quarter, if the student ends spring quarter with a warning, the student's financial aid SAP status will be suspended. Students who complete less than 50% of credits in a quarter are automatically suspended.
(See SAP MEASURE CHART- EXHIBIT A).

Maximum Time Frame: Students must make timely progress towards completion of declared programs of study. Students who exceed program length by 112% (attempted credits), or who have completed a prior degree must petition for extension:

- 50 credits for eligible certificate (= minimum 24 credits)
- 101 credits for Associates degree
- 202 credits for Applied Bachelors degree
- Prior degree (for any degree except for a first bachelor's degree)

Transfer Credits: Credits from other institutions that are recognized by the OC Registrar will count towards MTF for a student’s degree or eligible certificate. Consortium credits on the OC transcript will count as attempted and the student’s performance will count toward quarterly pace of progression.

Developmental Coursework: Will count in the calculation of GPA and quarterly/cumulative attempted credits. Up to 45 credits will not be counted for the Maximum Time Frame (pace to degree) limit (090 level coursework).

Repeat Coursework: Will count as attempted credits and, if passed will be considered earned. Earned coursework may be repeated one time, with financial aid.

3. SAP MEASURE CHART – GPA and Pace (EXHIBIT A)

ENROLLMENT STATUS	ATTEMPTED CREDITS	GOOD STANDING	WARNING	SUSPENDED
		COMPLETED 2.0 min GPA	COMPLETED 1.60 – 1.99 GPA	COMPLETED < 1.60 GPA
Fulltime=12+	12 or more	At least 12	11 - 6	< 6
3/4 Time	9-11	9	5-8	< 5
1/2 Time	6-8	6	3- 5	< 3
> 1/2 Time	5 or less	All Credits	N/A	All Credits

4. WHAT THE SAP TERMS MEAN

Good standing: Student is eligible for financial aid.

Provisional Financial Aid Status: This status is for students that do not meet the cumulative GPA/cumulative attempted credit rate but meet all of the term GPA/term attempted credit rate SAP requirements. Student’s probation status will be impacted on a quarterly basis based on their academic progress. Students are required to sign the “Provisional FA Status” form in order to be awarded financial aid for one quarter while in this status. This status is only renewable if the student continues to meet the term GPA/term attempted credit SAP requirements.

Warning: Any financial aid packaged will carry to the next quarter of enrollment. However, two consecutive warnings will result in suspension, this includes any lapse in enrollment.

Suspended: The student loses financial aid eligibility and aid is suspended until or unless action is taken by student. Students suspended may attend at their own or other agency expense until eligibility has been restored (i.e. approved petition or self-reinstated).

5. PETITIONS, APPEALS, SELF-REINSTATEMENT

Students who do not meet SAP may petition the loss of their eligibility by petitioning for either reinstatement (if suspended) or extension (if exceed maximum time frame).

With petitions for reinstatement, students must include steps they plan to take or have taken to maintain acceptable academic progress in the future. Extenuating circumstances may include serious illness or injury to student, death or serious injury of a family member, reporting for active duty, or other circumstances *beyond the student’s control*. Supporting documentation is required.

Petitions for extension must include a faculty approved academic plan listing only the remaining classes required to complete the program as well as a letter explaining what caused a student to be unable to complete their program within the given timeframe.

For approved petitions of reinstatement or extension, financial aid will continue to be awarded. Approval is not guaranteed.

Petitions Denied by Financial Aid: Students may appeal decisions ONE time (one time for reinstatement or extension). All decisions made by the Financial Aid Appeals Committee (FAAC) are final; there is no higher level of appeal. Exceptions may be made if an academic plan requires revision due to changes in class schedule, but not for changes to a program that may require the student to attend for multiple terms beyond the original end term approved by the Appeals Committee.

SELF-REINSTATEMENT: Students may self-reinstate their financial aid eligibility by completing a minimum of 6 college level credits at OC (paid for by other means) in a single, subsequent term with a minimum 2.0 term and cumulative GPA.

NOTE: For completion rate requirements, students attempting to self-reinstate that register for more than 6 credits must complete **all attempted credits** in order to successfully self-reinstate.

NOTE: If the cumulative GPA remains below 2.0 following a self-reinstatement, the student will be placed on warning status for no more than two consecutive terms of continuous enrollment following their self-reinstatement, unless the student is eligible for the Provisional Financial Aid Status (see section 4). For students returning from a lapse in enrollment, the regular SAP policy will apply.