What is Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)?

- SAP is the successful completion of coursework toward an eligible certificate or degree
- Federal regulations require the Office of Student Financial Aid to monitor the academic progress of students receiving financial aid

SAP Standards

- Apply to undergraduate and graduate students who wish to establish or maintain financial aid eligibility
- Apply to a student's entire academic record, whether or not financial aid was received for prior terms of enrollment
SAP Standards

- GPA
- Pace requirement
- Total hours earned and/or semesters enrolled

Undergraduate SAP Standards

- Minimum GPA
  - 2.0 UI GPA
  - Transfer GPA is not considered

- Minimum Pace
  - Completed hours ÷ Attempted hours
  - Must be greater than or equal to 67%
  - Includes entire academic record, not just UI hours

Undergraduate SAP Standards

- Duration of Eligibility
  - Equal to 150% of the semester hours of the intended degree program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CLAS</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of Business</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of Engineering</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Graduate SAP Standards

- GPA determined by college
- 67% Pace
- Duration of Eligibility
  - Hours vary by program
  - Ex: MA = 50 hours, MBA = 67 hours
  - Master’s limited to 8 semesters
  - Doctoral limited to 16 semesters

SAP Review Process

- All students are reviewed in May for GPA, pace, and duration of eligibility
- All students are reviewed in January and August for duration of eligibility
- Students on SAP probation are reviewed each semester

SAP Ineligibility

- Not Eligible – GPA
- Not Eligible – Pace
- Not Eligible – GPA and Pace
- Not Eligible – Duration of Eligibility
SAP Appeal Process

- Students are notified by UI email if they have become ineligible for financial aid and for what reason.
- Students can be approved for financial aid by completing a SAP appeal form.
- Generally, up to 3 appeals will be accepted.
- Can take up to 15 business days to review.

SAP Appeal Deadlines

- Appeals are due by the first Friday of classes for fall and spring.
- Due by June 15th for summer.
- Deadline helps students plan accordingly if appeal is not approved.
- If student appeals after the deadline, appeal will be considered for the following semester.

SAP Appeal Form

- Section 1: Basic student contact information.
- Section 2: Explanation of past performance.
- Section 3: Specific steps for future success.
- Section 4: Plan of study.
- Section 5: Advisor Certification.
SAP Appeal Form – Plan of Study

- For GPA and Pace issues, need at least two semesters completed
- For duration of eligibility, should complete through projected graduation date
- In “Major, Minor, Elective, or Certificate” column, need to indicate which category the class falls into, ie: maj, min, elec, cert
After an appeal is accepted, the student is placed on SAP probation:

- For GPA and pace, probation is for one semester.
- For duration of eligibility, probation is through projected graduation date as long as at least 6 hours will be taken for degree each semester.

Student is notified by UI email when appeal is accepted and the probationary requirements.

SAP Probation Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If SAP Eligibility Was…</th>
<th>Probation Requirements Will Be…</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not Eligible – GPA</td>
<td>2.0 UI GPA for that semester and complete at least 67% of attempted hours for that semester.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Eligible – GPA and Pace</td>
<td>Maintain UI GPA and complete at least 67% of attempted hours for that semester.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Eligible – Pace</td>
<td>Maintain UI GPA and complete at least 67% of attempted hours each semester.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Eligible – Duration of Eligibility</td>
<td>Take at least 6 hours required for degree each semester.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SAP Appeal Denied

- An appeal can be denied because:
  - 3 appeals have already been accepted
  - Reason for appeal has not changed

SAP Appeal Denied

- Student can regain eligibility by:
  - Meeting SAP requirements without the use of federal financial aid
  - Sitting out from UI for 2 semesters and submitting a new appeal

Eligibility When Degree Requirements Have Been Met

- At the end of each semester, Registrar provides list of students who have met degree requirements whether or not the students have applied to graduate

- If a student has met requirements for first bachelor’s degree, they may lose financial aid eligibility

- Previously these students needed to file a SAP appeal, this is no longer the policy
Eligibility When Degree Requirements Have Been Met

- Single declared major
  - Students will no longer qualify for federal, state, or institutional financial aid.

- Double major or dual degree
  - Students will no longer qualify for federal Pell Grant or SEOG.
  - Must take at least 6 hours of courses required for the second major or degree to qualify for federal loans or work study.
  - Continue to qualify for institutional and state financial aid.

Eligibility When Degree Requirements Have Been Met

- Minors and certificates (other than Teacher Certification)
  - Students will no longer qualify for federal, state, or institutional financial aid.

- Required prerequisites for admission to another degree program
  - Students enrolled in required prerequisites for admission to another degree program may qualify for federal loans only.
  - Non-Degree Status form must be completed.

Resources

- Undergraduate SAP Standards
  - [https://financialaid.uiowa.edu/eligibility/sap/undergraduate](https://financialaid.uiowa.edu/eligibility/sap/undergraduate)

- Eligibility After First Bachelor’s Degree Requirements Have Been Met
  - [https://financialaid.uiowa.edu/eligibility/sap/firstbachelors](https://financialaid.uiowa.edu/eligibility/sap/firstbachelors)

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