

NEW SAP POLICY - EFFECTIVE FALL 2011

Satisfactory Academic Progress Requirements for the Retention of Financial Aid

at Lake Superior State University

If you are receiving any form of financial aid, you must meet these satisfactory academic progress requirements to retain your aid each semester.

New federal regulations require a change in Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Policy (see Final Regulations published October 29, 2010 - 34CFR 668.16 & 668.34) effective July 2011 for fall semester 2011. Beginning July 1, 2011, your progress will be evaluated under these rules.

Financial aid regulations require that a student must make satisfactory progress to remain eligible for financial aid. Financial aid programs affected by this policy include Federal Pell Grant, Federal Perkins Loan, Federal College Work-Study, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Federal Direct Loans, Federal PLUS Loans, State of Michigan and Institutional Scholarships, Grants, Loan and Work Programs.

The **minimum requirements** for all types of financial aid include three standard measures — the cumulative GPA, the number of credits earned each semester, and the pace of completing your degree. In addition, there are some types of aid with more stringent requirements, such as scholarship renewal requirements.

1. Minimum GPA Standard

Students must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 each semester to remain in good standing.

2. Credits Earned Standard

Each student's progress in total overall credits attempted and earned will be reviewed every semester. Students must earn 67% of the total number of credits attempted to maintain eligibility for aid.

Overall Attempted Credits	Must Earn 67%	Attempted Credits	Must Earn 67%	Attempted Credits	Must Earn 67%
200	134	20-21	14	11-12	8
150	101	19	13	10	7
100	67	17-18	12	8-9	6
75	51	16	11	7	5
50	34	14-15	10	5-6	4
25	17	13	9	4	3
				1-3	all

Each semester the total number of credits attempted and earned will be evaluated, including remedial coursework. All prior LSSU credits will be used to determine if the student has earned at least 67% of their total credits attempted. For example, if a student attempts 16 credits for fall and 16 credits for spring semester, the student must earn 22 credits to meet the 67% completion requirement. ($16 + 16 = 32 \times 67\% = 21.44$ credits or 22.)

Maximum Time Frame — 150% of Length of Program

A student must complete the highest degree being sought within 150% of the published length of his/her program. For example, students working on a baccalaureate program of 124 credits may receive aid for 186 attempted credits, *including transfer attempted credits*:

<u>Degree</u>	<u>Average Credits Needed</u>	<u>Maximum Time Frame</u>
Certificate	32	Within 48 attempted credits
LPN Certificate	46	Within 69 attempted credits
Pre-Nursing BSN	56	Within 84 attempted credits
Associate	52	Within 93 attempted credits
Bachelor	124	Within 186 attempted credits
Teaching Certificate	136	Within 204 attempted credits
Master's	36	Within 54 attempted credits

One WARNING SEMESTER

If a student does not meet the Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) at the end of each semester, the student will be given one warning semester. Students may receive aid during the warning semester. If a student fails to meet the standard for the second consecutive semester enrolled, the financial aid **will be suspended**. During the *WARNING SEMESTER*, it is *highly recommended that students plan ahead and work with an advisor to correct deficiencies*.

Financial Aid Suspension

No aid will be granted once a student's eligibility is suspended, including but not limited to federal, state and institutional aid.

Right to Appeal

A student whose aid is suspended may request reinstatement through the Financial Aid Appeals Committee. The student must effectively demonstrate that the failure to meet SAP was due to an unusual or extenuating circumstance, and explain what has changed. The directions and required forms for the appeal process are available online at www.lssu.edu/finaid/pdfs/appealprocess.pdf

Financial Aid Self-Reinstatement

Once financial aid is suspended, both the cumulative GPA and credit hour completion standards must be met in subsequent semesters of at least six credits before reinstatement of aid is possible. Students who successfully complete a minimum of six credits at LSSU while not receiving financial aid must contact the Financial Aid Office to request a review for reinstatement.

If completion of "I" grades or other record changes warrant a reinstatement, a copy of the transcript must be submitted to the Financial Aid Office with a written request for a review.

Repeat Policy for Financial Aid Recipients

Students may use financial aid to repeat coursework that has been previously failed. Students may also use financial aid one time when repeating coursework to improve an earned letter grade of D- or higher.

For example, a student taking a course for the first time who received an F grade could have financial aid to repeat the course. If the student received a D grade for the repeated course, the student *could* have financial aid one more time to repeat the course to raise the grade. Students advised to retake passed courses more than once to improve their GPA may do so at their own expense, provided the repeats are allowed by the department.