

FINANCIAL AID STANDARDS OF ACADEMIC PROGRESS

The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, requires Xavier University to develop and enforce standards of satisfactory academic progress prior to awarding any federal financial aid funds to students. Standards of satisfactory academic progress were established to encourage students to *successfully complete* courses for which federal financial aid is received, and to progress satisfactorily toward degree completion.

The standards apply to the following financial aid programs: Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, National Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG), National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent (SMART) Grant, Federal Work Study, Federal Perkins Loan, Federal Stafford Loan, Federal Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS), and Xavier funds. These financial aid standards of academic progress are separate from, and in addition to, academic standards required by the University for continued enrollment.

The criteria used to determine academic progress are grade point average, annual completion rate, and maximum time frame for completion of educational objective. At the end of spring semester the Office of Financial Aid reviews students' progress during the previous three semesters. All periods of enrollment are reviewed, including semesters during which no financial aid was received.

QUALITATIVE REQUIREMENT - GRADE POINT AVERAGE

UNDERGRADUATES

- Students who have not yet completed two academic years must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 1.75.
- Students who have already completed two academic years must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0.
- Successfully complete classes with grades, A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D- or S.

GRADUATES

- Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 2.8.
- Successfully complete classes with grades, A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, or C.

QUANTITATIVE REQUIREMENT - ANNUAL COMPLETION RATE

Undergraduate and graduate students must successfully complete a minimum of 67% of the credit hours attempted each academic year (attempted hours are hours for which a charge was incurred, excluding audited hours). The academic year begins with summer semester and ends with spring semester.

MAXIMUM TIME FRAME FOR COMPLETION OF EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVE

Undergraduate students must complete their degree program within 150% of the published length of their degree program. For example, if a major requires 120 credit hours to graduate, a student could not receive financial aid beyond 180 credits attempted (including transfer hours) whether or not financial aid was received for those credits.

INCOMPLETE GRADES

Incomplete grades are calculated as an 'F' until the incomplete grade is changed to a completed grade.

MULTIPLE RETAKES

Repeated courses affect academic progress as follows:

- CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE - Only the most recent grade counts in the student's CGPA.
- ANNUAL COMPLETION RATE - When a course is repeated it will be counted as *attempted hours*.
- MAXIMUM TIME FRAME - A course that is repeated is only counted once as *attempted hours*.

REMEDIAL AND ESL COURSE WORK

Remedial courses and ESL courses are treated the same as other courses for satisfactory academic progress purposes. If a student who was enrolled in remedial course work does not maintain the minimum academic standards and he or she requests an appeal, the financial aid appeal committee will take into consideration the courses in which the student was enrolled.

TRANSFER HOURS

Transfer hours only count toward the overall maximum time frame calculation. Transfer hours have no effect upon the cumulative grade point average.

CHANGES OF MAJOR/DEGREE PROGRAM

Students who change majors or change degree programs (i.e., change from Bachelor of Arts to Bachelor of Science) are still held to the 150% maximum time frame rule. All credits attempted from the first major/degree will count as attempted hours for the new major/degree. The 150% maximum limit will be measured based on the number of credits required for the new major/degree.

SECOND BACHELOR DEGREES

Students who enroll in a second bachelor degree program are still held to the 150% maximum time frame rule. However, only the credit hours from the first degree which apply to the second degree will be counted as attempted hours.

TIMING OF REVIEWS

Current financial aid recipients will have their academic progress reviewed at the end of the academic year. New financial aid recipients (i.e., those students who had never previously applied for aid) will have their academic progress reviewed at the end of the student's 1st full academic year at Xavier.

At the time of the review students who are not meeting the minimum requirements will be placed on financial aid suspension for the following school year.

FINANCIAL AID SUSPENSION

Students who are placed on financial aid suspension are ineligible for financial aid for the following school year (summer through spring), unless an appeal is approved (see appeal process). During the suspension year students may attend Xavier at their own expense.

Reinstatement of Eligibility

- Students who choose to attend Xavier during the suspension year at their own expense will not be eligible for financial aid. At the end of the suspension year, students must be meeting the academic standards in order to regain eligibility for the following year.

APPEALS

Students on financial aid suspension may appeal the loss of aid if extenuating circumstances prevented the students from making satisfactory progress.

Circumstances which are considered extenuating are those that are unusual and/or unforeseen at the beginning of the year, such as: Injury or illness of the student, death of a close relative, or other situations which were unexpected and beyond the student's control.

Allowances can also be made for students who have a documented disability. Appeals should be made in writing to the Financial Aid Committee, in care of the Director for Financial Aid. Students are notified by mail of the results of their appeal. The possible appeal results are listed below.

Approved Appeals – Approved for that aid year

Students are eligible for financial aid for that academic year. At the end of the academic year their academic progress is reviewed. Eligibility for the upcoming year is contingent on meeting satisfactory progress requirements.

Approved Appeals - Conditional Status

While on conditional status, students must successfully complete every credit attempted. Therefore, financial aid eligibility for each consecutive semester is contingent upon the student successfully completing (receiving grades of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D- or S) his or her prior semester. Grades of W are not considered to have been successfully completed. If a student does not successfully complete a semester, financial aid is forfeited for all remaining semesters in the financial aid year.

Denied Appeals - Reinstatement of Eligibility

- Students who choose to attend Xavier during the suspension year at their own expense will not be eligible for financial aid. At the end of the suspension year, students must appeal to determine if they are eligible for aid for the upcoming school year.