

Financial Aid and Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

Students receiving federal, state, or BW financial aid must comply with the University's Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). This requires students to meet federally mandated measures of academic progress and achievement as students advance through their program of study. A student's receipt of financial aid is directly tied to their SAP performance. Student aid recipients are reviewed annually –at the end of each academic year - by the Financial Aid Office (FAO), to see if the student has maintained compliance with the University's SAP policy.

SAP Standards:

In order to be aid eligible, students must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) – the qualitative SAP standard – as well as successfully completing the minimum number of credit hours that are required to keep the student on track to meet their degree requirements – the quantitative SAP standard. **Minimum Cumulative GPA (C) (3.0)** **Minimum Credit Hours (16)** **Maximum Timeframe (150% of the hours required to graduate)**

The Table below summarizes the minimum standards of SAP required on the part of students in maintaining their eligibility for receipt of federal, state and institutional assistance:

Undergraduate Students	
Qualitative –	

GPA Evaluation:

The University calculates the "Minimum Cumulative GPA Required" using the grading scale

students meeting SAP standards, normal aid eligibility applies for receipt of federal and state financial assistance.

For those students with a suspended designation, they will be notified via BW email and physical mailing of the negative status and directed to file a SAP appeal form via the BW website. Students failing to make SAP will remain ineligible for receipt of any federal and/or state financial assistance until either (1) SAP standards are met or (2) a SAP appeal has been approved by the SAP appeal Committee. Such an appeal is based upon receipt and approval of a documented written appeal that has been submitted by the student to the FAO (See below section: Method of Appeal).

Transfer Students:

Students who have transferred to BW from another institution, have included as a part of BW's measure of academic progress, those credit hours that have been formally transferred towards their degree program at BW. These hours count as both attempted and completed credit hours in the calculation of SAP, as measured by the Pace of credit hour completion. However, only the GPA earned at BW for those credits taken at BW count in the measurement of the GPA component of SAP performance.

For example, if a student transfers into BW and is approved to have 40 credit hours counted towards their degree completion, then these 40 hours count towards their successful measure of their Pace towards degree completion. The student's GPA measure of meeting SAP, however, is determined in relation to the earned grades of course work taken at BW. The grade point average at the other institutions is not counted in the measurement of the qualitative component of the SAP requirement.

Changing Your Major:

If a student changes their major, the hours attempted and completed from earlier enrollment prior to the changing of majors, are still counted in the overall assessment and evaluation of SAP compliance. This includes both the qualitative measurement of GPA as well as the quantitative measurement of Pace. The credits attempted and earned from before the major change are still used in measuring the overall academic progress towards degree completion and count against the 150% quantitative SAP measure, as well as the student's aggregate, cumulative GPA record.

Pursuing a Second Degree:

If a student is pursuing a second degree as part of their educational goals, the credit hours attempted, credit hours earned and the cumulative GPA achieved remain as part of the student's overall record of academic performance and measurement towards both a qualitative and quantitative assessment of SAP compliance. Only grades earned somewhere other than BW do not count as part of the qualitative measurement of SAP performance.

Withdrawals:

There are three possible grades that a student can receive when withdrawing from a course: W, WP, WX. While these grades all represent withdrawal from a course, they do have different meaning, and are treated each as their own unique grade during a SAP calculation.

Grade	Definition	How it's handled
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W

FAO (See below section: Method of Appeal).

coursework taken and of which credits have been earned towards program completion. A student must for SAP purposes meet the Qualitative Measure of academic performance in order to receive federal and/or state financial assistance.

Quantitative Measure – The length of time that a student is taking to achieve their degree program goal and of which credit hours earned represent a minimal, acceptable (67%) proportion