

Louisiana Christian University

Office of Financial Aid

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP) POLICY

Effective Date: October 10, 2022

Policy Statement

Louisiana Christian University (LCU) is required by federal regulations (34 CFR §§668.16(e), 668.32(f), and 668.34) to establish minimum standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) for students receiving Title IV federal financial aid. These standards ensure students are making measurable progress toward the completion of their degree program. SAP applies to all students, regardless of financial aid status, enrollment status, or funding source.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to define the standards and procedures used to evaluate academic progress for financial aid eligibility, and to outline steps for students who fail to meet these requirements.

Scope

This policy applies to all undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at Louisiana Christian University who receive or apply for federal, state, or institutional financial aid funds.

Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress

SAP is measured at the end of each semester (fall, spring, and summer) and consists of three components: qualitative (GPA), quantitative (pace of progression), and maximum timeframe.

1. Qualitative Standard (GPA)

All students must maintain the required cumulative GPA by the end of their academic level to remain eligible for financial aid. The grading scale used by LCU is as follows: A = 4.0, B = 3.0, C = 2.0, D = 1.0, and F = 0.9 or below.

Student Level	Minimum Cumulative GPA
Undergraduate	2.0
Graduate	3.0

Minimum cumulative GPA by classification for Undergraduate Students: - Freshman (1–25 hours earned): 2.0 - Sophomore (26–59 hours earned): 2.0 - Junior/Senior (60+ hours earned): 2.0

2. Quantitative Standard (Pace of Progression)

Students must successfully complete at least 67% of all credit hours attempted. This includes transfer hours accepted by the University. Minimum pace by classification: - Freshman: 67% - Sophomore: 67% - Junior/Senior: 67%

3. Maximum Timeframe

Students must complete their degree within 150% of the published length of their program measured in credit hours attempted. For most undergraduate programs requiring 120 hours, the maximum is 180 attempted hours. Programs requiring more than 120 hours will have a proportionally higher limit. Courses counted as attempted but not completed include: incompletes, failed courses, withdrawals, and multiple repeats.

Transfer Students

SAP will be reviewed before aid is initially awarded and again at the end of each semester. Transfer students must meet the same GPA and completion rate requirements as continuing students.

Change in Majors

Students who change majors are expected to complete degree requirements within the maximum timeframe. All attempted credits—including those not applicable to the new major—count toward the 150% limit.

Second Bachelor's Degree

Students pursuing a second bachelor's degree are not eligible for Federal Pell or SEOG grants. Federal aggregate loan limits are not increased. All coursework counts toward the maximum timeframe.

Developmental/Remedial Courses

Remedial courses are counted as hours attempted and, if successfully completed, as hours earned. These courses count toward the 150% timeframe limit and affect GPA calculations.

Early Start (Dual Enrollment)

Dual enrollment coursework will be evaluated when a student matriculates at LCU. If SAP standards are not met, the student will be placed on Financial Aid Warning for their first semester of enrollment.

SAP Evaluation and Status

SAP is reviewed at the end of each payment period. Students who fail to meet SAP will be placed on Financial Aid Warning and notified via official letter. If SAP is not met at the end of

the warning period, the student loses Title IV eligibility and may appeal for Financial Aid Probation.

Appeals Process

Students who lose eligibility may submit a written appeal to the Financial Aid Office explaining the circumstances affecting their academic performance and steps for improvement. Approved appeals place the student on Financial Aid Probation for one semester.

Regaining Eligibility

Students regain Title IV eligibility once they meet the SAP standards or successfully follow their approved academic plan.