

In accordance with Federal, State, and University aid and scholarship program guidelines, academic progress toward a degree must be made in order for students to receive financial aid funds. Student Financial Services (SFS) defines suspension and probation differently than the university's academic community. Upon admission as a transfer and during the academic year following the posting of spring semester grades, SAP is evaluated in accordance with the guidelines below. If a current student changes his/her major or degree programs, credit hours from previous major or degree program, at the same level, will be included in SAP evaluations.

Benchmarks - Students seeking financial assistance are expected to make **qualitative and quantitative** satisfactory academic progress and to complete their degree within an established **maximum time frame** in accordance with the chart below.

- I. **Qualitative progress** is measured by cumulative GPA. The higher grade for repeated coursework will be included.
- II. **Quantitative progress** (Completion Rate) is measured as a percentage of the successful hours earned out of the total hours attempted. Satisfactory Grades are A, B, C, D (for Nursing A, B, C), P and S. Grades of I, W, F, WF, WP, U, and AU are not successful completions.
- III. **Maximum time frame** for all degree programs is 150% of the hours/time required to complete a degree. All periods of enrollment are considered (both US and International, ESL, and remedial coursework) and includes all* transfer work attempted.

Degree Program	Qualitative Progress minimum cumulative GPA (on a 4.0 scale)	Quantitative Progress minimum cumulative Completion Requirements (Comp Rate)	Maximum Credit Hours Aided (includes all institutions attended)
UNDERGRADUATE (UG) TRANSFER – UG (1 st BA)	2.0 – Federal and State Aid 3.0 – institutional aid unless otherwise defined by specific scholarship	75% of all attempted hours. All college credit courses taken anywhere for any purpose regardless of outcome and whether or not financial aid was used, count toward SAP determination (includes US and International college credit).	150% of the required number of credit hours necessary to complete program. *
TRANSFER – NURSING 2 nd bachelor's degree		75% of all hours attempted after 1 st bachelor's degree was earned	* Same calculation as above, but only 94 hours from 1 st UG degree will be counted toward maximum for Nursing Programs
GRADUATE	3.0	66% of all attempted hours.	*Same calculation as above.
LAW	1.8 (after first semester of 1L year) 2.0 (start of 2L through 3L years)	75% of all attempted hours.	*Same calculation as above.
NURSING DOCTORATE (DNP and PhD)	3.0	66% of all attempted hours.	*Same calculation as above, and for PhD (includes any master's level work transferred)
DOCTORATE OF PSYCHOLOGY	3.0	66% of all attempted hours.	*Same calculation as above, and includes any master's level work transferred).
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PHYSICAL THERAPY	2.0	75% of all attempted hours	Must complete degree requirements within 4 academic years of matriculation

Standards

- I. A student who has exceeded maximum hours aided will be placed on financial aid suspension with the option to appeal for an **extension of limited eligibility** (subject to federal lifetime aggregate limits).
- II. If a student does not meet SAP requirements at the end of an academic year (spring semester) the student will be placed on **suspension** of aid. This could include federal, state, and/or institutional aid depending on the cause for suspension.
- III. If suspended for not meeting benchmarks, a student may submit an **appeal**.
 - If the appeal is **approved** and it is possible for the student to return to academic standards in **one semester**, OCU will notify the student with an official notice of **probation**, permitting the student one semester of aid.
 - If the appeal is **approved** and it will require **more than one semester** for the student to return to academic standards, the student will be placed on an individualized **Academic Plan**. The student will maintain eligibility for aid if they meet the progression requirements of their **Academic Plan**. If academic progression is not met at the end of each semester as prescribed in the Academic Plan, student will be suspended and responsible for future charges.

Appeals Process

- I. A student placed on financial aid suspension will receive a notification letter sent through official University email and be given the opportunity to submit an appeal to the Financial Aid SAP Appeals Committee. The Committee will determine whether the suspension stands, or aid eligibility is conditionally reestablished. The student should also submit any supporting documentation they believe would be beneficial to the basis for the appeal. The deadline for the submission of an appeal is **two weeks from the date of the suspension notice**. Review of appeals submitted after the deadline may **not be reviewed for the current semester but** may be reviewed for the next consecutive semester.
- II. If a student is suspended due to maximum attempted hours, the Appeal Committee will review:
 - a) total hours transferred,
 - b) hours required to complete student's degree at Oklahoma City University as certified by the student's academic advisor, and
 - c) the student's overall loan debt.
- III. Decisions rendered by the Financial Aid SAP Appeals Committee are final and cannot be appealed to the Department of Education.
- IV. If an appeal is denied, the student will not be eligible for aid applicable to the suspension (federal, state, and/or institutional) and cannot regain eligibility except as provided in V below.
- V. After completing at least one full semester at his/her own expense and having demonstrated qualitative and quantitative progress that exceeds the minimum benchmarks during the semester without aid, the student may submit an appeal for **reinstatement of financial aid** eligibility. Hours earned from another university while on suspension will not be considered toward required progress.

Following each SAP Review, a student's status for continued aid eligibility is updated as follows:

STATUS	EXPLANATION	ELIGIBLE FOR AID
Good Standing	Making Satisfactory Academic Progress (GPA and Comp Rate).	Yes
Probation	Appeal is approved <u>and</u> it is possible for student to return to academic standards in one semester, student will be placed on Probation. * <i>*this status is only available to continuing OCU students and does not apply to the initial eligibility determination of incoming transfers.</i>	Yes - for one semester.
Suspension	If student would be unable to progress to academic standards at the end of an academic year (spring semester), or after Probation, or does not meet progression criteria of Academic Plan it would result in Suspension with the possible option to appeal.	No
Plan	Appeal is approved, student will be placed on an individualized Academic Plan. Student remains on Plan as long as s/he is making progression as defined by the Plan or reaches SAP benchmarks.	Yes – while meeting Plan requirements
Denied	If an appeal is denied, student will remain ineligible for aid.	No