University of California, San Diego - Financial Aid Office
Undergraduate Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Standards
For Financial Aid Eligibility

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

The U.S. Department of Education requires that in order to receive financial aid under the programs authorized by Title IV of the Higher Education Act, **all** students must maintain satisfactory progress in their course of study she or he is pursuing according to the standards and practices of the institution in which she or he is enrolled. The Title IV programs administered by the University are: Federal Pell Grants,Federal Perkins Loans, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, Federal Work-Study, Federal Direct Loans (Subsidized and/or Unsubsidized) and Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loans. These standards also apply to the Cal Grant programs, Middle Class Scholarships and University need- based aid for students submitting the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and/or the California Dream Act Application and the Scholar-Athlete Award.

An annual review of academic records will be completed prior to the start of the Fall Quarter. Those students who are not meeting the Satisfactory Academic Progress standards will be notified of their possible ineligibility to receive further financial aid. The following Satisfactory Academic Progress standards for UCSD undergraduate financial aid eligibility must be met prior to the start of fall in order to receive Title IV, University and State need-based financial aid or Scholar-Athlete Award funds for the following academic year.

II. SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS STANDARDS FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS

A) Unit Standards: Students must complete and receive workload credit (NR, NP, I, F, W, IP grades excluded) of 36 units during the academic year and the summer following. Full-time current year aid is contingent on a minimum enrollment of 12 units each quarter. Students are generally not eligible for current year aid for quarters in which they are enrolled for less than 6 units, with the exception of some Federal Pell Grant awards.

B) Grade Standards: Students must maintain a minimum cumulative UC grade point average of 2.0, except for Scholar-Athlete Award funds require a minimum cumulative UC grade point average of 2.6. **NOTE:** Our SAP procedures include a review of your cumulative UC GPA prior to the start of the following Fall Quarter which includes UC summer session grades. Although your GPA may have met the SAP standards of 2.0 (or 2.6 for Scholar Athlete Awards) at the end of the academic year, if your cumulative UC GPA falls below the standards at the end of summer session, your financial aid eligibility status for the following year will be affected.

C) Pace: Students must progress towards their educational degree to ensure completion of the program within the maximum timeframe. Pace is measured annually prior to the start of the following Fall Quarter and includes UC summer session courses. A student's pace is calculated by dividing the cumulative number of courses successfully completed (NR, NP, I, F, W, IP grades excluded) by the cumulative number of courses attempted. The resulting pace percentage must be equal to or greater than the required pace percentage by grade level: Freshman (0-44 units) 30%; Sophomores (45 – 89 units) 50%; Junior & Senior (90+ units) 66%. For Readmitted students, the required pace percentage is 50% for the year readmitted. If you do not meet the pace requirement and you feel your situation is exceptional, please refer to the Financial Aid Office for a review and possible appeal.

D) Duration Limits: There are limits on the number of quarters of attendance during which students may be eligible for aid. These limits apply whether or not the student received aid or withdrew after the deadline to add classes (typically the end of 2nd week) and are based on a reasonable timeframe to complete a degree. If your situation is exceptional for going beyond these limits, please refer to the Financial Aid Office for a review of your quarters of duration and possible appeal.

1) First 15 quarters: During the first 15 quarters of attendance, students are eligible for "All Aid" funding - i.e., all types of aid including UCSD campus-based aid (grants, work-study, Federal Perkins/University loans and scholarships) and the Federal Direct (Subsidized and/or Unsubsidized) Loan, Federal Direct Parent PLUS loan and Federal Pell Grant. The Cal Grant has its own limits of the first 4 years of attendance unless the student is in a mandatory five year program as determined by the university. Federal Pell Grant is limited to six years of eligibility.

NOTE: First-time borrowers with no outstanding loan balance borrowing on or after July 1,203 are limited to the maximum period of time (measured in academic years) that you can receive Direct Subsidized Loans. In general, you may not receive Direct Subsidized Loans for more than 150% of the published length of your program (six years of eligibility).

2) 16th, 17th, and 18th quarters: Students are only eligible for "Limited Aid" funding – i.e., the Federal Pell Grant, Federal Direct (Subsidized and/or Unsubsidized) and Federal Direct PLUS loans.

3) Students admitted as transfers to UCSD from another college are assumed to have entered with the equivalent of two years of duration (i.e. six quarters toward the 15/18 quarter duration limits).

4) Scholar-Athlete Awards: Duration of funds determined on an annual basis and not to exceed NCAA limits.

Readmitted Students: Students who did not meet SAP standards during their last period of attendance will not be eligible for further aid and have the option to submit an appeal for reconsideration of aid eligibility (see VI below).

III. SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS STANDARDS FOR APPROVED PART-TIME STUDENTS

PLEASE NOTE: All students approved for part-time study will be given a reduced budget because their registration/tuition costs are reduced. In addition, certain aid programs may also be reduced due to the reduction in fees or based on the number of enrolled units, whether or not the student is approved for part-time study.

A) **Unit Standards:** Students must complete and receive workload credit (NR, NP, I, F, W, IP grades excluded) of 18 units during the academic year and the following summer. For students not attending the following summer, this will equate to a minimum average of
6 units (see section IV below) per quarter of approved part-time status. **Note**: Students must enroll in 6 units each quarter to generally be eligible to receive aid for that quarter, with exception of some Federal Pell Grant awards and the Scholar-Athlete Awards.

B) **Grade Standards**: Students must maintain a minimum cumulative UC grade point average of 2.0 or 2.6 for Scholar-Athlete Awards.

C) **Pace:** Students must progress towards their educational degree to ensure completion of the program within the maximum timeframe.(see II, C. above)

D) **Duration Limits:** Two quarters of approved part-time enrollment will equate to one quarter of full-time duration limits (see II. D. above).

IV. SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP) STANDARDS FOR PRE-MATRICULATED STUDENTS

Pre-matriculated refers to newly admitted students who attend the summer prior to their admitted term. Pre-matriculated students should consult with academic advising and only take courses recommended by their advisors.
Any Pre-matriculated students who apply for financial aid during their admitted school year will be measured by these standards whether or not they received financial aid during the summer prior to their admitted term.

Note: Students must enroll in a minimum of 6 units during summer to be eligible to receive financial aid, with the exception of some Federal Pell Grant awards. See the financial aid website (fao.ucsd.edu) for summer financial aid application and eligibility requirements. Summer is considered part of the prior school year for undergraduate financial aid awarding.

POLICY

Pre-matriculated students who withdraw from any summer course(s) after the course refund deadline (summer.ucsd.edu/calendar) are considered enrolled and are held accountable to complete all units and receive workload credit. Students who withdraw from the summer session by the course refund deadline will not be held accountable for completion of any dropped units.

A) **Unit Standards:** Students must complete and receive workload credit (NR, NP, I, F, W, IP grades excluded) for the total number of units enrolled, in any of the summer sessions (Summer Session I, Summer Session II and Special Session).

Example: If Joe Triton enrolls in a total of 4 units during the summer, Joe Triton will be expected to receive workload credit for the 4 units enrolled, to be eligible for financial aid the upcoming fall quarter, unless, Joe Triton dropped the 4 units by the course refund deadline.

B) **Grade Standards:** Students must maintain a cumulative UC grade point average of 2.0.

C) **Pace:** Students must progress towards their educational degree to ensure completion of the program within the maximum timeframe. A student's pace is calculated by dividing the cumulative number of courses successfully completed (NR, NP, I, F, W, IP grades excluded) by the cumulative number of courses attempted. The resulting pace percentage must be equal to or greater than the required pace percentage by grade level: Freshman (0-44 units) 30%; Sophomores (45 – 89 units) 50%; Junior & Senior (90+ units) 66%.

V. ADDITIONAL SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS INFORMATION

A) Units taken at another college or UCSD Extension concurrent with enrollment at UCSD are not counted toward the number of units required for Satisfactory Academic Progress and are not considered in determining current year aid eligibility (with the exception of OAP units).

B) Repeated courses will count as units completed if the student receives university credit for those courses.

C) Remedial courses in which a student does not receive university credit will not count toward units completed for Satisfactory Academic Progress. Special exceptions have been made for Math 103, Math 140, SDCC1 and SDCC4, which will count toward workload credit and toward Satisfactory Academic Progress per UCSD Academic Senate regulations.

D) Students who withdraw for the quarter after the deadline to add classes (typically the end of 2nd week) are considered enrolled for the quarter and are still required to meet the units standard, addressed in Section II and III, prior to the following fall quarter. Students who withdraw for the quarter by the deadline to add classes are not required to complete the units and the quarter would not be counted in determining financial aid duration eligibility.

E) Students enrolled through the Employee-Student Program will be considered part-time students and will be required to meet Satisfactory Academic Progress standards for approved part-time students (see III above).

F) Students who participate in the UC Education Abroad Program are considered to have maintained Satisfactory Academic Progress standards during the period of their study abroad in conjunction with the academic standards required for admission into the program.

VI. CONCURRENTLY ENROLLED AND EXTENSION STUDENTS

Concurrently enrolled and Extension students are not eligible for funding of any kind at UCSD

VII. FINANCIAL AID INELIGIBILITY

Students who fail to meet SAP and become ineligible for financial aid will have the option to complete the appeal process (see VII below).

A) UNITS: Students who are not meeting the unit standard for Satisfactory Academic Progress have until the start of the following Fall Quarter to resolve the deficiency of units.

1) **Units from colleges other than UCSD**: Before attending summer school from another college and/or other UC campus, review the articulation agreements for transferable coursework available through the College Academic Advising offices. Students should also check with the UCSD Admissions Office to make sure the units are transferable and the maximum number of transferable units has not been attained. Refer to the Summer Session Verification form available online at Tritonlink.

2) **Units from UCSD summer session**: All UCSD summer session courses (excluding UCSD Extension) are applied toward the degree objective. The Financial Aid Office will verify your summer session courses and update your SAP standing.

B) GPA: Students who do not meet the 2.0 (or 2.6 for Scholar-Athlete Awards) overall GPA standards have until the start of the following Fall Quarter to raise their GPA by completing courses at UCSD's summer session (excluding UCSD Extension) or at any other UC campus (excluding other UC Extensions). Students who attend colleges other than UCSD during summer will be required to notify the Financial Aid Office in order for the office to follow-up for GPA verification after official grades have been recorded with the Registrar's Office.

C) PACE: Students who are not progressing towards their educational degree within the maximum timeframe have until the start of the following Fall Quarter to resolve the deficiency.

D) DURATION: Students who do not meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements and are enrolled, use a quarter or the appropriate equivalent of their duration limits.

VIII. APPEALS FOR INELIGIBILITY

Appeals may be submitted if deficiencies are not resolved prior to the start of Fall Quarter if there are "exceptional" circumstances that affected your ability to meet the SAP standards.

A) New: Effective 2014-2015, students with unit deficiencies only for the first time, may submit completed appeal forms available in the Financial Aid Office. Financial Aid Academic Plan is required.

B) Students with continued units, cumulative UC gpa and/or PACE deficiencies may provide documentation/proof of the "exceptional" circumstances and also must have met with BOTH your major department advisor and your college Academic Advising Office in order to complete a Financial Aid Academic Plan.

C) Probationary period(s) will be based upon the appeal type and/or Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeals Committee based on the Financial Aid Academic Plan. First time appeals for unit deficiencies will be placed on one (1) quarter Probationary Period.

D) Students may re-appeal the following quarter after demonstration of progress met if their appeal has been denied.

E) Students are generally limited to only one appeal during their period of attendance at UCSD.

IX. FINANCIAL AID PROBATION

Students whose appeals are approved for further financial aid may continue to receive financial aid on a probationary basis according to their appeal type and/or Financial Aid Academic Plan. The length of the probation period varies depending upon the Financial Aid Academic Plan completed by BOTH the major department advisor and the college Academic Advisors. During the financial aid probationary period, students must maintain the requirements outlined on the Financial Aid Academic Plan. Revised Financial Aid Academic Plan are accepted if approved by the college Academic Advisors and updated by both major department advisor and the college Academic Advisors. Failure to meet the requirements for subsequent quarter(s) will result in loss of further financial aid eligibility. Additional appeals will generally not be available, unless "exceptional" circumstances have occurred that are "new developments" over and above the previous circumstances addressed in the student's previous Satisfactory Academic Progress appeal.

For more information regarding these standards and/or forms, please contact the Financial Aid Office (858) 534-4480