Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy for Undergraduate Students

University of Nebraska at Kearney

The University of Nebraska at Kearney is required to establish minimum academic standards that students must meet to be eligible or to maintain eligibility for federal and state financial aid, including grants, loans, and college work study. Students who are receiving financial aid or who seek financial aid in the future are required to meet these minimum standards. Failure to meet these standards for two consecutive semesters (fall, spring, summer) means the student is no longer eligible to receive financial aid.

Students must meet both a qualitative requirement (GPA) and a quantitative requirement (number of hours successfully completed) to maintain eligibility. Additionally, undergraduate students are eligible to receive aid for only 180 credit hours - this is referred to as the maximum time frame requirement.

The quantitative requirements for undergraduate students are based upon enrollment status (full-time, part-time, half-time) at the end of drop and add week at the start of each semester. Students must successfully complete the number of credit hours for which their financial aid was based.

Enrollment status and quantitative progress for undergraduate students is defined as follows:

- Full time = 12 or more Credit Hours. Minimum required Earned Credit Hours must be 12 credit hours.
- 3/4 time = 9 to 11 Credit Hours. Minimum required Earned Credit Hours must be 9 credit hours.
- 1/2 time = 6 to 8 Credit Hours. Minimum required Earned Credit Hours must be 6 credit hours.
- Less than 1/2 time = Less than 5 Credit Hours. Minimum required Earned Credit Hours is 1 credit hour.

The qualitative requirements for undergraduate students are:

- Students who have earned 1-24 credit hours must have a minimum university GPA\(^1\) of 1.8.
- Students who have earned 25-45 credit hours must have a minimum university GPA\(^1\) of 1.9.
- Students who have earned 46 or more credit hours must have a minimum university GPA\(^1\) of 2.0.

\(^1\) University GPA includes all credit hours on the transcript from UNK, UNL, UNO and UNMC.

The qualitative requirements for second bachelor’s degree and initial teaching certificate students are:

- Students who are seeking their first teaching certificate must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above.
- Students who are seeking an additional subject or field endorsement to their teaching certificate must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above.

Successful Completion of Courses

To be counted as successfully completed or earned credit hours, the student must receive a grade of A, B, C, D or CR. Withdrawals (W), incompletes (I) or failures (F) are counted in the attempted credit hours but are NOT successfully completed or earned credit hours.

If a student fails to meet one or both (qualitative or quantitative) of the minimum standards for one semester the student is placed on financial aid warning for the following semester. The student will maintain financial aid eligibility and continue to receive financial aid during the warning semester. Students are notified via email when placed in warning status.

If the student fails to meet one or both of the standards again in the subsequent semester, the student is no longer eligible for financial aid.

Maximum Time Frame Requirement

Undergraduate students can receive financial aid for up to 180 credit hours. Second bachelor’s degree seeking or initial teaching certificate students can receive funding for 150% of the credit hours required for completion of their degree as defined in the UNK catalog. The credit hours attempted include transfer credit hours. They also include credit hours in which the student did or did not receive financial aid. Students will be suspended from financial aid eligibility the semester following the semester their attempted credit hours exceed 180. There is no warning.

Regaining Financial Aid Eligibility

Students on financial aid suspension can enroll for classes without financial aid in order to meet the minimum standards. The Office of Financial Aid will check academic standing after each semester. The student may also notify the Office of Financial Aid in writing once the minimum standards have been met. Students also will be given in their suspension notice the right to appeal. The appeal must be submitted in writing to the Office of Financial Aid by the due date indicated in the notification letter. The decision of the Appeals Committee will be communicated to the student in writing.