NEW MEXICO TECH
SCIENCE • ENGINEERING • RESEARCH UNIVERSITY

Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy

Financial Aid Offices are required to have a policy regarding Satisfactory Academic Progress. The purpose of this policy is to measure a student's academic progress in both a qualitative and quantitative way. This is done by measuring both cumulative grade point average and credit hours earned. To continue receiving Federal and/or State Financial Aid, students must meet the minimum requirements set in New Mexico Tech's Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy. Be aware that these standards are not the same as New Mexico Tech's standards for academic probation and suspension.

At New Mexico Tech, satisfactory academic progress is reviewed at the end of each payment period (semester). The Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy applies to both undergraduate and graduate level students that participate in the following programs: Federal Pell Grant, Supplemental Grant, New Mexico State Student Incentive Grant, College Affordability Grant, Federal Work Study, New Mexico Work Study, New Mexico Non-need Work Study, Perkins Loan, Federal Direct Stafford Loan, Federal Direct Grad PLUS Loan, and Direct PLUS loan.

The three components of the Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy (qualitative, quantitative, and maximum time frame) are explained below.

Qualitative Standard
Students must meet the following GPA requirements:

Degree	Attempted Credit Hours	Minimum NMT GPA
Bachelor's	(Includes all transfer hours.)	2.0
Second Bachelor's	All hours attempted	2.0
Master's	All	3.0
Doctor of Philosophy	All	3.0

Cumulative GPA calculation includes grades of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, and F.

Quantitative Standard
Students must earn (successfully complete) at least 67% of the total credit hours they attempt.
This is calculated $\frac{\text{Cumulative hours successfully completed}}{\text{Cumulative hours attempted}}$
Total hours attempted includes grades of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, F, S, U, W, WO, IN, SA, UA, NR, NG and all transfer credits.
Total hours earned includes grades of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, S and all transfer credits.

Repeat courses - count as attempted hours, but the hours can only be earned once. For example, if a student takes a 3 credit hour course one semester and earns a D the hours are counted as attempted and earned. If the student later repeats the course, the 3 hours are added to the attempted, but hours earned will not increase because of the repeat. However, because a grade of F does not count as earned hours, a student repeating a grade of F at a later time and earning a D will have the hours count as attempted and earned when the course is repeated.
IN, NR, NG grades - It is the student's responsibility to notify the Financial Aid Office when a grade of IN, NR, NG is changed to a grade by the instructor so Satisfactory Academic Progress can be re-evaluated.

Maximum Time Frame

- Students seeking their first bachelor's degree may be eligible for Title IV aid up to a maximum of 195 attempted credit hours.
- Students pursuing a master's degree may be eligible up to a maximum of 60 attempted credit hours. This includes all hours attempted as a graduate student regardless of the course level.
- Students pursuing a doctor of philosophy degree may be eligible up to a maximum of 150 attempted credit hours. This includes all hours attempted at that level.

Satisfactory Academic Progress Status

Result of SAP measurement	Status	Description	Eligibility
New student -SAP has not been reviewed	X	Not reviewed	Eligible
Meeting SAP policy standards	OK	Satisfactory	Eligible
1st Failure to meet SAP policy standards	WARN	Warning	Eligible for 1 payment period
Failure to meet SAP policy standards at end of warning period	SUSP	Suspension	Not eligible

When you fall below the SAP policy requirements you will automatically be placed on financial aid warning for your next semester of enrollment. During this semester you will be eligible to receive aid.

If you are still below the policy standards after the financial aid warning semester, you are no longer eligible for Title IV aid.

Once a student is on financial aid suspension, he/she is not eligible for any Federal or State Financial Aid until the standards of the Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy have been met or an appeal is approved.

Appeals for Exception to Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy

Students have the opportunity to appeal the determination that they are not making satisfactory academic progress. To appeal the student will need to complete an Appeal Form. On that form the student will need to explain why he/she failed to meet our Satisfactory Academic Progress standards and what has changed that will allow him/her to meet the standards by the end of the next semester. Supporting documentation must be attached to support the appeal.

If an appeal is approved the student's SAP status will change to either Probation or Probation with a plan.

Result of appeal	Status	Description	Eligibility
Approved	PROB	Probation	Eligible for 1 payment period
Approved with conditions	PROBPL	Probation with a plan	Eligible as long as conditions of plan are met

A student can remain eligible for aid once they have had an appeal approved with conditions (probation with a plan) as long as the student continues to meet the conditions of their plan.

Satisfactory Academic Progress is measured at the end of each semester. Summer is considered a separate semester. If a student's earned hours or cumulative GPA falls below the minimum standard indicated in the policy, they will be notified in writing. The student will also be notified if they has met the maximum time frame.

Policy Updated 8/15/2025 effective for fall 2025