

STANDARDS OF ACADEMIC PROGRESS FOR FINANCIAL AID

In order to receive financial aid at John Carroll University a student must be enrolled at least half-time, be making satisfactory academic progress toward graduation, and remain in good academic standing. The higher education amendments of 1980 require a university to define and enforce standards of satisfactory academic progress. Students receiving financial aid funded by the State government or by the Federal government (Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Academic Competitiveness Grant, National Science & Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grant, Federal Work Study, Federal Perkins Loan, Federal Stafford Loan, and Federal PLUS Loan) must conform to the university's standards as outlined below. These guidelines are established to encourage students to successfully complete courses for which aid is received. Successful completion is defined by John Carroll University in the Academic Policies and Procedures chapter of the John Carroll Undergraduate Bulletin.

Students who are not successfully completing courses at the minimum levels, as outlined on the charts below, are not considered to be making satisfactory progress for financial aid.

Full-Time (degree must be completed within six years)						
Academic Years Completed	1	2	3	4	5	6
Credit Hours Earned	12	23	47	74	101	128
JCU cumulative GPA required	1.75	1.80	1.90	2.00	2.00	2.00

Part-Time (degree must be completed within 12 years)												
Academic Year Completed	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Credit Hours Earned	6	12	18	23	35	47	60	74	87	101	114	128
JCU Cumulative GPA Required	1.75	1.75	1.80	1.80	1.90	1.90	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00

The satisfactory progress of transfer students is based on the student's class status at the time of enrollment. For example, if a transfer student is admitted as a first-semester sophomore standing, the student will be expected to complete requirements in no more than five additional years of full-time attendance and meet the requirements as outlined above to be eligible for federal or state financial aid.

Students receiving financial aid will be reviewed annually after completion of the spring semester. In the event that a student fails to meet satisfactory academic progress, the student will be placed on financial aid **probation**. All aid will automatically continue through one semester of financial aid probation. If the student does not achieve satisfactory academic progress during the semester of financial aid probation, the student will be placed on financial aid **suspension**. Financial aid suspension means the termination of all federal, state, and institutional aid. Eligibility can be regained by completing one semester under the condition of satisfactory academic progress as detailed above.

A student that does not meet the satisfactory academic progress requirements for federal and state aid eligibility at the end of the academic year may attend summer courses at John Carroll to make up the deficiencies and be reconsidered for aid, provided funds are available. At the conclusion of the summer session the student may reapply in writing for reinstatement to the Director of Financial Aid. For purposes of computing academic standing in the case of repeated courses, both attempts are counted, but credit is given only once.

Students that believe extenuating circumstances prevented their compliance with satisfactory academic progress may appeal. A student must indicate in writing to the Appeals Committee the reasons why aid should not be terminated. The appeal will be reviewed and the student will be notified in writing as to whether the probation or suspension is still justified or amended. In order for your appeal to be reviewed, the following information must be included with your appeal:

1. A written explanation of mitigating or extenuating circumstances that you believe affected your ability to meet the standards of academic progress and why you believe this additional semester will allow you to be back into compliance. Attach any documentation that you feel will substantiate your appeal (i.e. medical documentation, supporting documentation, etc.)
2. A formal academic plan detailing the supports mechanisms in place that will ensure your ability to meet the semester hours and GPA requirements to return to satisfactory progress toward your degree. This plan must be created in conjunction with the Academic Dean and include supporting recommendation from an Academic Dean.

Incomplete appeals will not be reviewed. An override of SAP will only be allowed for one semester. If your appeal is denied, the student is ineligible for financial aid. Appeals must be submitted within seven days of notification of suspension or the by the end of the first Friday of the semester. A student wishing to appeal the decision may do so in writing to the Vice President for Enrollment.

Exception to SAP Policy Reinstatement of Financial Aid

Various situations may exist whereby a student may be allowed to continue enrollment at the university but may not be meeting our Federal Standards of Progress to receive financial aid. Students readmitted to the University but not meeting Standards of Academic Progress are eligible for reinstatement of Financial Aid. Once approval for readmission or continued enrollment is granted by the Academic Dean's Office, student aid will be reinstated, pursuant to other award criteria, and remain intact as long as the student is making reasonable progress toward degree completion. Under these circumstances, **reasonable progress** is defined as maintaining a 2.50 GPA as a full-time student (12 credits) each semester. This progress will be monitored at the end of each semester of enrollment by the Dean's Office until the student has returned to overall good academic standing. Failure to abide by these academic expectations in any subsequent semester will result in a final dismissal from the University and permanent suspension of all financial aid without any further chance of appeal.