

University of California San Diego
Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Satisfactory Academic Progress for Financial Aid Policy

Federal regulations published on October 6, 1983 specify that standards of satisfactory academic progress (SAP) must be established by schools for purposes of awarding Department of Education Title IV student assistance funds. Title IV funds include Federal Direct Student Loans, Federal Perkins Loans, and Federal Work Study. In accordance with these regulations, UCSD Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (SSPPS) has established the following standards for a student to be eligible to receive Title IV assistance, as well as other financial aid assistance.

Qualitative Measure

The normative registered time to complete the requirements for the Pharm.D. degree is four years. The time limit excludes enrollment in a second degree program and approved leaves of absence. The maximum calendar time allowed to complete the requirements for the Pharm.D. degree is six years. The maximum time period for students who are pursuing both the Pharm.D. and Ph.D. degrees will be a combination of enrollment periods established by the SSPPS for the Pharm.D. degree and the Office of Graduate Studies and Research for the Ph.D. degree. The qualitative standard to be eligible for financial aid is being on a schedule which will allow for graduation four years after matriculation.

Quantitative Measure

The minimum quantitative standard that students must meet to be eligible for financial aid is 67% of the cumulative coursework attempted for each academic year. To successfully complete units a student must receive a grade of H (honors), P (pass), or S (satisfactory.) Grades of F (fail), Y (provisionally unsatisfactory), I (incomplete), U (unsatisfactory) or IP (in progress) do not count as successful completion of coursework attempted. All students ending their second or subsequent academic year must be “in good standing” (not on academic probation.)

Withdrawals

Withdrawals on the first day of the quarter will not count as units attempted. Withdrawals after the first day of the quarter will count as units attempted.

Repetition of Coursework

Repeated courses will be treated as coursework completed. However, a student can receive Title IV aid to pay for a previously passed course only once, regardless of why the student is retaking the course. For example if the student previously passed a course with a “D” or better, then Title IV aid can only pay for retaking that class one more time. If the student is repeating a passed course for a 2nd or greater time then that course cannot be included in the student’s enrollment status for Title IV purposes.

Remediation of Coursework

Remedial coursework will count as units completed. However, a student can receive Title IV aid to pay for a previously passed course only once, regardless of why the student is retaking the course. For example if the student previously passed a course with a “D” or better, then Title IV aid can only pay for retaking that class one more time. If the student is repeating a passed course for a 2nd or greater time then that course cannot be included in the student’s enrollment status for Title IV purposes.

Each financial aid recipient's progress will be reviewed on an annual basis to determine that the recipient is making sufficient progress to meet the time limits as specified. Students who do not meet the standards as indicated above, will be placed on financial aid probationary status, and may be eligible to receive additional quarters of financial aid, based on the successful appeal of their individual circumstances.

Appeals

The school is ready to respond to mitigating circumstances which may arise in individual situations, such as injury, illness, death of a close relative, or other personal circumstances. The school may require documentation of the mitigating circumstances, and reserves the right to request additional documentation, if necessary.

Students on financial aid probation will have their academic status reviewed by the Academic Oversight Committee. The Academic Oversight Committee will indicate the actions that the student must take to progress through the curriculum in the form of an academic plan. Once the Academic Oversight Committee has articulated an academic plan for the student, the student may appeal the loss of financial aid eligibility by submitting Satisfactory Academic Progress for Financial Aid Appeal Form in conjunction with the academic plan to the Associate Dean for Student Affairs. Typically such appeals will be approved.

Students whose appeals are approved, will continue to receive financial aid, and will be monitored on a quarterly basis. Students meeting the conditions of the academic plan over the course of the next quarter; will return to SAP status for financial aid for the remainder of the year. Students who have not met the requirements of the academic plan, will continue on financial aid probationary status, and will be given the opportunity to make a second appeal. Students should note that the mitigating circumstances explained in the second appeal must be different than the circumstances indicated in the original appeal. The secondary appeals will be reviewed by the Associate Dean for Student Affairs. Students whose appeals are approved will continue to receive financial aid, and will continue to be monitored on a quarterly basis. Students meeting the conditions of the academic plan over the course of the next quarter will return to SAP for financial aid status for the remainder of the year.

Students who have lost their eligibility for financial aid may apply for private loans and may be reinstated for financial aid eligibility upon satisfactory completion of the academic plan requirements determined by the Academic Oversight Committee.