



Changes in SAP Regulations

Academic Advising Summit

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Your Presenters

- Amy Hunter
 - Student Financial Aid Counselor
- Inali Saghu
 - Student Financial Aid Associate Director



Overview

- Our aim is to provide you with:
 - An overview to the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) standards policy
 - Federal regulation changes to the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) standards policy



Agenda

- Summary of SAP policy
 - Standards
 - Evaluation
- Summary of SAP changes
 - Evaluation
 - Appeal Process
- Other financial aid changes related to academics
 - Repeating Courses
 - Withdrawing from a Course



Summary of SAP Policy

- Three standards for SAP are:
 - Cumulative GPA must be at least 2.0 (qualitative standard)
 - Completion rate each term must be at least 67% (quantitative standard)
 - Maximum time frame allowed to complete a degree is 150% of hours required for the degree (quantitative standard)



Summary of SAP Policy

- **Evaluation**

- Satisfactory academic progress is evaluated after the completion of each semester.
- Failure to meet the “Rate of Completion Requirement” or “Grade Point Average Requirement” sections of this policy will result in the following:
 - Students not making satisfactory academic progress at the end of the semester will be placed on financial aid warning and sent an e-mail notifying them of their financial aid warning status. Students on financial aid warning may continue to receive financial aid for the next term of enrollment.
 - If the deficiency is not remedied by the end of the next semester, the student becomes ineligible for financial aid. The student’s awards are placed on hold, and he or she will receive a written notification of lack of progress.
 - Students may formally appeal their ineligibility for financial aid. If the appeal is approved, the student will then be awarded financial aid for another term of enrollment. If an appeal is approved, the student’s SAP status will be monitored every term of enrollment.



Summary of the SAP changes

- Evaluation Changes:
 - Students will be evaluated after grades run each semester, including summer
 - Students will not be evaluated for GPA until after their second year at NIU
 - After the second term a student does not meet SAP they will lose their eligibility for federal aid unless they complete an appeal which is approved



Summary of the SAP changes

- A SAP appeal must now contain a Course Plan (signed off on by either an academic advisor or advising dean) which details:
 - What courses the student will take each term until completion of their degree
 - When the student will be able to again meet SAP standards
 - The appeal approval may be extended beyond one term based on the information included in the Course Plan



Summary of the SAP changes

- An appeal that is approved results in the student being on probation for that term. On probation the student:
 - Regains Financial aid eligibility for the term
 - Must successfully complete the courses for the term



Summary of the SAP changes

- The courses in which a student is enrolled will be monitored each subsequent term to make sure they are adhering to the course plan.
 - If the courses are not in the course plan, another appeal will not be approved.
 - The Degree Audit program will be run each term to ensure students are enrolled in courses required for degree completion



Other Financial Aid Changes Related To Academics

- Repeats
 - Students in general, not just those not meeting SAP, are only allowed to repeat a course in which they previously received a passing grade (D or better) once and have financial aid cover that course
 - After that, the course will not be counted in total hours for financial aid. They can repeat failed courses more than once and financial aid will cover those courses.



Other Financial Aid Changes Related To Academics

- **Withdrawing versus Dropping a Course**
 - After the 15 day withdrawal period, if a student withdraws from a course there will be no change in their financial aid eligibility
 - if a student drops a course that may affect financial aid (depending on types of aid and total remaining hours) at any time throughout the semester



Questions?



Contact Information

- Amy Hunter
 - ahunter@niu.edu
 - 815-753-1300
- Inali Saghu
 - isaghu@niu.edu
 - 815-753-1300

