

COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA-FSM

BOARD POLICY No. 4707

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

Date Adopted: 1 April 1993

Date Revised: 28 September 2011, 27 November 2019

Date Reviewed: 22-24 March 2014, 27 November 2019

References:

Due to changes in the federal regulations, effective fall 2011 term, SAP for federal financial aid will continue to be checked at the end of every semester. Additionally, the Financial Aid Office will be looking at cumulative progress instead of annual progress and the student is expected to complete 67% of all credits attempted in order to graduate within the 150% timeframe allowed by federal government. The Department of Education's goal is to limit how long students who are not making SAP can continue to receive Title IV aid.

The Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Policy is composed of two standards of measurements stated below:

Qualitative Measurement

Measures students' academic progress, such as Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA).

Quantitative Measurement

Measures maximum time frame toward the completion of students' program and the pace of progression [credits completion rate].

Students must meet the new COM-FSM SAP standards both qualitative and quantitative in order to receive or continue to receive financial aid.

A. Financial Aid Good Standing

Students must meet the following standards of COM-FSM SAP policy in order to be eligible for financial aid.

1. Maintain a Cumulative Grade point Average (cum GPA) of 2.0 or better; and
2. Successfully complete at least 67% of cumulative credits attempted according to the pace of progression (Credits Completion Rate) formula: (divide cumulative credits earned by cumulative credits attempted); and
3. Must complete degree within 150% of slated time. 150%, for 60 credits or AA/AS = 90 credits. For example of pace of progressions, please refer to the college's [Financial Aid website](#).

B. Financial Aid Warning

Students are automatically placed on Financial Aid Warning when they fail to meet SAP standards indicated above. Students on financial aid warning status may continue to receive financial aid (Title IV funds) for one payment period (one semester). No appeal is necessary.

C. Financial Aid Disqualification

Students who are placed on financial aid warning status and fail to achieve SAP standards at the end of the payment period (one semester) will lose their financial aid eligibility. If students believed that they have experienced circumstances out of their control, they can appeal. As a result of the appeal, students may be placed on financial aid probation, on an academic plan or denied financial aid eligibility.

1. **Financial Aid Probation.** Students are placed on Financial Aid Probation when they have been placed on Financial Aid Suspension and their appeal was approved. They were determined to have the ability to achieve the SAP standards at the end of the payment period. They may continue to receive financial aid (Title IV funds) for one payment period and must achieve SAP standards at the end of the payment period; otherwise, they will lose their financial aid eligibility.
2. **Academic Plan.** Students are placed on an Academic Plan when they have been disqualified for not meeting SAP standards and their appeal was approved. It was determined that these students do not have the ability to meet SAP standards at the end of the payment period, therefore, an academic plan for financial aid purpose is developed for them in order to meet the SAP standards at the end of the payment period. They may continue to receive financial aid (Title IV funds) for one payment period and must achieve SAP standards or meet the conditions of an academic plan at the end of one payment period; otherwise, they will lose their financial aid eligibility.
3. **Denial.** The appeal is denied if the committee determines that there were no extenuating circumstances. The student loses his/her financial aid eligibility.