



SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS POLICY

REQUIREMENT:

In accordance with the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, students must be making Satisfactory Academic Progress to qualify for and continue to receive Title IV Federal Student Aid. Students receiving financial aid must be in good academic standing and making Satisfactory Academic Progress as outlined in the policies below.

PROGRAMS AFFECTED:

Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Federal Academic Competitiveness Grant, Federal Work-Study, Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership Grant, Federal Family Educational Loan Programs, Federal Direct Loan Programs, Federal Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students, all State funded programs, and all Institutional funded scholarships. Private loans and scholarships may also require that students maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress.

DEFINITIONS:

1. Good Academic Standing means that a student is not on academic exclusion or learning support dismissal.
2. Satisfactory Academic Progress is the advancement of the student toward his or her degree objective in a manner consistent with the prescribed policies of East Georgia College.
3. Satisfactory Academic Progress is measured both qualitatively (Grade Point Average) and quantitatively (a percentage completion and maximum time frame).

Qualitative:

All students are expected to maintain academic standards each semester of enrollment as outlined in the official East Georgia College catalog.

Quantitative:

- a) The maximum time frame allowed to receive financial aid at East Georgia College is 150% of semester hours required to earn a degree. Students may not receive additional financial aid once the 150% mark has been met. Students pursuing a degree which requires 66 semester hours for degree completion will not receive financial aid beyond 99 semester hours without receiving a degree.
 - b) A student must successfully complete 67% of the courses for which he/she is enrolled each semester.
4. Students will receive the following levels of notification once the Office of Financial Aid has determined that they are not maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress.

- * Warning – First Notification
- * Probation – Second Notification
- * Suspension – Final Notification (Ineligible to receive financial aid.)

Students who are not making Satisfactory Academic Progress will receive a written notice from the Office of Financial Aid by official letter, EGC email, and/or Banner Web account. Students will be encouraged to schedule an appointment with Counseling Services and/or take advantage of tutoring services available on campus.

FINANCIAL AID SUSPENSION:

1. Any student who has been academically excluded is not in good academic standing and will be ineligible for to receive financial aid.
2. Any student enrolled in Learning Support courses and fails to exit all such courses after three attempts is not making reasonable academic progress and is, therefore, ineligible to receive financial aid.
3. Students must earn the following minimum number of hours each academic year (fall, spring, and summer semesters) depending upon their enrollment status. The number of hours earned is checked at the completion of each semester and at the time students apply for financial aid.

Full time students – 20 hours per academic year (10 hours per semester)

$\frac{3}{4}$ - time students – 14 hours per academic year (7 hours per semester)

$\frac{1}{2}$ - time students – 10 hours per academic year (5 hours per semester)

Full-time students register for a minimum of 12 hours, $\frac{3}{4}$ - time students register for 9 to 11 hours and $\frac{1}{2}$ - time students register for a minimum of 6 hours. Students enrolled full-time have a maximum of three academic years to complete their programs. Students enrolled $\frac{3}{4}$ - time has four years and those enrolled $\frac{1}{2}$ - time has six years.

REINSTATEMENT OF AID:

1. A student who has been suspended from receiving financial aid because of failure to earn the number of hours required (67% completion rate) by his or her enrollment status may submit a *Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal Form* and any supporting documentation to the Director of Financial Aid for reinstatement of financial aid once the minimum number of earned hours has been attained.
2. A student who has been suspended from receiving financial aid because of being placed on academic exclusion or learning support dismissal may submit a *Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal Form* and any supporting documentation to the Director of Financial Aid, that his/ her financial aid be reinstated upon completion of one semester with a minimum 2.0 GPA and/or having completed his or her learning support requirement(s). A student may also request the reinstatement of financial aid when his or her cumulative GPA meets or exceeds the minimum 2.0 GPA as set forth in the East Georgia College catalog.
3. When a student's financial aid is being considered for reinstatement, the qualitative and quantitative requirements will both be re-evaluated.
4. All appeals should be mailed to the Office of Financial Aid and will be reviewed for consideration by the Financial Aid Appeals Committee.

APPEALS:

Any financial aid recipient has the right to appeal the suspension of financial aid funds. The procedure will be as follows:

1. Appeals must be made to the Director of Financial Aid by completing a *Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal Form* and any supporting documentation.
2. Appeals will be reviewed by the Financial Aid Appeals Committee at the end of each semester. Students will be notified of the Committee's decision by any of the following official forms of communication: letter, EGC E-mail, and/or Banner Web.
3. If a student's appeal is denied by the Financial Aid Appeals Committee, a written statement of review may be submitted to the Vice-President of Student and Enrollment Services.