

In accordance with Federal, State, and University aid and scholarship program guidelines, academic progress toward a degree must be made in order for students to receive financial aid funds. Student Financial Services (SFS) defines suspension and probation differently than the university's academic community. Upon admission as a transfer and during the academic year following the posting of semester grades, SAP is evaluated in accordance with the guidelines below. If a student changes his/her major or degree programs, SFS may require additional information from a student's academic advisor to demonstrate progress toward degree completion before aid eligibility can be determined.

Benchmarks - Students seeking financial assistance are expected to make **qualitative and quantitative** satisfactory academic progress and to complete their degree within an established **maximum time frame** in accordance with the chart below.

- I. **Qualitative progress** is measured by cumulative GPA.
- II. **Quantitative progress** (Completion Rate) is measured as a percentage of the successful hours earned out of the total hours attempted. Satisfactory Grades are A, B, C, D (for Nursing A, B, C), P and S. Grades of I, W, F, WF, WP, U, and AU are not successful completions.
- III. **Maximum time frame** for all degree programs is 150% of the hours/time required to complete a degree. All periods of enrollment are considered (both US and International, ESL, and remedial coursework) and includes all* transfer work attempted.

Degree Program	Qualitative Progress minimum cumulative GPA (on a 4.0 scale)	Quantitative Progress minimum cumulative Completion Requirements (Comp Rate)	Maximum Credit Hours Aided (includes all institutions attended)
UNDERGRADUATE (UG) TRANSFER – UG (non BBSN)	2.0	75% of all attempted hours. All college credit courses taken anywhere for any purpose regardless of outcome and whether or not financial aid was used, count toward SAP determination (includes US and International college credit).	186 hours or 12 full time terms.
TRANSFER – NURSING 2 nd Bachelor's Degree (BBSN)	2.0	75% of all hours attempted after 1 st Bachelor's degree was earned	* Only 94 hours from 1 st UG degree will be counted toward maximum for Nursing Programs
GRADUATE	3.0	66% of all attempted hours.	54 hours or 6 fulltime terms (maximum attempted hours to achieve Master's Degree).
LAW	1.8 (after first semester of 1L year) 2.0 (start of 2L through 3L years)	75% of all attempted hours.	135 hours (maximum attempted hours allowed to achieve a Juris Doctorate degree).
NURSING DOCTORATE (DNP and PhD)	3.0	66% of all attempted hours.	102 hours for DNP 135 hours for PhD (includes any master's level work transferred)
DOCTORATE OF PSYCHOLOGY	3.0	66% of all attempted hours.	180 hours (includes any master's level work transferred)
PHYSICIANS ASSISTANT PHYSICAL THERAPY	2.0	75% of all attempted hours	Must complete degree requirements within 4 academic years of matriculation

Standards

- I. A student who has exceeded maximum hours aided will be placed on financial aid suspension with the option to appeal for an **extension of limited eligibility** (subject to federal lifetime aggregate limits).
- II. If a student does not meet SAP requirements at the end of a semester and it is possible for the student to return to academic standards in one semester, OCU will notify the student with an official **warning** permitting the student one semester of aid (and an Academic Plan, if warranted). At the end of the semester on warning, the student must have met the SAP benchmarks (or, if applicable, achieved academic progress according to the prescribed Academic Plan). If student did not meet SAP benchmarks, the student's financial aid will be suspended.
- III. If suspended for not meeting benchmarks, a student may submit an **appeal**. If the appeal is approved, the student will be placed on an Academic Plan (for financial aid purposes) and granted one semester of aid. If academic progression is not met at the end of the semester as prescribed in the Academic Plan, student will be suspended and responsible for future charges.

Appeals Process

- I. A student placed on financial aid suspension will receive a notification letter sent through official University email and be given the opportunity to submit an appeal to the Financial Aid SAP Appeals Committee. The Committee will determine whether the suspension stands or aid eligibility is conditionally reestablished.
- II. If a student is suspended due to maximum attempted hours, the Appeal Committee will review:
 - a) total hours transferred,
 - b) hours required to complete student's degree at Oklahoma City University as certified by the student's academic advisor, and
 - c) the student's overall loan debt.
- III. Decisions rendered by the Financial Aid SAP Appeals Committee are final and cannot be appealed to the Department of Education.
- IV. If an appeal is denied, the student will not be eligible for federal aid and cannot regain eligibility except as provided in V below.
- V. After completing at least one full semester at his/her own expense and having demonstrated qualitative and quantitative progress that exceeds the minimum benchmarks during the semester without aid, the student may submit an appeal for **reinstatement of financial aid** eligibility. Hours earned from another university while on suspension will not be considered toward required progress.

Following each SAP Review, a student's status for continued aid eligibility is updated as follows:

STATUS	EXPLANATION	ELIGIBLE FOR AID
Good Standing	Making Satisfactory Academic Progress (GPA and Comp Rate).	Yes
Warning	If GPA &/or Comp Rate are below the academic standards stated above, and it is possible for student to return to academic standards in one semester, student will be placed on a Warning and, if warranted, an Academic Plan. <i>*this status is only available to continuing OCU students and does not apply to the initial eligibility determination of incoming transfers.</i>	Yes - for one semester.
Suspension	If student would be unable to progress to academic standards in one term or if after a Warning academic progression is not demonstrated, student's financial aid will be suspended with the right to appeal	No
Plan	If warranted, while on Warning or if an SAP appeal is approved, student will be placed on a Plan. Student remains on Plan as long as s/he is making progression as defined by the Plan or reaches SAP benchmarks.	Yes – while meeting Plan requirements
Denied	If an appeal is denied, student will remain ineligible for aid.	No