

## Satisfactory Academic Progress

### 1. POLICY STATEMENT/PURPOSE

The purpose of the Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress policy is to meet Federal regulations which require Sonoran University to apply a consistent policy of academic progress for completion of the degree and provide students with the opportunity to successfully complete the program within the guidelines of quality academic standards.

### 2. HISTORY/BACKGROUND

Created in 2010 for the revised 2010 curriculum. Revised in 2012, 2014, and 2017. The policy was re-written in 2023 through work of the Student Success and Persistence Committee and review and recommendations by Faculty Senate. The revisions are to be implemented in 2 phases, with the first phase implementing all items except Academic Restoration immediately, and Academic Restoration becoming effective as of Fall 2023.

### 3. DEFINITION(S)

- a. Good Academic Standing – Consistently meeting or exceeding the program requirements of GPA minimum standards and the minimum academic requirements of appropriate program progression as measured against program maximum time to completion.
- b. Grade Point Average (GPA) – Calculated by multiplying the point value of the grade received by the number of credits for each course. To calculate the GPA, add the credits attempted, add the grade points earned, and divide the total points by the total credits.

### 4. SCOPE/KEY STAKEHOLDERS

This policy applies to all actively enrolled students at Sonoran University.

### 5. POLICY ITEMS

Academic Warning is a reflection of a student's academic standing. Academic Warning is assigned as an alert that the student is not making sufficient progress toward completion of the degree and a signal that intervention, in the form of an academic development plan, is required.

#### **Course Failure/Withdrawal and Program Completion**

Failure of a single course may not always progress a student to a warning level. However, students failing a course or withdrawing from course(s) will be required to meet with academic advising to complete an academic development plan, which may include requisite supportive developmental coursework, intended to support improved performance.

- Failure or withdrawal from a course could impact the student's projected program completion date. Students who do not meet the minimum academic requirements of program progression (as measured against program maximum time to completion) will be subject to dismissal from the program.
- Failing a course for the second time will result in dismissal.

**ACADEMIC WARNING****First Academic Warning (Academic Warning I)**

A student is placed on Academic Warning I if:

- The student does not achieve the required program minimum cumulative GPA standard (2.1 ND/3.0 MS), or
- The student fails one or more clerkships (CLTR course) during a quarter at Sonoran University (ND program only).

A notation of Academic Warning I is included on the student's academic transcript. Students placed on Academic Warning I will receive notification from the Registrar's Office and will be required to meet with academic advising to complete an academic development plan intended to support improved performance. Students are encouraged to engage with other support resources (e.g. Learning Specialist, mental health professional) to obtain additional assistance. Students placed on Academic Warning I will continue in this status unless they meet requirements for restoring good academic standing.

If the student is unable to continue in their prescribed program of study, the student may be placed on an Administrative Leave of Absence (ALOA) and therefore may not be eligible for financial aid. The student may be eligible to reenter their prescribed program of study as determined by academic advising and Sonoran University's ALOA policy as outlined in the catalog. Note: A student whose GPA projections show an inability to recover to 2.1 (ND)/3.0 (MS) or higher in subsequent terms by the projected graduation date may be subject to dismissal.

**Second Academic Warning (Academic Warning II)**

A student is placed on Academic Warning II if:

- The student does not achieve the required program minimum cumulative GPA standard (2.1 ND/3.0 MS) while on Academic Warning I, or
- The student fails one or more clerkships (CLTR course) during a quarter at Sonoran University (ND program only) while on Academic Warning I.

A notation of Academic Warning II is included on the academic transcript. Students placed on Academic Warning II will receive notification from the Registrar's Office and will be required to meet with academic advising to update their academic development plan intended to support improved performance. Students are encouraged to engage with other support resources (e.g. Learning Specialist, mental health professional) to obtain additional assistance. Students placed on Academic Warning II will continue in this status unless they meet requirements for restoring good academic standing.

If the student is unable to continue in their prescribed program of study, the student may be placed on an Administrative Leave of Absence (ALOA) and therefore may not be eligible for financial aid. The student may be eligible to reenter their prescribed program of study as determined by academic advising and Sonoran University's ALOA policy as outlined in the catalog. Note: A student whose GPA projections show an inability to recover to 2.1 (ND)/3.0 (MS) or higher in subsequent terms by the projected graduation date may be subject to dismissal.

**Academic Restoration**

To clear Academic Warning and restore good academic standing, a student on Academic Warning must meet the following requirements for *each* level of academic warning to be reduced by one level.

- Earn a minimum cumulative GPA for two consecutive terms.
- ND students must earn a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.1
- MS students must earn a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0

The Sonoran University Academic Advising Office can help students understand the impact and consequences on earned and future grades on their cumulative GPA.

### **ACADEMIC DISMISSAL**

Students demonstrating unsatisfactory academic progress or who are unable to meet the Technical Standards of Admission (if applicable) for their prescribed program of study will be subject to dismissal. A student will be subject to dismissal if:

- The student does not achieve the required program minimum cumulative GPA standard (2.1 ND/3.0 MS) while on Academic Warning II, or
- The student fails one or more clerkships (CLTR course) during a quarter at Sonoran University (ND program only) while on Academic Warning II, or
- The student's projected program completion exceeds program maximum completion time, or
- The student fails the same course for the second time during any portion of their enrollment at Sonoran University (a course includes any didactic course or clinical clerkship in the prescribed program of study) or
- The student fails to meet the Technical Standards of Admission (if applicable) for prescribed program of study.

Should, despite reasonable accommodation (whether the student chooses to use the accommodation or not), a student's existing or acquired disability interfere with patient or peer safety, or otherwise impede the ability to meet the Technical Standards for their program and advance to graduation, the student may withdraw or be subject to dismissal from the program.

Students who have been dismissed will receive official notification from the Registrar's Office. The dismissal notification will outline the student's rights to an appeal. The appeal process is also outlined in the Sonoran University Student Handbook. If a student is re-instated on a dismissal appeal, they are ineligible for academic restoration as outlined in this policy and must meet the requirements outlined in their reinstatement letter.

## **6. RESONSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

chief academic officer  
Academic Policy and Progress Committee  
Academic Advising  
Dean of Students  
Faculty  
Registrar

## **7. RELATED DOCUMENTS**

Academic Retake Examination Policy  
Grading Scale

**8. NEXT REVIEW DATE**

Every three years

**9. POLICY AUTHOR/CONTACT**

chief academic officer

**10. REFERENCES**

N/A

**11. VERSION CONTROL AND CHANGE HISTORY**

Version	Approved by	Date Approved	Date Effective	Amendment Information
1	President's Council	10/2010	Fall 2011	To be effective with the revised 2010 curriculum
2	President's Council	7/2012	Fall 2012	Changed the requirement to maintain a GPA of 2.0 with that of attaining a CIIPA by the end of the 7 <sup>th</sup> quarter
3			Fall 2014	Reinstates cumulative GPA and removed reference to attaining at end of Q7 as well as reference of the retake/pass grades
4	President's Council	5/2017	Fall 2017	Added general language for academic probation and dismissal policies by program.
5	President's Council	5/24/23	5/24/23 10/2/23	Rewrite of entire policy as proposed by the Student Success and Persistence Committee, also branding updates to Sonoran University. All except Academic Restoration effective 5/24/23. Academic Restoration effective as of 10/2/23.
6	Minor edit	9/12/2023		
7	Minor edit	2/1/2023		