

Section:	V.3.20	
Title:	Satisfactory Academic Progress for Financial Aid Purposes	
Effective Date:	July 2, 2019	
Approved By:	Interim Executive Director, Student Financial Services	
Responsible Unit:	Office of Student Financial Assistance (609) 771- 2211; osfa@tcnj.edu	
Related Documents:	N/A	
History:		
<u>Version</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Notes</u>
2.0	July 2, 2019	Reviewed, no changes made
1.0	June 6, 2011	New policy; Initial Release

I. INTRODUCTION

The Federal Assistance Programs authorized under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 as amended require the establishment of minimum standards of academic progress that students must meet to maintain eligibility for financial aid. “The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Policy for Financial Aid Eligibility” applies to all aid programs administered by or through the Office of Financial Aid. These standards apply to all students seeking or receiving assistance regardless of prior aid receipt history. Academic progress is reviewed at least once per academic year. All students must be matriculated that is admitted to and eligible to enroll in an approved degree/certificate pursuing program.

II. DEFINITIONS

Satisfactory Academic Progress is defined as the pace of progress toward the undergraduate degree that needs to be maintained by the student in order to retain eligibility for federal financial aid.

III. POLICY

A. Termination of Aid: (Qualitative Measurement)

Students who do not meet the minimum grade point average requirements as set forth in The College of New Jersey Undergraduate Bulletin or The College of New Jersey Graduate Bulletin will be placed on financial aid probation concurrent with the academic probation period. Failure to restore the required grade point average within the allotted time frame will result in termination of financial aid eligibility. Aid for subsequent enrollment periods will be terminated immediately for any student placed on academic suspension or dismissed (as defined in The College of New Jersey Undergraduate Bulletin or The College of

New Jersey Graduate Bulletin) at the end of any semester/term. This policy does not supersede higher GPA requirements which may apply to individual aid programs (such as merit scholarships).

B. Transfer Students:

Transfer student classification and eligibility for financial aid is subject to final review of accepted transfer credit hours. The student's classification upon evaluation of transfer credit will be used to determine minimum grade point average requirements for continued satisfactory academic progress.

C. Time Limits: (Quantitative Measurements)

1. Undergraduate:

Students in a 4 year program of study who have attempted 180 credit hours (including transfer credit) cease to be eligible to receive financial aid.

2. Graduate:

From the date of first enrollment in a specific degree program, students seeking a master's degree must complete all degree requirements (including thesis) within six academic years.

D. Reinstatement of Aid:

1. Students who have been suspended / dismissed from The College must present documentation of approved authorization to re-enroll when petitioning reinstatement of aid. Students who have not received authorization to re-enroll remain ineligible to receive assistance or deferment of payment. They should be prepared with other resources to pay all educational expenses. Students whose appeals are approved may have their aid reinstated pending availability of funds.

2. All provisions of "The College of New Jersey Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy for Financial Aid Eligibility" may be appealed by written petition to the Director of Financial Aid or designee.