





SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP)

To be eligible for federal and state financial aid, students are required by the U.S. Department of Education and the State of California to maintain satisfactory academic progress toward completing their degrees or certificates. In compliance with prescribed guidelines, BCC has established guidelines designed to promote timely advancement toward specific degree and certificate objectives.

The following questions and answers address student's typical questions regarding SAP. A complete policy is available in the Financial Aid Office.

1. What are SAP requirements?

To satisfy academic progress requirements, financial aid students must accomplish the following:

-  Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0
-  Have completed less than 90 **attempted** units at the beginning of the academic year.
-  Completion of 67 percent cumulative units attempted
-  Not have an AA, AS or Bachelor's Degree.

SAP for all students is reviewed at the end of each semester.

2. What is a 2.0 GPA?

A 2.0 GPA is a "C" average. Your GPA is calculated by dividing the number of "grade points" you earned by the number of units you attempted. Grades are assigned the following "point" value.

GRADE	GRADE POINTS
A	4 POINTS
B	3 POINTS
C	2 POINTS
D	1 POINT
F	0 POINTS
FW	0 POINTS

Example: 239 grade points divided by 66 GPA Hrs. = 3.62 GPA

3. What does 67 percent completion mean?

You must complete 67 percent of the units you start each semester. Completed units are those classes in which a grade "A", "B", "C", "D" or "CR" (Credit) was earned. Classes in which "IF or IX" (Incomplete), "NC" (No Credit), "W" (Withdrawal), and/or "FW" (Failure to Withdraw) are considered non-grades and will not be counted as units completed, **but will be counted as units attempted.**

4. Why is there a 90 unit limit?

Community Colleges are two year institutions. The maximum timeframe for the completion of a degree

program is limited by federal regulations to 150% of the published length of the degree or certificate program*. The evaluated credits received from schools for transfer students will be considered as part of the maximum timeframe for BCC, even if financial aid has never been received.

***60 units (number of units required to graduate or transfer) x 150% = 90 units**

5. Why do you count classes that I took when I was not receiving financial aid?

All of the classes that you take count towards your degree or certificate requirements. Also, federal guidelines require that we count all classes even though you did not receive financial aid.

6. What happens when a financial aid recipient does not meet the SAP minimum requirements?

SAP is evaluated at the end of each semester. Failure to meet minimum requirements (67% completion ratio/2.0 GPA) will result in a probationary status for **one semester**. While on probation students may still receive financial aid. At the end of the probationary semester, SAP is re-evaluated and if minimum requirements are met the student will be removed from probationary status. Failure to meet minimum SAP requirements will result in dismissal from financial aid.

7. What are the procedures if a student loses financial aid eligibility?

Students may appeal the loss of eligibility by completing an Application for Reinstatement and providing documentation of explanatory circumstances. The Financial Aid Appeals Committee will review and approve or deny the appeal based on the student's individual circumstances.

If the appeal is granted, the student will regain eligibility. If the appeal is denied, the student will remain ineligible.