

## **Welch College Satisfactory Academic Progress for Financial Aid Eligibility**

Financial Aid recipients must demonstrate through their scholastic records that they are making satisfactory academic progress toward completion of their program(s) of study in order to maintain eligibility for enrolling in classes and receiving any form of federal, state, or College financial assistance. Academic progress for financial aid is measured at the end of each term utilizing qualitative and quantitative standards.

### **Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress**

The College's policy requires that in order to remain fully eligible for aid the student must show satisfactory progress in the following three ways:

1. Must pass 75% of the semester hours attempted each semester, with no less than 6 credit hours earned.
2. Must maintain a minimum grade point average that makes progress toward the 2.00 minimum required for graduation, as follows:

After attempting this number of hours	must have this minimum g.p.a. (4-year programs)	must have this minimum g.p.a. (3-year programs)	must have this minimum g.p.a. (2-year programs)
12	-----	-----	1.25
24	1.25	1.25	1.50
36	1.35	1.50	1.75
48	1.50	1.75	2.00
60	1.70	2.00	
72	1.90		
84	2.00		

3. Must complete enough hours each semester to remain on course for completing a four-year degree in a maximum of 6 years, a three-year degree in 4.5 years, and a two-year degree in three years, as follows:

at the end of the academic year (inc. summer)	must have earned this % of 4-yr. credits required	must have earned this % of 3-yr. credits required	must have earned this % of 2-yr. credits required
1st	14%	20%	30%
2nd	29%	42%	65%
3rd	46%	64%	100%
4th	66%	86%	
5th	84%		
6th	100%		

### **Determining Satisfactory Academic Progress and Notification**

Satisfactory Academic Progress will be evaluated at the end of fall and spring semesters. After grades are posted at the end of each semester, the Student Financial Aid Office will notify students who are not meeting satisfactory academic progress standards by letter.

### **Incomplete Grades**

A grade of "incomplete" will not be factored into calculating satisfactory academic progress until the grade is changed to a completed grade. This may result in failure to achieve satisfactory academic progress and denial of aid until a final grade is earned. A student should contact the

Financial Aid Office when an incomplete grade is changed to a final grade for recalculation of satisfactory academic progress.

### **Repeated Courses**

Repeated courses affect satisfactory academic progress as follows:

GPA – Only the most recent grade counts in the student's GPA.

Pace of Completion and Maximum Time Frame – Each time a course is repeated it will be counted as attempted hours.

### **Withdrawal From Classes**

Once a student has begun attendance in a semester, if he/she then drops a class or withdraws from the semester after the last day to drop without academic record for the enrollment period, those credit hours will be counted as credit hours attempted in calculating Pace of Completion and Maximum Time Frame.

A student who withdraws from a semester and returns the following semester must meet the SAP requirements in order to be eligible for federal aid.

### **Transfer Students**

Transfer hours accepted by Welch College are counted as both hours attempted and hours completed for calculating Pace of Completion, and are counted towards the student's overall Maximum Time Frame. Transfer credits do affect a student's GPA.

New transfer students will be eligible for federal aid their first semester at Welch College unless they have already exceeded their Maximum Time Frame.

Transfer students who previously were enrolled at Welch will have their eligibility determined by evaluating past credits/grades earned at Welch college combined with transfer credits accepted.

### **Financial Aid Warning**

A student who does not meet satisfactory academic progress standards is placed on Financial Aid Warning for one term, during which the student is eligible to receive financial aid. If the student meets the standards at the end of the probationary term, the student is removed from Financial Aid Warning status and maintains financial aid eligibility. If the student does not meet the standards at the end of the probationary term, the student is placed on Financial Aid Suspension.

### **Financial Aid Suspension**

A student on Financial Aid Suspension is not eligible for any form of federal, state, or College financial assistance and remains ineligible until satisfactory academic progress standards in Free Will Baptist Bible College courses are met.

### **Appeal Process**

A student who feels mitigating circumstances existed which adversely affected the student's ability to maintain satisfactory academic progress may submit a written appeal within 21

business days of receiving notification of the suspension status. This appeal should be directed to the Coordinator of Financial Aid explaining:

- why the student failed to make satisfactory academic progress.
- what has changed in the student's situation that will allow him/her to make satisfactory academic progress at the next evaluation.

The Financial Aid Advisory Committee will hold a hearing in a timely manner to hear the appeal. The committee is chaired by the Coordinator of Financial Aid as a non-voting member except in the eventuality of a tie. Other members are the Director of Enrollment Services, Provost, Registrar, Vice President for Financial Affairs, and Vice President for Student Affairs.

If a student's appeal is approved by the Financial Aid Advisory Committee, the student will be placed on Financial Aid Probation and will be eligible to receive aid for at least one semester if:

- it is determined that he/she should be able to meet the standards after the subsequent semester OR
- the student is placed on an Academic Plan that when followed will ensure the student will meet the standards by a specific time.

The student who fails to meet the satisfactory academic progress requirements at the end of a semester of Financial Aid Probation, or is not adhering to the requirements of an Academic Plan, will be put on Financial Aid Suspension and will not be eligible to receive aid until eligibility has been reinstated. If the student's appeal is not approved the student has no additional recourse. A student is limited to one appeal of financial aid suspension.