

## STANDARDS OF ACADEMIC PROGRESS FOR FINANICAL AID RECIPIENTS

In order to receive or continue to receive financial aid funded by the government and/or Stonehill College (including student or parent education loans, grants, scholarships and jobs), a student must maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined below.

Satisfactory Academic Progress: A student must pass a specific number of the credits he/she attempts each academic year. (The number of credits attempted equals the number of credits in which the student is officially enrolled at the end of each Add/Drop period). Credits that are graded "Incomplete" as well as credits from which a student withdraws after the Add/Drop period are considered credits attempted but not satisfactorily completed. (If an incomplete grade is subsequently changed to a passing grade, satisfactory academic progress can be recalculated based on receipt of a passing grade.) In addition, a student's cumulative average at the end of two academic years of study must be at least 2.00, and his/her record must continue to meet this standard at each review. A student must take courses at Stonehill College to raise their cumulative GPA.

Students are reviewed annually for compliance with Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements, at the end of each spring semester. In addition to the cumulative average noted above, this review covers all coursework attempted since the end of the previous spring semester, beginning with any credits taken in the first summer session of the preceding calendar year.

To be in compliance a student must successfully complete at least 67% of all credits attempted, including courses transferred in during the academic period being measured, as outlined below:

# of credits attempted:	Must pass:
1 credit	1 credit
2-3 credits	2 credits
4-5 credits	3 credits
6 credits	4 credits
7-8 credits	5 credits
9 credits	6 credits
10-11 credits	7 credits
12 credits	8 credits
13-14 credits	9 credits
15 credits	10 credits
16-17 credits	11 credits
18 credits	12 credits
19-20 credits	13 credits
21 credits	14 credits
22-23 credits	15 credits
24 credits	16 credits
25-26 credits	17 credits
27 credits	18 credits
28-29 credits	19 credits

# of credits attempted:	Must pass:
30 credits	20 credits
31-32 credits	21 credits
33 credits	22 credits
34-35 credits	23 credits
36 credits	24 credits
37-38 credits	25 credits
39 credits	26 credits
40-41 credits	27 credits
42 credits	28 credits
43-44 credits	29 credits
45 credits	30 credits
46-47 credits	31 credits
48 credits	32 credits
49 credits	33 credits
50-51 credits	34 credits
52 credits	35 credits
53-54 credits	36 credits
55 credits	37 credits
56 credits	38 credits

To regain eligibility for financial aid after unsatisfactory progress has been declared, a student must complete the number of credits not passed within the period which resulted in the loss of aid and achieve the required cumulative grade-point average.

To continue to be eligible for federal Title IV funding, a student must complete in the aggregate, 67% of all credits attempted, including credits transferred in, at the end of the established full academic period. This ensures that no student takes longer than 150% of the normal time for completing his/her degree, based upon enrollment status. For example, in a program requiring 120 credits for graduation, 150% of the normal time equals 180 credits attempted. The time to degree completion includes all courses attempted, including courses from which the student has withdrawn after the add-drop period, courses which are incomplete, and courses which have been accepted by the College in transfer.

**General Provisions:** Repeat coursework taken for the purpose of increasing a previously passing grade cannot be considered in qualifying a student for financial aid enrollment status or satisfying a determination of non compliance with Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements.

Appeals: The denial of financial aid because of failure to meet Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements may be appealed if the student believes there are special circumstances which should be considered. The appeal must include an explanation of why the student believes he/she failed to achieve satisfactory academic progress and what has changed that will allow the student to achieve progress by the end of the next financial aid payment period. A written appeal, sent within 15 days of notification of ineligibility for aid, should be addressed to the Director of Student Financial Services. Appeals will be considered by a representative committee from Academic Services and Student Financial Services. A response will be mailed to the student within 15 days of receipt of such appeal. Appeals may be approved if justification presented is acceptable and it has been determined that the student is able to meet SAP standards by the end of the next financial aid payment period or is placed on an academic plan that will ensure he/she is able to meet SAP standards by a specific point in time.

A positive response to an appeal results in the student being placed on Financial Aid Probation. The student then regains eligibility for financial aid for the next financial aid payment period only. Progress will be re-measured subsequent to the period of Financial Aid Probation to assure compliance with SAP after that one financial aid payment period.

The College awards financial aid within two annual payment periods. The fall payment period includes courses that begin July 1 and after through December 31. The spring payment period includes courses that begin January 1 and after through June 30. Courses taken within those two periods determine enrollment status for financial aid purposes only.

Effective July 1, 2011 to comply with new federal regulations