

# Nyack College “Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy”

Federal and New York State regulations require Nyack College to establish and apply reasonable standards of satisfactory progress for the purpose of the receipt of financial assistance under the programs authorized by Title IV of the Higher Education Act. Nyack College students who wish to be considered for federal financial aid must maintain satisfactory progress in their selected course of study as set forth in this policy.

## **Academic Policy**

Incomplete course grades and withdrawals are not counted toward the grade point average component of the standard but along with course repetitions are used in measuring the academic progress of credits completed. Only the second grade of a repeat course counts in the calculation of the student’s GPA. Refer to the Academic Policy section of the Nyack College catalog for more detailed information regarding courses, grading standard and graduation.

## **Institutional Policy**

Satisfactory academic progress includes both a qualitative (grade point average) and quantitative (number of credit hours completed) measure of the student’s progress plus a maximum time frame to not exceed 150% of the program measured in credit hours attempted. The Student Financial Services/Registrar Offices will assess the student’s academic progress at the end of every term for all Federal and State aid programs.

## **Transfer Students**

When a student transfers to Nyack College the academic office will determine the number of credit hours acceptable toward a degree at Nyack. The standard of progress will begin at the appropriate point on the SAP chart according to the number of credit hours transferred.

## **Financial Aid Warning and Termination for Title IV FSA**

The first time a Student does not meet the standards of satisfactory progress at the end of a term, the student will automatically be notified and placed in a financial aid warning status for the following term. Federal financial aid may still be received during the warning period. At the end of the warning term, the student must again be making satisfactory academic progress or financial aid will be terminated until the student has reestablished financial aid eligibility.

## **Appeal Process & Financial Aid Probation Term**

Any student who is denied Federal financial aid at the end of the one term warning period or does not meet the NY State SAP standard, and who can prove special circumstances (i.e. serious injury or illness, death in the family, or other situations causing physical or psychological stress) is allowed to appeal their case. An appeal letter may be submitted with supporting documentation, if required, to the Office of Student Financial Services to request a waiver of the SAP standards for a semester. If the appeal is approved, the student must determine and complete a specific academic plan. At this time, the student will be placed on a one-term financial aid probation and the SAP standards are suspended for that student during the probation term.

## **Reestablishing Financial Aid Eligibility**

Students who have had their financial aid terminated due to lack of satisfactory academic progress may choose to enroll without benefit of financial aid. Students may also choose to attend another institution and transfer in the specified needed number of credits earned toward a degree at Nyack that will bring them in line with the quantitative standards of the SAP policy. Transfer credits will not be used to meet the qualitative or GPA standards of the policy. Such students may request a review of their academic record after any term in which they are enrolled without the receipt of financial aid to determine whether they have met the satisfactory academic progress standards. If the standards are met, financial aid eligibility is restored for subsequent terms of enrollment. Students should consult with a financial aid counselor in the Office of Student Financial Services if they have any questions about this policy, the appeal process, or reinstatement of financial aid eligibility.

**Notification**

The following academic standard definition represents minimum academic standards that must be met by students in order to be eligible for Title IV Federal Student Aid and New York State Tuition Assistance. Students are notified in writing if they have failed to meet the standards along with implications and actions required to maintain or reestablish financial aid eligibility.

**Nyack College Undergraduate Traditional Standard Credit Hour Term****Federal Graduated Rate Standard based on percentage earned**

| <b>Total Hours Attempted</b> | <b>Minimum Cum GPA</b> | <b>Minimum Percent of Credits Completed</b> |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| 1.00 – 15.00                 | 1.10                   | 50.00%                                      |
| 16.00 – 30.00                | 1.30                   | 50.00%                                      |
| 31.00 – 45.00                | 1.70                   | 50.00%                                      |
| 46.00 – 999.00               | 2.00                   | 75.00%                                      |

**School of Adult and Distance Education Undergraduate Programs**

Title IV Federal Student Aid:

Cumulative GPA required: 2.0

Minimum Percentage of Credits Completed: 67%

**Nyack College/ATS Graduate Programs****a. Nyack College Graduate Programs****For Federal Loans—Alliance Graduate School of Counseling**

| <b>Total Hours Attempted</b> | <b>Minimum Cum GPA</b> | <b>Minimum Percent Credits Completed</b> |
|------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| 1.00 – 12.99                 | 2.80                   | 50.00%                                   |
| 13.00 – 99.00                | 3.00                   | 75.00%                                   |

**For Federal Loans—Master of Science in Education, Master of Science in Organizational Leadership, Master of Business Administration, Master of Social Work, Master of Arts in Ancient Judaism & Christian Origins**

| <b>Total Hours Attempted</b> | <b>Minimum Cum GPA</b> | <b>Minimum Percent Credits Completed</b> |
|------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| 1.00 – 9.00                  | 2.80                   | 67.00%                                   |
| 10.00 – 99.00                | 3.00                   | 67.00%                                   |

**b. ATS Graduate Seminary Programs****For Federal Loans—Doctor of Ministry**

| <b>Total Hours Attempted</b> | <b>Minimum Cum GPA</b> | <b>Minimum Percent Credits Completed</b> |
|------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| 1.00 – 6.99                  | 3.00                   | 50.00%                                   |
| 7.00 – 99.00                 | 3.00                   | 75.00%                                   |

**For Federal Loans—M.P.S., M.A.**

| <b>Total Hours Attempted</b> | <b>Minimum Cum GPA</b> | <b>Minimum Percent Credits Completed</b> |
|------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| 1.00 – 6.99                  | 2.00                   | 50.00%                                   |
| 7.00 – 99.00                 | 2.50                   | 75.00%                                   |

**For Federal Loans—M.Div**

| <b>Total Hours Attempted</b> | <b>Minimum Cum GPA</b> | <b>Minimum Percent Credits Completed</b> |
|------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| 1.00 – 6.99                  | 2.00                   | 50.00%                                   |
| 7.00 – 12.99                 | 2.20                   | 50.00%                                   |
| 13.00 – 99.00                | 2.50                   | 75.00%                                   |