Folsom Lake College - Financial Aid Office

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS POLICY

Federal regulations require that all students who receive federal and state financial aid maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) towards the completion of their eligible program of study. A student’s entire academic history is evaluated at the end of each semester to determine his/her financial aid academic progress, even if the student was not a prior financial aid recipient.

**NOTE:** Financial Aid calculations for academic progress may differ from the calculations done by Admissions and Records.

**Folsom Lake College students are evaluated against the following standards:**

1. **Qualitative Standard: Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA**
   
   Students must maintain a minimum of a 2.0 FLC Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA)

2. **Quantitative Standard: Pace of Progression**
   
   Students must maintain progress by successfully completing at least 67% of units enrolled.
   
   Progress Percentage = \( \frac{(\text{Total Units with } "F", "I", "IP", "NC", "NP", \text{ and } "W")}{\text{Total Units Attempted}} \) = 33% or less

3. **Maximum Timeframe: Total Units**
   
   Students who have completed a Bachelor degree or higher (including a foreign degree) or attempted more than 150% of the units required for their degree or certificate program will be denied financial aid. Units earned at another college that are transferred to and accepted or completed at a Los Rios Community College District will be calculated into the total number of units attempted. Up to 30 attempted units of remedial coursework at FLC may be deducted from the total units accumulated. ESL classes are counted towards the total number of units attempted. Students who enroll in ESL or excessive remedial courses that do not apply to their degree or certificate may exhaust their financial aid eligibility prior to completing the program.

**Course Repetition and Academic Renewal:** To determine the student's GPA, the most recent grade for a repeated course and all grades for academic renewal courses will be used. All units (both current and prior) from repeated and academic renewal courses are counted toward the 150% maximum timeframe of units a student is permitted to attempt. Students are not eligible to receive aid for more than one repetition of a course that has been previously passed.

**Warning:** Students who fail to meet SAP due to the GPA and/or PACE requirements may be placed on Financial Aid Warning for one semester. During the warning period, the student may be eligible to receive financial aid.

**APPEAL ELIGIBILITY**

Students who are denied aid due to their failure to meet SAP standards may regain Title IV eligibility by meeting the SAP standards based on their own actions or by being approved on an appeal. Students who are denied aid due to unsatisfactory academic progress may be offered the opportunity to appeal the denial. Students who want to appeal must meet the Appeal Eligibility criteria and submit an Appeal Form with all supporting documentation to the Financial Aid Office. If the appeal is approved, the student will be placed on Financial Aid Probation during that term. At the end of that term, SAP will be reviewed to determine continued financial aid eligibility for the following term.

Students who have attempted 150 or more units or have a Bachelor degree or higher are not eligible to appeal the denial of aid regardless of the reason. (This total attempted units includes units transferred in from other colleges and completed at other LRCCD colleges). If a student has been approved on appeal prior to reaching 150 units, the student may continue to receive aid until the end of their program as long as they meet the requirements of their probation. If the student fails to meet the requirements of their probation and is beyond 150 units, the student is no longer eligible for appeal.
WITHDRAWALS AND REPAYMENT OF FINANCIAL AID FUNDS

If a student receives federal student aid funds and withdraws from all their classes or does not successfully complete any of their classes, they may OWE money back to the U.S. Department of Education. This includes money you received in grants. In addition, SAP will be reviewed and student must complete a Reinstatement of Financial Aid form in order to have future financial aid eligibility determined. Students denied reinstatement may be eligible to submit an appeal.

The Financial Aid Office is required to calculate the amount of federal aid a student has earned based on their enrollment status at the time of complete withdrawal or the last day of reported school activity for the semester. If the calculation results in the student earning 60% or more of their financial aid funds, no repayment will be required. However, if the results determine the student withdrew before 60% of the semester, students may be billed for any unearned Title IV funding (Title IV debt) and/or any institutional portion that Folsom Lake College is required to refund the Department of Education for the financial aid assistance they received.

For Title IV debt, the student will be billed for the unearned portion of the financial aid funds received based on the calculation. The student will be given 45 days to repay the funds in full to the Financial Aid Office. If the student fails to repay the funds within 45 days, they will be reported to the U.S. Department of Education. For the institutional portion, a hold will be placed on the student’s Los Rios School record until the institutional debt is paid in full. This prevents the student from registering for classes and obtaining academic transcripts.

In addition to the calculation above, the Financial Aid Office will recalculate your Pell grant eligibility each semester on the previously published recalculation dates. Recalculation dates are available on the FLC website at www.flc.losrios.edu Quick Links: Financial Aid, then click on Important Dates and Deadlines under Related Links on the left menu. Students who failed to maintain enrollment in the number of units they were paid for by the recalculation dates will be required to repay the difference in their Pell grant eligibility.

If you are thinking of withdrawing, please work with the Financial Aid Office to learn how much you could owe or how you can continue your financial aid eligibility. Most importantly, find out how to stay in school and not owe a repayment.

OVERAWARD OF FINANCIAL AID FUNDS

Federal and state regulations do not allow students to receive aid that exceeds their financial eligibility.

An overaward may occur in the following situations:
- unreported aid from outside resources (scholarships, grants, stipends, etc.)
- an increase in family contribution as a result of corrections made to the Student Aid Report (SAR)
- changes in enrollment status
- human error in calculation or data entry of an award(s)

In all instances, students are required to repay all assistance for which they are determined to be ineligible.