

Maintaining Eligibility

For Federal Assistance

To continue receiving federal student aid, a student must be enrolled and must be making [satisfactory academic progress](#) toward a degree. To receive federal, low-interest student loans, a student must also carry a minimum of 6 credit hours per semester. The amount of Federal Pell Grant a student qualifies to receive depends on the number of hours a student is taking: Full Pell, 12 hours or more; three-quarters Pell, 9-11 hours; half Pell, 6-8 hours; less-than-half Pell, 3-5 hours.

For State Aid

Students receiving Kansas Comprehensive Grant or the Kansas State Scholarship must maintain full-time status (12 credit hours). A minimum 2.0 GPA is required to receive the Kansas Comprehensive Grant and a minimum 3.0 GPA is required to qualify for the Kansas State Scholarship.

For Institutional Aid

To receive Southwestern College institutional aid, students must maintain full-time (minimum of 12 credit hours) status as well as maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0. Students who are receiving Premier scholarships (Presidential, Beech, Mastin and McNeish scholarships) must maintain a cumulative GPA 3.2.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

Southwestern College is required by federal regulations to establish satisfactory academic progress for its financial aid recipients. These standards ensure that only those students demonstrating satisfactory progress toward the completion of their educational programs will continue to receive financial aid. Southwestern College's policy measures a student's performance in the following three areas: 1) Successful completion of courses (credit hours), 2) cumulative grade point average (GPA), 3) maximum time to degree.

Completion of Courses

At the end of each fall and spring semester, student progress will be measured by comparing the number of attempted credit hours with the number of earned credit hours (i.e. receipt of a grade of A, B, C, or D). In any given year, students must have earned at least 70 percent of the credits they attempted to remain in good standing. The following letter grades do not count toward earned hours, but do count toward the calculation of attempted hours: AU - Audit, F - Failure, I - Incomplete, WD - Withdrawal.

Grade Point Average

Students whose work is below the levels shown in the academic suspension chart below are failing to make minimum progress toward their degree:

Total Hours Attempted	Suspension if Cumulative G.P.A. falls below:
1-12	1.40
13-24	1.5
25-29	1.6
30-34	1.7
35-39	1.8
40-44	1.9
45+	2.0

Maximum Time to Degree

Students are eligible to receive federal and state financial aid up to 186 attempted credit hours. Once a student has exceeded 186 attempted hours, all financial aid will be suspended for subsequent terms.

Financial Aid Probation/Suspension

At the end of the fall and spring semesters, all aid recipients will be evaluated for satisfactory academic progress. Financial aid recipients who do not meet one of the three requirements for progress will be placed on financial aid probation for one semester. A student on financial aid probation is still eligible to receive financial aid for the next semester of attendance. However, if the student does not meet the conditions imposed upon them during the probationary period, the student will be placed on financial aid suspension. Suspension prevents the student from receiving any federal, state, or institutional financial assistance for future semesters until such time as the student again meets all three satisfactory academic progress standards.

Conditions for Reinstatement

Students may appeal their financial aid suspension by submitting an appeal form to the financial aid office for consideration by the Enrollment Management Team. Appeal forms may be picked up from the financial aid office in person or via e-mail.

Some circumstances, such as medical problems, illness, death in the family, relocation, or employment changes can be considered for an appeal. The committee will review the appeal and contact the student by a specified date. The committee's decision is considered final and may not be appealed further.

This policy does not preclude a student from enrolling in subsequent semesters. Students may have their financial aid reinstated and may be removed from suspension or probationary status once all satisfactory academic progress standards and/or probationary conditions are met.