

Satisfactory Academic Progress

Financial aid recipients are required to maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) in order to remain eligible to receive federal financial aid. Three categories of academic progress are evaluated at the midpoint and end of each payment period to determine Satisfactory Academic Progress; 1) cumulative GPA, 2) number of hours completed (attendance), and 3) maximum time frame to complete the program of study.

Cumulative GPA

When computing grades, knowledge, including theory and application, and work ethic will be assessed. Assessments in each area will be averaged, independently graded and constitute a percentage of the overall final grade. Students must achieve a GPA of 2.0 or a grade of C (70%) or higher.

Computation of Grades

All evaluations shall be provided in a numerical form and, at the conclusion of the marking period, translated into a percentage and an actual grade using the following system:

A = 90 - 100

B = 80 - 89

C = 70 - 79

D = 60 - 69

F = 0 - 59

M = Medical

W = Withdrawal

I = Incomplete

Programs are not considered complete if student receives a grade of "F", "W", "M" or "I" and will be immediately suspended from financial aid.

Attendance

All students whose absences exceed ten percent of the payment period hours for their program of study (54 clock hours) will have their financial aid assistance either delayed or cancelled.

Maximum time frame

Federal requirements state that students may continue to receive their financial aid as long as they maintain the ability to complete their training within 110% of the scheduled program time. For example, if a program is designated as 60 weeks, a full-time student must complete this program within 66 weeks. Part-time students must complete this program within 132 weeks.

SAP will be reviewed at the end of each grading period. It is the student's responsibility to stay informed of BCTC's SAP standards and to monitor their own progress. Students who fail to meet one or more of the SAP standards will have their financial aid assistance either delayed or cancelled and may be required to repay all or part of the funds received.

Any student not meeting SAP at the end of a payment period (540 hours) will receive a warning letter and disbursement will be delayed until the 540 hours have been completed. The warning letter is good for the next payment period only. If, at the end of the next payment period, the student does not meet SAP for a second time, the student becomes ineligible for Financial Aid. This will include Grants and Direct Loans. All future Financial Aid will be canceled unless the student appeals following the Appeal Process section of this handbook.

Considerations – Satisfactory Academic Progress

Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress is not the same as academic progress required to earn a certificate of competency. Being declared ineligible for financial aid does not mean you have been academically dismissed from school and you have the right to appeal financial aid ineligibility. Any appeal of ineligibility is good for only one payment period. SAP must be reviewed each payment period. Approval of an appeal will place the student on financial aid probation for the next payment period. During the probationary period, SAP will be monitored at the halfway point. No federal loans, or grants may be paid to your account for a subsequent payment period until

AFTER grades and attendance for the probationary period have been reviewed and your status determined to be satisfactory. Failure to meet the minimum standards again after an appeal was approved will place the student in ineligible status again.