NWACC FINANCIAL AID
NORTHWEST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Maximize Potential. Exceed Expectations.

Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy 2014-2015

To be eligible for Federal Aid, Federal Regulations require students to maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) while working ***towards an approved degree or certificate program at NWACC. Students are required to submit official transcripts from all previously attended colleges.*** All hours attempted at or transferred into NWACC will be counted as part of a student's Satisfactory Academic Progress[1]. Academic progress will be reviewed prior to a student's initial enrollment period and at the end of the summer semester[2].

To be in **Good Standing** for Financial Aid a student must:

- successfully complete at least 67% of all attempted credit hours and
- maintain an overall grade point average of at least 2.00 and
- attempt no more than 90 credit hours for associate degrees requiring 60 hours[3] and
- must be on pace to complete a degree plan within the maximum time frame

A student will be placed on **Financial Aid Exclusion** if they

1. have a cumulative GPA of less than 2.00 or
2. have a cumulative course completion rate of less than 67% or
3. attempt 90 or more credit hours for associate degrees requiring 60 hours or
4. cannot mathematically complete the degree within the maximum time frame or

How does Financial Aid Exclusion affect my financial aid?

Students on **Financial Aid Exclusion** are not eligible to receive PELL, SEOG, student loans and work-study.

How can I be removed from Financial Aid Exclusion?

For conditions 1 & 2, a student may be removed from **Financial Aid Exclusion** one of the following ways:

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[1] The Record's Office will review each complete and official transcript to determine which credit hours will transfer into NWACC. All hours deemed transferrable by the Record's Office will be counted toward the student's Satisfactory Academic Progress.
[2] Students on approved academic plans will be evaluated at the end of each semester as required by Federal Regulations. Re-admitted NWACC students must meet the 14-15 SAP policy minimum standards upon re-entry. Students in degree plans that are one year in length or less will be evaluated at the end of each semester as required by Federal Regulations.
[3] Associate degrees requiring more than 60 credit hours and certificate programs requiring less than 60 hours will be calculated at 1.5 times the number of hours required for completion of the degree or certificate.

- Students may regain **Good Standing** status by meeting the minimum requirements for **Good Standing.** If a student regains eligibility after fall or summer grades have been posted, the student must complete a Satisfactory Academic Progress reinstatement form. Students can obtain a form from our office or print it from our financial aid webpage at www.nwacc.edu .
- Students may have their aid reinstated with an approved Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal.

For condition 3 and 4 the only way to be removed from **Financial Aid Exclusion** is to have a Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal approved.

How do I appeal Financial Aid Exclusion if I have an extenuating circumstance?

- Obtain a Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal Form from our office or print it from our financial aid webpage at www.nwacc.edu . Complete all requirements listed on the Appeal Form and submit appeal to the Financial Aid Office by the deadline listed on the form.

Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeals are reviewed by the Financial Aid Appeals Committee which meets on a continuous basis. The decision is **final** and the student will be sent a response to their NWACC email account. Students may submit an appeal only two times during their career for separate extenuating circumstances.

The Financial Aid Office will send notification of **Financial Aid Exclusion** to the student's NWACC email account as soon as their completed financial aid file has been reviewed and at the end of the spring semester after grades have been posted. Notice of **Financial Aid Exclusion** may be issued for past semesters based on an evaluation of the student's previous academic record.

- Students must submit complete official transcripts. If a transcript is received with in progress grades, a student will be required to submit a second official transcript with the completed grades.
- It is the student's responsibility to notify the Financial Aid Office of any grade changes.
- When a student repeats a course, the highest grade earned is computed in the refigured cumulative grade point average; however, all repeated classes are counted as attempted and only the highest graded class is counted as completed.
- A student may repeat a failed course two times.
- A student may repeat a successfully completed course only one time.
- Financial Aid is not awarded for courses that are audited or classes that are not part of an approved degree plan.
- Incomplete grades are counted as attempted but not completed hours and are counted in the student's GPA as an "F".
- Financial Aid will be awarded for up to 30 credit hours of remedial course work.
- Students who change their degree and/or majors or who are pursuing a second degree are subject to the maximum number of hours attempted rule.