SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS POLICY

The federal government requires institutions of higher education to establish minimum standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) for a student to complete a degree within the maximum timeframe of 150% of attempted coursework required for the degree. At the end of each semester, the Financial Aid Office will monitor the quantitative and qualitative components of the general Satisfactory Academic Progress policy for all students receiving financial aid.

QUANTITATIVE (Completed Course Credits)
This component of Satisfactory Academic Progress measures the number of course credits completed versus the number of courses attempted. Students at Denison must earn 75% of the cumulative courses attempted to maintain the minimum SAP standard for federal aid. 
Note: Students must earn over 96% of cumulative courses attempted to graduate in 8 semesters, the maximum number of semesters that students can receive Denison gift aid.

Attempted courses are:
- Courses in which student is officially enrolled at end of each Add/Drop period
- Credits that are graded “Incomplete”
- Credits from which students withdraw after the Add/Drop period and do not satisfactorily complete
- Transfer credits accepted toward a student’s degree by the Registrar
- Advancement Placement Credits

For the purpose of federal financial aid, half-time enrollment is defined as 6 - 8 credits; three-quarter time enrollment is defined as 9 - 11 credits. Quantitative satisfactory progress for half-time and for three-quarter time students will also be based on students earning 75% of cumulative hours attempted at each SAP review.

QUALITATIVE (Cumulative GPA)
Students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative grade point average.

LIMITS OF TIME:
1. Students failing to complete a degree program in eight semesters of attendance shall be ineligible for institutional financial aid.
   - Denison students with institutional aid need to earn a greater percentage of courses attempted than the minimum standard to graduate in 8 semesters
   - To retain the merit scholarships, students must maintain the cumulative GPA requirement set forth in the scholarship award letter from the Admissions Office
2. Eligibility for state grant ends after 8 semesters
3. Federal financial aid eligibility ceases once a student has attempted 150% of the required course work for their degree. There are no appeals possible on maximum time limits.
4. International transfer students who have not previously attended college in the U.S. will be eligible for a minimum of 6 semesters of financial aid.
WARNING
For the first time a student fails to achieve the 2.0 GPA* AND/OR is deficient in credits for satisfactory progress (prior to the fifth semester of attendance), the student will be sent a letter of warning. The student is automatically given aid for one more payment period and is warned that he or she must achieve satisfactory academic progress for both the GPA and the number of hours to be earned during the warning payment period or financial aid will be denied for the next payment period.

*Note: Federal regulations require a student in a program that is at least 4 years in length to have achieved the equivalent of a C average after the 2nd year of attendance. If a student fails to achieve a 2.0 GPA (C average for Denison) for any semester after the 4th semester of attendance at Denison, he or she is automatically denied any additional federal aid. If a student is eligible to submit an appeal, information about this process will be provided in the letter of aid denial to the student. A student must take course work at Denison University to raise the cumulative GPA.

PROBATION
If a student fails to have a cumulative 2.0 GPA AND/OR is still deficient in credits for satisfactory progress after the semester for which a student received a warning, the student is denied all aid for the next payment period. If a student is eligible to submit an appeal, information about this process will be provided in the letter of aid denial to the student. If the student’s appeal for additional aid is approved by the University and the student is put on probation, the aid is reinstated for only one additional payment period. If the student fails to achieve satisfactory academic progress after the probation period, the student is not eligible for any additional aid at Denison until the student can resolve the academic deficiencies at Denison that reinstates satisfactory academic progress for the student.

APPEALS
An appeal from a student for a waiver of this regulation may be made to the Financial Aid Appeals Committee if the student has undergone undue hardship resulting from the death of a relative of the student, an injury or illness of the student, or other special circumstances. The appeal letter must include information about why the student failed to make satisfactory academic progress and what has changed in the student’s situation that would allow the student to demonstrate satisfactory academic progress at the next evaluation by the University. Appeals from students not received by the prescribed deadline may not be reviewed.

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS
A full-time student is defined as one who is enrolled for at least 12 semester credits. A student must be enrolled full-time to receive any type of Denison and/or state financial aid. A student must be enrolled at least half-time (6 credit hours) to receive federal financial aid.

NOTE: Full-time enrollment cannot include courses that have been taken and passed at Denison but are being repeated for a higher grade.

MEDICAL WITHDRAWAL POLICY:
Students who are granted a medical withdrawal by the Office of Student Affairs will be eligible for a ninth semester of financial aid. This financial aid package will be adjusted from the norm by the federally mandated loan proration, if applicable. Students with subsequent medical withdrawals will not be granted additional semesters of aid.