



Office of Financial Aid • 114 Silas H. Hunt Hall • Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701 • (479) 575-3806 • finaid.uark.edu/document-upload

2026-2027 STUDENT AID (SAP) APPEAL COVER PAGE

Student Name: _____ Student ID: _____ Degree Program: _____

Please note that you must first resolve academic suspension before appealing Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP).

Instructions for the appeal process:

Step 1: Type a letter explaining what barriers hindered you from meeting SAP. The letter should address each semester in which you had grades of W, F, or NC, or in which you did not earn a minimum GPA of 2.0 (2.85 for graduate students). For each of those semesters, include dates related to barriers listed and explain how the situation has changed so you may now be successful. The letter should not exceed 2 pages single spaced using an 11 point font.

Dropping classes because of a bad grade and/or changing majors are not barriers. Incomplete grades, withdrawals, and grades of 'NC' count the same as an 'F' in a class for the quantitative requirement. Neither paying for one's classes nor sitting out for a semester will re-establish your SAP.

Step 2: Include documentation to support your letter of appeal. Examples of documentation: physician statement, death certificate, obituary, court documents, or letters from involved third parties such as doctors or therapists, counselors, attorneys, or employers.

Step 3: Complete this page by signing and dating the Student Certification section and submit it to the Office of Financial Aid along with your letter of appeal and required documentation. Include your full name and UA ID on each page. **It is your responsibility to ensure all required appeal paperwork has been submitted to the Office of Financial Aid.** Please submit your appeal to the address or secure upload portal listed in the letterhead information above. **Emailed documents will not be accepted.**

Step 4: Provide a **copy** of your appeal letter along with the enclosed Dean's Statement form to Dean's Office of your college. Request the form to be completed and signed by the Dean. The college will submit the Dean's Statement directly to the Office of Financial Aid.

The committee's appeal decision will be sent to your university email address. If your appeal is approved, you will need to complete the SAP academic plan process by meeting with a financial aid counselor or by submitting your completed academic plan to our office, either by upload or by mail, before aid can be awarded.

The decision of the committee is final. Re-appeals may be requested if new information or documentation were omitted from the initial appeal.

All appeal documents must be received before the last committee meeting in the semester for which you are appealing in order for the appeal to be reviewed by the committee.

STUDENT CERTIFICATION:

I certify that all of the information on this form and any attached supporting documents are true, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further understand that any false statements or misrepresentation will be cause for denial, reduction, withdrawal, and/or repayment of any financial aid received, may subject me to a fine, imprisonment, or both, under the provisions of the United States Criminal Code. By signing, I certify that I understand that the Committee's decision is final for the academic term for which I am appealing. Also, I understand the SAP policy on the following pages of this form and that I must make academic progress as defined by the policy (or my Academic Plan if the appeal is approved) to receive future aid.

Student Signature (Electronic signatures not accepted): _____ Date: _____

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Policy

Purpose

To receive Title IV aid (federal student aid such as Pell Grant, Federal Work-Study, Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loan, and PLUS Loan funds), federal regulation requires that a student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). Certain state, University, and private aid or scholarship programs may also require a student to meet SAP standards to remain eligible. A student is considered to be maintaining SAP when both the quantitative and qualitative standards described below are met.

Evaluation Timeline

Beginning with the calculation that occurs at the conclusion of the Spring 2026 semester, the determination of each student's meeting the quantitative and qualitative requirements for satisfactory academic progress (SAP) will be made following the conclusion of each of the fall, spring, and summer semesters (the combined summer sessions equal a single 10 week term from May-August). That calculation will determine students' eligibility for financial aid for the following semester.

SAP Statuses

- 1) **Meets SAP:** Students who meet all criteria outlined below for both the qualitative and quantitative requirements at the end of a semester when an official SAP calculation has occurred.
- 2) **SAP Warning:** Students who do not meet the Pace and/or GPA requirements outlined below will be put on warning status for the next semester they attend at University of Arkansas (see SAP Suspension definition below for students who do not meet the Maximum Timeframe requirement). Students will be on warning status for a single semester and remain eligible to receive financial aid during that time.
- 3) **SAP Suspension:** At the end of the warning period, students who continue not to meet overall SAP standards will be on financial aid suspension and ineligible to receive financial aid. In addition, students who do not meet the Maximum Timeframe requirements outlined below at an official SAP calculation at the end of a given term will go on SAP Suspension. (See Regaining Eligibility section below for more information.)
- 4) **SAP Probation:** Students who successfully appeal SAP Suspension will be eligible for federal financial aid and have their progress monitored based on a customized Academic Plan. (See Regaining Eligibility section below for more information.)

Quantitative Requirements

Students must meet both of the following quantitative requirements to remain eligible for federal financial assistance.

- 1) **Pace:** the student must successfully complete and earn credit from a minimum of 66.66% of all credit hours attempted.
 - Graduate and Law students: for course credits to be counted toward the 66.66% completion percentage, graduate and law students must pass each graduate level course with a grade of C or better while attending the University.
 - Courses graded W, I, F, XF, and NC are not considered successfully completed credit hours.
 - Courses that have been forgiven or excluded through academic bankruptcy, grade forgiveness, grade exclusion, or other means are included as credit hours that have been attempted but not successfully completed.
 - The completion percentage is truncated after the hundredths decimal place and rounded to the nearest whole number following standard rounding rules (5 or greater rounded up and 4 or lesser rounded down).
- 2) **Maximum timeframe:** the student will remain eligible for federal student aid as long as the number of credits attempted is not more than 150% of the number of credits required for the student's published primary degree plan.
 - Dual majors and degrees are calculated at 150% of the total unit requirements of the **primary** plan. Changing of major will mean future SAP calculations will use the unit requirements of the new primary plan or degree, but **all** previous completed and attempted hours will be used in SAP calculations.
 - Courses that have been forgiven or excluded through academic bankruptcy, grade forgiveness, grade exclusion, or other means are considered attempted hours.

Transfer, Remediation, and Repeat Coursework

- Credit hours transferred to the University of Arkansas from other institutions are included in both quantitative calculations as attempted and completed.
- Classes taken for remediation at University of Arkansas are included in both quantitative calculations.
- All attempts of repeated coursework at University of Arkansas are included in both quantitative calculations as attempted hours. Successfully completed attempts will also count as earned credit hours as part of the Pace requirement.

Qualitative Requirements (GPA)

Undergraduate and Law students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or greater for all courses attempted at University of Arkansas within the student's current academic career. **Graduate students** must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.85 or higher at the time of evaluation.

- Federal SAP regulations do not allow for grade exclusions from the GPA calculation. Grades that have been excluded from the GPA on record with the Registrar's Office through academic bankruptcy, grade forgiveness, grade exclusion, or other means must be included in the GPA calculation for SAP purposes.
- The GPA calculation for SAP purposes includes all grades within a student's current career (undergraduate, graduate, law, or aglaw).
- Academic work transferred from other schools does not affect University of Arkansas GPA per University policy (Transfer and Test Credit policies can be found at <https://registrar.uark.edu/transfer-and-test-credit/>).
- Students who have only earned grades of W, PD, CR, R, P, or NC will pass the qualitative requirement.
- Grades of A, B, C, D, F, and XF are included in the GPA calculation for SAP. Grades of I, AU, CR, R, S, W, P, PD, and NC do not have grade points associated with them for SAP or academic GPA calculations.

Prior Degrees

Once a bachelor's degree or higher is earned, the SAP calculation will monitor progress going forward from the date of the previous degree (excluding technical certificates and associate degrees).

Regaining Eligibility

When a student fails to make satisfactory progress (SAP) after a warning period and are on SAP Suspension, there are two ways to regain eligibility for federal financial aid.

1) Appeal:

- **Eligibility:** students may appeal due to injury or illness, the death of a relative, or other extenuating circumstances. Students on Academic Suspension are ineligible to appeal until their suspension has been resolved.
- **Required Materials:** students must explain the circumstances that prevented them from maintaining SAP and what has changed that will allow them to meet SAP requirements at the next evaluation. Full instructions and conditions of the appeal process are detailed in the [SAP Appeal Form](#).
- **Academic Plan:** If an appeal is approved, the student will receive a customized Academic Plan for review and signature and will be placed on Financial Aid Probation for federal aid purposes.
- **SAP Probation Review:** Students on SAP Probation after a successful appeal will have their progress monitored at the end of each semester to determine if they are meeting the contingencies of their Academic Plan. Students who meet their contingencies each semester will remain on SAP Probation (and eligible for federal financial aid) until they meet all quantitative and qualitative SAP requirements at an official evaluation or until they graduate, whichever occurs first. Students who fail to meet their Academic Plan contingencies and do not meet overall SAP requirements at an official evaluation will return to SAP Suspension and will be ineligible for federal financial aid.

2) **Meeting SAP Requirements:** The only way to regain financial aid eligibility without a successful SAP appeal is to meet all quantitative and qualitative criteria outlined above at an official SAP calculation. Note: A student may not regain eligibility by using grade exclusion, academic bankruptcy, "sitting out" for any period of time, or otherwise not attending a term at University of Arkansas.

Notifications and Resources

Students who do not meet SAP requirements after an official calculation will be notified via email of their SAP Warning or SAP Suspension status. Students on SAP Suspension will be offered the opportunity to appeal to the Student Aid Committee. The Committee reviews appeals individually to determine whether circumstances beyond the student's control prevented them from maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress. The decision of the Committee is final. Notifications of appeal outcomes will be sent via email. All email communications will be sent to students' UARK email address.

Student Resources

The University of Arkansas provides resources and services to support student success. Some of these resources are listed on the next page of the [SAP Appeal Form](#), and additional services are available through the [Division of Student Affairs](#). The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships can help with resource selection and the appeal process. Walk-in appointments are available Monday through Friday. For more information, please visit finaid.uark.edu.

The effective date of this policy is May 2026. Revised June 2011, May 2015, May 2020, May 2022, May 2023, and May 2026.



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Campus Resources

Please refer to the list below of services available on campus to help you succeed academically at the University of Arkansas. Most services are free and available upon request. Allow them to help make this a successful academic year for you.

University Office	Website	Phone
Center for Educational Access	cea.uark.edu	(479) 575-3104
Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)	mentalhealth.uark.edu	(479) 575-5276
Financial Literacy	uark.get-counseling.com	(479) 575-3806
Freshman Commuter Student Success	fcss.uark.edu	(479) 575-2441
Math Resource and Tutoring Center	mrtc.uark.edu	(479) 575-3351
Multicultural Center	multicultural.uark.edu	(479) 575-8405
Offices of Career Connections	career.uark.edu	(479) 575-2805
Pat Walker Health Center	health.uark.edu	(479) 575-4451
Student Affairs	studentaffairs.uark.edu	(479) 575-5007
Student Success at The CORD	success.uark.edu	(479) 575-3174
Student Support Services	sss.uark.edu	(479) 575-3174
Substance Education, Assessment, and Recovery	health.uark.edu/sear	(479) 575-2500
The Sexual and Relationship Violence Center	srvc.uark.edu	(479) 575-4000
U of A Cares	uofacares.uark.edu	(479) 575-5004
UARK Wellness	urec.uark.edu/wellness	(479) 575-4646
Veteran and Military-Affiliated Student Center	vmisc.uark.edu	(479) 575-8742

Barriers to Success

Students often encounter barriers that slow degree completion. Please take a moment to reflect upon your academic career and identify barriers or obstacles that have hindered your progress. If you have questions about the appeal process, please contact the financial aid office at 114 Silas Hunt Hall or call (479) 575-3806.



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2026-2027 STUDENT AID APPEAL - DEAN'S STATEMENT

Student: Request this form to be completed in its entirety by the office indicated in the list below, and then signed by the dean of the college in which you are enrolled. This form needs to be completed and received by the Office of Financial Aid before your appeal can be considered. A copy of your appeal letter may be required. Please contact the office listed below for your college regarding any additional information that may be required for this form.

Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences – Student Services Office, AGRI 205
Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design – Student Services, 120 WALK 029
Fulbright College of Art & Science – Advising and Academic Services, CORD 136
Sam M. Walton College of Business – Assistant Dean's Office, WCOB 328
College of Education & Health Professions – See your Academic Advisor, CORD
College of Engineering – Dean's Office, BELL 3189
Graduate School – See your Academic Advisor.

Dean's Office: Please complete this form for the student and return it to the Office of Financial Aid. This form is available through Perceptive Content. Please contact our office for more information or with any questions on completing this form via Perceptive Content.

Student's Name: _____ Student ID: _____

Term: _____ Who is this student's academic advisor? _____

Has this student filed a degree plan? _____ Expected Graduation (month/year)? _____

How many *more* hours does this student need to complete for degree (including current semester)? _

Comments (please give candid evaluation of this student's academic promise or likelihood of success):

Signature of Person Completing Report: _____

Signature of Dean (Required): _____ Date: _____