

2019-20

SAP POLICY

ADDENDUM

SPRING 2020**

The Financial Aid Office has implemented a revised SAP Policy for students who attended during the spring 2020 semester. This policy is an addendum to the current (2019-20) policy to accommodate the addition of a “new” grading structure which includes a “PC” and “NC” grade.

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AND PROGRESS (SAP)

According to federal regulations, students must demonstrate Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) for Financial Aid Eligibility (Federal regulation 34 CFR 668.34). Requirements for academic progress for financial aid recipients are applied differently than PCCC’s Academic Standards. Federal regulation states that SAP standards must include a review of all attempted credits for all periods of enrollment, regardless of whether or not aid was received. This includes transfer credits, repeated credits, credits by exam and academic bankruptcy credits regardless of program changes. The student must meet all minimum standards in order to continue receiving financial aid. This includes Pell, FSEOG, Federal Work-study Federal Direct Loans and New Jersey state aid program (TAG, CCOG, EOF, etc.)

Financial Aid Regulations

Students are expected to attend all classes. Only illness or serious personal matters may be considered adequate reasons for absences. Students who withdraw officially or stop attending (unofficial withdrawal) may not be eligible for the financial aid originally estimated. PCCC is required to prorate the financial aid based on last date of attendance for students who withdraw officially or the mid-point of the semester for those who unofficially withdraw. (See [Return of Title IV Funds Policy](#)).

Developmental and ELS Courses

- A grade of "D" is considered passing for Financial Aid SAP, but may not be considered passing for academic progression/academic placement.
- Financial Aid will fund up to thirty (30) credits of remedial courses.
Remedial and ELS courses count towards maintaining satisfactory academic progress

Attempted Credit Hours

Attempted credit hours are defined as the hours for which the student is enrolled and charged on the census date (the 10th day of enrollment) of the semester. Earned or completed hours are defined as the hours for which the student has earned a grade of “A,” “B,” “C,” “D” or “F”, “PC”. Grades of “W”, “XF”, “F”, “I”, “NC”, and “Audit” are not considered earned credit hours.

To receive funds from the State of New Jersey, students must register for a minimum of six (6) credits each semester. Academic progress regulations are the same as the federal regulations.

If student does not meet the satisfactory academic progress guidelines, he/she will not be eligible for financial aid in the subsequent semesters. Students are notified of their unsatisfactory status via their College email. Students may appeal this decision.

The evaluation consists of three measurements: Qualitative, Quantitative and Maximum Timeframe. Students are evaluated based on the following criteria:

For students seeking Associate Degree:

Qualitative: Student must achieve the following GPA

- 0 - 29.5 credits: a cumulative GPA of 1.6 or higher
- 30 or more: a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher

Quantitative:

- 0-29.5 credits complete 50%
- 30 or more complete 67%

The quantitative measure includes all attempted credits for all periods of enrollment, regardless of whether or not aid was received. This includes transfer credits, repeated credits, credits by exam, remedial credits, and academic bankruptcy credits regardless of program changes.

Maximum Timeframe: The maximum timeframe cannot exceed 150 percent of the published length of the education program. This applies to both credit and clock hour programs. Students must complete their courses to ensure they will finish the program within the allowable timeframe. The Financial Aid Office measures the ratio of credits successfully completed (transfer credits, repeated credits, credits by exam, academic bankruptcy credits and remedial credits) compared to the number of credits attempted (transfer credits, repeated credits, credits by exam, academic bankruptcy credits and remedial credits) according to the chart below:

Example of “Maximum Timeframe” for a student seeking an Associate Degree

An Associate Degree program requiring 60 college-level credits	The maximum time frame is 90 credits $60 \times 150\% = 90$ credits
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For students seeking Certificate:

Qualitative: Student must achieve the following GPA

- 0-14.5 credits: a cumulative GPA of 1.6 or higher
- 15 or more: a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher

Quantitative:

- 0-14.5 credits complete 50%
- 15 or more complete 67%

The quantitative measure includes all attempted credits for all periods of enrollment, regardless of whether or not aid was received. This includes transfer credits, repeated credits, credits by exam, remedial credits, and academic bankruptcy credits regardless of program changes.

Maximum Timeframe: The maximum timeframe cannot exceed 150 percent of the published length of the education program. This applies to both credit and clock hour programs. Students must complete their courses to ensure they will finish the program within the allowable timeframe. The Financial Aid Office measures the ratio of credits successfully completed (transfer credits, repeated credits, credits by exam, academic bankruptcy credits and remedial credits) compared to the number of credits attempted (transfer credits, repeated credits, credits by exam, academic bankruptcy credits and remedial credits) according to the chart below:

Example of “Maximum Timeframe” for a student seeking a Certificate

A certificate program requiring 30 college-level credits	<p>The maximum time frame is 45 credits</p> <p>$30 \times 150\% = 45 \text{ credits}$</p>
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The definition and description of each status evaluation is listed below:

Satisfactory: Eligible for financial aid for next term

*Warning: Eligible for financial aid for next term

Unsatisfactory: Not eligible for financial aid (Appeal required)

Max Time Frame: Not eligible for financial aid for next term (Appeal required)

**Denied Appeal: Not Eligible for financial aid for next term

NOTE:

*SAP Appeal was denied (ex. Student did not demonstrate extenuating circumstances, or did not provide documentation to support appeal). The student can re-apply after the completion of the term or once documentation has been received prior to the end of enrollment period

**Effective Spring 2020 -- Students on this status will continue to receive financial aid and are not required to submit an appeal for the next term (Example: Summer 2020 or Fall 2020).