Standards of Academic Progress Policy

Federal regulations mandate that institutions of higher education establish minimum standards of “Satisfactory Academic Progress” (SAP) for students receiving federal and state aid. This policy is used to determine eligibility for the following programs: Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Federal Work-Study, Direct Loans (including PLUS loans) some private loans, state funds and some scholarships.

Academic progress at Lakeland is measured in four ways at the end of each semester:
- Overall completion of at least 67 percent of the credits you attempt.
- Overall cumulative grade-point average of at least 2.00.
- Completion of degree/certificate within 150 percent of the published credits required to earn your degree.
- Students who have GPA hours and have a 0.00 GPA for the semester will become immediately ineligible for future financial assistance.

All students have the right to the appeal process as described in this brochure.

Overall Completion of Credit Hours

All students using one or more of the financial aid programs listed above must successfully complete 67 percent of credit hours attempted, including courses taken as a College Credit Plus student and/or transfer credits. This policy will be applied retroactively to all credit hours attempted without regard as to whether or not a student received financial assistance. Credit hours attempted will be based on the number of credit hours in which a student is enrolled at the end of the 100 percent refund period. A course for which the grade of I, U, NA, W, F, FNA, UFNA, UD, UF, or AW is earned is not a successfully completed course.

Overall Grade-Point Average

A financial aid recipient must have a minimum cumulative 2.00 GPA.

Warning (WARN)

A student who has not completed at least 67 percent of the total attempted hours, or is below the minimum cumulative 2.00 GPA will be placed on warning. The student has one semester to correct the deficiencies. The student may continue to be eligible for loans and grants during the warning period and is encouraged to seek tutoring or other support services for help.

Ineligible (INELIG)

If a student has not corrected all of the deficiencies after a semester of warning, or if during a review of a student’s academic record, it is determined that a student cannot mathematically finish the program within the maximum time frame, the student becomes ineligible for aid.

Maximum Time Frame (MAXTIM)

Federal regulations stipulate that a student must graduate within 150 percent of the published maximum time frame required to earn a degree. For example, if a student’s program requires 63 credit hours, the student must graduate by the time he/she has attempted 95 credit hours. Transferred credit hours are included in credit hours attempted when calculating remaining eligibility. If the student has reached the maximum time frame, the student becomes ineligible for financial aid.

New Students

Through Lakeland’s ongoing efforts to enrich the first year experience, new students whose SAP status calculates to WARN after their first term of attendance are required to attend a Promoting Student Success Program workshop. Students who do not attend the workshop will not be eligible for further financial aid assistance until they make up their deficiencies.

Lakeland Community College Graduate

If a student is seeking a second degree or a post-degree certificate and has not exceeded the maximum time frame, he/she must contact the Student Service Center to declare the new program.

Academic Forgiveness & Tuition Refunds

Credit hours excluded due to the Lakeland Community College Academic Forgiveness Policy are still counted as credit hours attempted for financial aid purposes. Students given 100 percent refund of tuition as a result of a petition will not have those credit hours excluded from hours attempted.

Repeated Classes

Repeated courses may not increase total credit hours earned; however, they are included in credit hours attempted. Students may receive financial aid for repeating courses. However, if retaking a previously passed course, financial aid can only be used for one repeat of the course. Any courses that are repeated will be used in the calculation of a student’s SAP status.

Developmental Hours

A student is limited to 30 developmental credit hours while receiving financial aid. Federal financial aid programs will not cover any developmental courses taken after reaching the maximum 30 hours. These courses include but are not limited to MATH 0745, MATH 0850, MATH 0890, MATH 0950, ENGL 0111 and ENGL 0220.
If a SAP Appeal is approved the student will be assigned one of the following eligibility statuses:

**Probation:** During the probation term, the student must make up his/her deficiencies of credit hours and/or GPA. If the student does not make up his/her deficiencies, aid is once again revoked.

**Academic Plan:** Students who are placed on an Academic Plan must successfully complete the requirements of the plan. If the student does not meet the requirements of the plan, aid is once again revoked.

If a Maximum Timeframe Appeal is approved, the student will continue to be eligible for aid as long as he/she continues to meet the terms of his/her Academic Plan.

An approved appeal will not result in financial aid awarded retroactively to a previous term.

### Grade Changes

SAP recalculations due to grade changes will be completed only during the term immediately following the one in which the grade was assigned, with the exception of grades assigned during the spring semester which may be recalculated during the following summer or fall term. Students should notify the Financial Aid Office in these instances to request a review of their SAP status.

### Reinstatement of Federal Aid/Right to Appeal

Students who fail to meet the minimum SAP requirements must make up the deficiency without the use of financial assistance from the programs listed in this brochure. Once a student is back in good standing he/she must notify the Financial Aid Office. The Financial Aid Office will review the student’s record and proceed as necessary.

If a student is not meeting SAP and he/she has extenuating circumstances, those circumstances must be documented and approved in order for the student to continue to receive financial assistance.

### The Appeal Process

If there were extenuating circumstances why SAP was not met, the student has the right to appeal by completing the appropriate appeal form based on his/her deficiencies and submitting it along with supporting documentation to the Financial Aid Office, located in the Student Service Center, by the deadline designated on the form. Once the appeal is reviewed, the decision will be communicated through the student’s Lakeland email.

*The decision of the Financial Aid Appeal Committee is final.*

### Approved Appeal Requirements

If a SAP Appeal is approved the student will be assigned one of the following eligibility statuses:

**Probation:** During the probation term, the student must make up his/her deficiencies of credit hours and/or GPA. If the student does not make up his/her deficiencies, aid is once again revoked.

**Academic Plan:** Students who are placed on an Academic Plan must successfully complete the requirements of the plan. If the student does not meet the requirements of the plan, aid is once again revoked.

If a Maximum Timeframe Appeal is approved, the student will continue to be eligible for aid as long as he/she continues to meet the terms of his/her Academic Plan.

An approved appeal will not result in financial aid awarded retroactively to a previous term.

### Denied Appeals

If the SAP appeal is denied, the student must complete a term at Lakeland or successfully complete the Quickstart Program before he/she can re-appeal.

### Student Notification

SAP will be measured at the end of each term of enrollment and at the beginning of each academic year. An email will be sent to the student as notification. In addition, a student may review his/her status online by logging in to myLakeland.

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