

MARIETTA COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS POLICY

Federal and state regulations, and Marietta College policy, require students to make satisfactory progress toward completion of their degree in order to maintain eligibility for financial assistance. Progress will include a measurement of all course work attempted at Marietta College. The quantitative and qualitative standards used to determine academic progress include all periods (fall, spring and summer terms) that the student is enrolled. Periods of enrollment in which the student did not receive financial aid funding are required to be included for satisfactory academic progress determination. Evidence of progress includes grades, work projects, and/or other factors that are measurable against a norm. The College assesses the student's academic progress at the end of Spring term.

1. Satisfactory academic progress is a condition for receipt of all financial aid resources administered by the College. Awards to students subsequently determined to have not met the financial aid standards or who have been dismissed will be withdrawn. Questions about the financial aid standards of satisfactory academic progress may be addressed to the Office of Student Financial Services.
2. The financial aid standards of satisfactory academic progress apply to federal, state, and Marietta College resources. Different standards might be required for funds provided by other state and private agencies and, where applicable, will be governed by those standards.
3. Satisfactory academic progress is reviewed at the completion of the Spring term. There is no warning or probation status unless the student appeals the loss and is granted an additional term of eligibility. If the student does not return to satisfactory academic progress at the completion of the probationary term, the student will be placed on financial aid loss. Financial aid loss means the termination of all federal, state, and institutional aid.
4. Students will be offered the opportunity to appeal a loss of financial aid. Appeals by those denied aid because of failure to meet these standards should be directed to the Associate Director of Student Financial Services for consideration by the Financial Aid Committee on Academic Progress. Members of the committee include the Director and Associate Director of Student Financial Services. The Associate Director of Student Financial Services convenes the committee.

Marietta's financial aid standards of satisfactory academic progress required for retention of eligibility for financial aid involve qualitative and quantitative measures. The qualitative measure examines the quality of the student's academic performance as measured by grade point average. The quantitative measure examines the student's progress towards completion of the number of credit hours required to receive a degree.

Note that the financial aid standards are not the same as those applied by the Academic Standing Committee to determine whether a student is in good academic standing. The financial aid standards are minimum requirements a student must meet to retain financial aid eligibility, provided the Academic Standing Committee and Provost determine that the student is academically eligible to enroll at the institution. A student may be ineligible to receive aid through failure to meet the financial aid standards, or may have met the financial aid standards but be ineligible to enroll at the College.

Qualitative Measure

The qualitative measure of academic progress consists of two parts. The first measures the cumulative GPA required for credit hours earned; the second measures the cumulative GPA required after two academic years. Students must have achieved the stipulated cumulative grade point average for the credit hours specified.

The measure of the qualitative component of satisfactory academic progress is graduated, taking into account varying levels of enrollment.

Credit Hours Earned
0 to 24 hrs

Required Cumulative GPA
1.6

25 to 58 hrs	1.8
59 hrs and higher	2.0

In addition, a student must have achieved a 2.0 GPA at the end of two academic years regardless of how many hours enrolled for each term.

Quantitative Measure

The quantitative measure of academic progress also consists of two parts. The total hours attempted may be no greater than 150% of total hours required for the degree program in which the student is enrolled. When progress is checked, a student must earn at least 67% of the credit hours attempted. Below is the maximum attempted hours that will be allowed for any particular degree program:

<u>Degree</u>	<u>Credit Hours Required for Degree</u>	<u>Credit Hours Attempted</u>
Associate of Arts	61	91
Bachelor of Arts	120	180
B.A. Special Education Early Dual	125	187
B.A. Middle Childhood Special Ed	127	190
B.A. Public Accounting	150	225
Bachelor of Fine Arts	120	180
Bachelor of Music	120	180
B.M. in Music Therapy	129	193
Bachelor of Science	130	195
B.S. in Petroleum Engineering	140	210
B.S. in Environmental Engineering	140	210

A student will be granted an allowance for one change of major or second degree. A student who changes his or her major will be allowed a maximum number of attempted credit hours equal to the credit hours attempted at the point of making the major change or starting the second degree plus the maximum allowable attempted hours for the new major. When progress is checked, a student must still earn at least 67% of the total credit hours attempted.

For a student pursuing a double major, the maximum credit hours attempted will be 150% of the total of the general education requirements plus the courses required for the two majors.

Incompletes, Course Repetitions, Withdrawals, and Non-credit Remedial Courses

In each of the above situations, courses will count towards the credit hours attempted when measuring both the quantitative and qualitative component of academic progress. If a student has lost eligibility for financial aid because of failure to make satisfactory academic progress all incompletes must be resolved prior to determining renewed eligibility for aid.

Transfer Students

To determine the satisfactory progress of a student transferring to Marietta, evaluation of the quantitative and qualitative measures for the terms completed will be based on the point of the student's entry into the College. For example, a student transferring into the College with 30 credit hours of prior course work will be measured against the standards for those who have completed 30 credit hours at the College. Marietta College is required by federal regulation to consider all transfer credit in the evaluation process of completed credits and pace towards completion.

Fresh Start

Students readmitted to Marietta College under the Fresh Start program will automatically be granted a probationary term of financial aid. Students making Satisfactory Academic Progress during that probationary term will continue to have eligibility for financial aid as long as they continue to meet qualitative and quantitative requirements on a cumulative

basis from the point of readmission. However, they are eligible for financial aid for no more than 150% of the total hours required for the degree program in which the student is enrolled including hours attempted prior to entering the Fresh Start program. Students who fail to make satisfactory progress in their probationary term or any term thereafter will lose aid eligibility and be treated as any other student who has already had a probationary term of financial aid and their entire Marietta College record will be considered in determining when aid can be reinstated.

Graduate Students

The Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy shall apply to graduate students with the following changes:

Qualitative Measure

<u>Credit Hours Earned</u>	<u>Required Cumulative GPA</u>
0 to 15 hrs.	2.5
16 hrs. and higher	3.0

Quantitative Measure

<u>Degree</u>	<u>Credit Hours Required for Degree</u>	<u>Credit Hours Attempted</u>
M.C.M.H.C	57	85
M.A.P.	36	54
M.S.P.A.S.	102	153

Specific Appeal Procedures

A student who has been denied financial aid because of failure to maintain satisfactory academic progress may make an appeal to the Financial Aid Committee on Academic Progress. The appeal must be in writing, either in the form of a letter, a fax or an e-mail. It should be sent to the Associate Director of Student Financial Services and must be received by the date directed in the letter the student will receive notifying of loss of financial aid. The appeal letter should show that the student recognizes the cause of prior academic difficulties and has identified remedies that will ensure future academic success. Each appeal will be considered on an individual basis. Special attention will be given to students deemed to be educationally disadvantaged under “special circumstances”. Examples of special circumstances that may be considered include but are not limited to:

- 1) Death of a member of the immediate family
- 2) Serious injury or illness
- 3) Other circumstances beyond the student’s control

When the Committee has made its decision, the student will be notified in writing. If the appeal is granted, the student will be on probation for one term and must complete the requirements stated in the response letter to continue receiving aid past the probationary term.

A student may choose not to appeal the withdrawal of aid and instead decide to withdraw from school for a term. At the end of that term, the student may make an appeal to the Financial Aid Committee on Academic Progress for reinstatement of aid for the subsequent term. The appeal must be in writing, either in the form of a letter, a fax or e-mail. It should be sent to the Associate Director of Student Financial Services and must be received no earlier than the midpoint of the term the student has withdrawn and no later than one month prior to the beginning of the term in which he or she wishes to return. The letter should state what the student has done to prepare him or herself to succeed if aid is reinstated. When the Committee has made its decision, the student will be notified in writing. If the appeal is granted, the student will be on probation for one term and must complete the requirements stated in the response letter to continue receiving aid past the probationary term.

Students who have lost financial aid and have been denied an appeal may choose to continue taking classes at Marietta College while funding their education from non-financial aid resources. (It is important to note that the only way to raise the Marietta College GPA is to take classes at Marietta College. Credits transfer from other schools but grades taken at other schools do not affect the Marietta College GPA.) If, after one term, a student feels he or she is making significant

progress towards meeting the satisfactory academic progress requirements but has not achieved the standard that would automatically qualify for reinstatement of financial aid, he or she may make an appeal to the Financial Aid Committee on Academic Progress for reinstatement of aid for the subsequent term. The appeal must be in writing, either in the form of a letter, a fax or e-mail. It should be sent to the Associate Director of Student Financial Services and must be received no later than one month prior to the beginning of the term in which they wish to have their aid reinstated. When the Committee has made its decision, the Associate Director will notify the student in writing. If the appeal is granted, the student will be on probation for one term and must complete the requirements stated in the response letter to continue receiving aid past the probationary term.

If a student is granted a probationary term and withdraws from the college after the first two weeks of that term, that term will be considered the probationary term and the grade point average recorded at the end of the term will be the official grade point average for consideration of continuation of financial aid.

In all cases, if an appeal has been granted and the student does not complete the requirements set by the Committee, financial aid will be lost until the qualitative and quantitative standards for their enrollment status have been met. When the student meets the qualitative and quantitative standards for their enrollment status, financial aid eligibility is reinstated.

Merit-Based and Talent Scholarships

Students receiving merit based scholarships must meet Satisfactory Academic Progress and remain in good standing with the College in order to continue receiving these awards in the next term.

Students receiving Talent Scholarships in the Fine Arts must maintain continuous full-time enrollment, a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0 as measured at the completion of each academic year, and must be recommended for renewal by the Talent Scholarship Committee.

Merit and Talent Scholarship eligibility is limited to eight terms of continuous enrollment at the College.

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