

## **Do not lose your Financial Aid!**

Based on United States Department of Education regulations, Illinois Student Assistance Commission rules, and University policy, students who apply and/or receive federal, state, and most university aid must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress. Students must be making Satisfactory Academic Progress regardless of whether they have previously received aid. All of these requirements apply to both Undergraduate and Graduate students.

## **What are the Requirements?**

- **Your cumulative GPA must be 2.00 or above.**
  - A student must maintain at least a 2.00 cumulative GPA.
- **Your cumulative completion rate must be above 67%**
  - You must complete and pass at least 67 percent of your cumulative attempted hours. Accepted transfer hours and developmental courses are included in the calculation.
- **You must complete your program within 150% of the published length.**
  - For example, if you are enrolled in a degree program requiring 124 hours, you will be terminated from financial aid after you have attempted 186 hours. Developmental courses are not counted in the 150 percent maximum timeframe calculation; accepted transfer hours are counted. There is no warning term. See below "Be Re-Evaluated for Maximum Hours" or "File and Appeal for Re-Evaluation for Maximum Hours."

## **What happens if I do not meet one (or more than one) of these requirements?**

If your cumulative GPA is less than 2.00 and/or your cumulative completion rate is less than 67%, you will be placed on **warning** for one term only. During your **warning** term, if eligible, you will receive financial aid. During the **warning** term, you must raise your cumulative GPA above 2.00 and/or cumulative completion rate above 67%. If your cumulative GPA and completion rate do not meet the requirements, the next term you attend, you will be **terminated** from aid. This means you will not receive any type of federal, state, or University aid until your GPA and completion rate meet the requirements.

## **What Can I Do If My Financial Aid Is Terminated?**

- **File an Appeal for Failed Warning**
  - If extenuating circumstances (illness, death in the family, etc.) contributed to your lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress, you may request an appeal. Appeal forms may be found at <http://www.siue.edu/financialaid/forms.shtml> > Select Award Year > Financial Aid Appeal (SAPFW).
  - Once completed and submitted to the Office of Student Financial Aid with all the documentation, the appeal will be reviewed by a committee. Students will be informed in writing about the committee's decision. For approved appeals, aid will be reinstated. For denied appeals, the student is responsible for any balance owed to the University.
- **Be Reinstated**
  - If you do not qualify to file an appeal, you can pursue reinstatement by attending SIUE without financial aid. If you achieve a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or better and a cumulative completion rate of 67% or better, you may request financial aid reinstatement if grade changes have improved your status to the required minimums.
- **Be Re-Evaluated for Maximum Hours**
  - There is no appeal for exceeding the maximum timeframe, but your eligibility can be re-evaluated due to program changes, additional required prerequisites, etc.

### ▪ **File an Appeal for Re-Evaluation for Maximum Hours**

- If you have exceeded your maximum hours because you have changed your major and believe some of the completed coursework does not apply to your current major OR if you have a double major or other required courses (in addition to the published required courses for your degree program), you can file an appeal for Re-Evaluation for Maximum Hours.
- The appeal for Re-Evaluation for Maximum Hours form may be found in the Office of Student Financial Aid.
- Once the appeal is completed with your advisor and all necessary documentation is provided, the appeal will be reviewed in the Office of Student Financial Aid. For approved appeals, students will be awarded aid based on the terms listed in the appeal. For denied appeals, students will be responsible for any balance owed to the University.

### **Additional Information**

---

- Students are responsible for knowing the standards and applying them to their academic history. In addition, students are notified on CougarNet of their current standing, and students are responsible for reviewing that information and understanding how it affects their financial aid eligibility.
- This policy applies to undergraduate and graduate students. Some academic programs and financial aid awards may have stricter requirements which would always supersede this policy.
- This policy applies to all Federal Title IV programs, all state, and most institutional programs. The policy does not apply to graduate assistantship. Alternative loans and many private scholarships may also be exempt from these requirements.
- Attempted courses are those that remain on the academic transcript after the end of the first two week of the term.
- Completed courses are those in which a grade of A, B, C, D or P is received. Courses in which a WP, WE, WF, W, US, PR, I, AU, E, F, no credit, or blank is received are considered not completed.
- Financial aid may be received only for the first 30 attempted developmental (courses numbered below 100) hours.
- Students must be enrolled in a program of study leading toward a degree offered by the institution. Students cannot continue receiving financial aid for the same program in which they have already received a degree.
- The policy is cumulative and regulations state very clearly that they apply to any financial aid applicant/recipient regardless of prior financial aid history. Past performance is often indicative of future performance and we are unable to award federal, state, and/or institutional funds to a student who has not performed well in past terms.

### **How Do I Check My Financial Aid Status?**

---

1. Go to CougarNet at <http://www.siu.edu/COUGARNET>.
2. Click "Enter CougarNet with your e-ID" (1<sup>st</sup> option) or "Enter CougarNet with your University ID" (2<sup>nd</sup> option).
3. Click "Financial Aid" (3<sup>rd</sup> option) or (3<sup>rd</sup> tab).
4. Click on "Financial Aid Status (1<sup>st</sup> option).
5. Click Drop-down menu for Select Aid Year.
6. Select correct aid year, Click "submit."
7. Scroll to "Based on your academic transcript..."

*Contact the Office of Student Financial Aid if you have additional questions.*