Standards of Academic Progress for Financial Aid (390)

PURPOSE:
This policy is to ensure compliance with Title 34, Section 668.34, Department of Education Federal Regulations.

POLICY:
At the end of each semester, all students receiving monies from any U.S. Department of Education Title IV program or the ISAC Monetary Award Program are reviewed to certify they have met the minimum Standards of Academic Progress (SAP) in order to continue receiving financial aid.

Terms and their definitions as used in this policy include:
- **Hours Attempted** which are defined as the total credit hours in which a student is enrolled on the first day of any semester. Grades of I, TR, W, WP, and W-F will be included in the calculation as hours attempted when measuring satisfactory academic progress. All hours taken at Saint Anthony College of Nursing (SACN), including summer hours, regardless of financial aid status at that time, are included in this calculation;
- **Pace** which is calculated by dividing cumulative hours completed by cumulative hours attempted;
- **Financial Aid Warning** is a status assigned when the student fails to earn at least a “C” in all courses taken to meet graduation requirements in an undergraduate program and at least a “B” in all courses taken to meet graduation requirements in a graduate program; and
- **Financial Aid Suspension/Probation** is a status assigned when the student fails to meet the standards for satisfactory academic progression but is allowed to continue studies for an additional semester.

A student placed on Financial Aid Warning may continue to receive U.S. Department of Education Title IV assistance for one semester; one time only. No appeal or other action is required.

A student will be placed on Financial Aid Suspension if they:
- Have experienced one semester with the Financial Warning status;
- Fail to progress toward their degree at a minimum pace of 67%; and
- Fail to complete the degree after attempting 50% more credits at SACN than are required for the degree.

Federal and state financial aid will be suspended when the student is placed on Financial Aid Suspension/Probation status. A student may appeal suspension of financial aid to the Financial Aid Committee. The decision of the Financial Aid Committee is final.
PROCEDURES:

- At the end of each semester, all students receiving monies from any U.S. Department of Education Title IV program or the ISAC Monetary Award Program are reviewed to certify they have met the minimum Standards of Academic Progress (SAP) in order to continue receiving financial aid:
  - The 64 credits of required pre-nursing and general education courses taken prior to final acceptance to the pre-licensure BSN program are not included in the SAP calculation;
  - RN-BSN student’s SAP calculations do not include credits prior to or part of a nursing diploma program or Associate in Nursing degree. Transfer credits that do not apply to SACN BSN requirements will not be included in SAP determination. All attempts at courses required (whether taken at SACN or transfer) do apply. General Education and SACN BSN credits total 81 semester credits, which will be the standard used to evaluate progression; and
  - Graduate credits that transfer from another institution to meet SACN requirements will be used in the SAP calculations.

- The student will be notified by the certified mail that as a result of academic performance that semester, the status of Financial Aid Warning has been assigned.

- The student will be notified by certified mail that his/her financial aid has been suspended.

- If a student wishes to appeal Financial Aid Suspension, the student may write a letter of appeal. The appeal letter must be received by the Financial Aid Coordinator within one week of the date on the Financial Aid Suspension letter. The appeal letter must include an explanation of why the student failed to make SAP and what has changed that will allow the student to make SAP at the next evaluation:
  - Letters can be mailed or delivered to SACN, Financial Aid Coordinator, 3301 North Mulford Road, Rockford IL 61114; and
  - If approved, the student will be placed on Financial Aid Probation. The student will have one semester to re-establish their SAP requirements. The Financial Aid Committee may allow for an extended time period if the academic plan necessitates it.
  - The Financial Aid committee may require the student who is likely to not meet SAP requirements by the end of the academic semester’s end to engage in SAP-related Academic Planning with the academic advisor and the appropriate dean.

REFERENCES:
Title 34, Section 668.34, Department of Education Federal Regulations

ATTACHMENTS: No attachments