

Satisfactory Academic Progress



**Discussing the successes and challenges
of implementing the *Program Integrity*
SAP Regulations**

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Agenda



- Program Integrity SAP Regulations in brief
- The UVM Experience
- Questions and Discussion

Program Integrity Regulations (Highlights)



- **Consolidation of SAP Regulations**
- **Requirements of an institutions SAP policy**
 - Qualitative Standard/GPA
 - Quantitative Standard/Pace
 - Treatment of Transfer Credits
 - Standard definitions: Warning, Probation, Appeal
- **SAP Reviews**
 - After each payment period for programs 1 year in length or less
 - At least annually at the end of a payment period for all others.
 - Greater “flexibility” if SAP is reviewed after each payment period.
- **Transfer credits (accepted toward student’s program)**
 - Counted as both attempted and completed credits when calculating pace of completion.

Program Integrity Regulations (Highlights)



- **Financial Aid Warning**

- Option for schools reviewing SAP after each payment period
- Automatic – no appeal required
- One payment period during which student is eligible for aid.
- Must meet SAP standards at end of warning term

- **Appeals**

- Policy must indicate how the student may regain eligibility
- The basis on which a student may appeal (if applicable)
- Why the student failed to make SAP and what has changed to allow the student to meet SAP at the next evaluation

Program Integrity Regulations (Highlights)



- **Financial Aid Probation**

- Student who is not meeting SAP but has appealed and had their eligibility reinstated.

- **Appeals, Probation & Academic Plans**

- A student who is not meeting SAP is eligible for aid if s/he has appealed and the school has determined:
 - ✦ That the student should be able to meet SAP by the end of the next payment period OR;
 - ✦ An academic plan has been developed that, if followed, will ensure the student is meeting SAP by a specific point in time.
- No specific requirements for the “academic plan”.

The UVM Experience



- Implementation of new regulations
- Comprehensive SAP review to identify & address compliance exceptions.
- Collaboration with Deans' Offices
- Multiple colleges, multiple standards:
 - 2.30 for College of Engineering
 - 2.50 for Colleges of Nursing and Education
 - 2.00 for all others.
 - Graduate College and College of Medicine

The UVM Experience – What we're doing



- Evaluating SAP after each payment period
 - Fall, Spring, Summer
- Students are permitted to appeal.
 - No limit to appeals
- Academic Plans Required with all appeals
 - Developed by student and advisor or Dean's Office staff
 - Academic plan template sent with termination letter
- Somewhat formulaic academic plans

The UVM Experience – Academic Plans



	SAMPLE	1.	2.	3.
E. Semester Include any term when 1 or more courses will be taken at UVM (including summer)	Fall 2012			
F. Semester Credits Earned	12			
G. Semester Credits Attempted (Same as above)	12			
H. Minimum Semester GPA	2.85			
I. Cumulative GPA (After the semester)	2.90			
Calculating Cumulative GPA		http://www.uvm.edu/~cess/stservices/gpatool3.html		
J. Completion rate (After the semester)	73%			
Calculating completion rate		$\frac{A+F1}{B+G1}$	$\frac{A+F1+F2}{B+G1+G2}$	$\frac{A+F1+F2+F3}{B+G1+G2+G3}$
Recommended Courses (Optional) **If specific course plans are indicated and student's actual enrollment deviates substantially from the courses listed, SFS will verify that student is progressing toward graduation requirements. Failure to progress toward graduation requirements may result in termination of aid.				

The UVM Experience – What's working well



- Collaboration with Deans' Offices
- Early intervention with students
- Specific requirements for appeals
 - Why didn't you meet the SAP standards?
 - What has changed?
- Detailed academic plans
 - Force students to confront the reality of the math
 - Help students understand exactly what is required to meet the standards.

The UVM Experience - Challenges



- GPA Requirements that vary by college but not by major.
- Communication/mixed messages
 - SAP Policy for federal & need-based institutional aid
 - College requirements are different
 - Unique GPA requirements for UVM merit aid.
- Summer is a term!
- Timing & workload between semesters.
- Grade changes
- Transfer credits
- Success rate of students on probation/academic plans

Discussion and Questions - Implementation



- What challenges did you face in implementing the new SAP regulations on your campus?
- How did you meet these challenges?
- What offices did you collaborate with in implementing the new regulations?
- How often do you evaluate SAP?
- Do you provide for an automatic financial aid warning term?

Discussion and Questions - Appeals



- Do you permit appeals?
- What types of appeals do you accept?
- Describe your appeals process? Who do students work with as they put make their appeal? Who reviews appeals?
- Describe your academic plans?
- How do you monitor compliance with the academic plan?

Discussion and Questions - Notification



- How do you notify students about SAP?
- How do you notify students who are places on warning and/or whose eligibility is terminated?

Discussion & Questions – Process/Workload



- How much of a workload increase are the new SAP regulations for your office?
- How is your office managing the increased workload?
- Which offices/individuals carry out your SAP evaluations?
- Who counsels students who have been or are at risk of being “SAPPED”?
- How is your office managing the turnaround time between payment periods?