



## Satisfactory Academic Progress

The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, requires students to maintain satisfactory academic progress toward their degree in order to receive financial aid. These standards apply to students who receive aid from federal, state, private, or institutional resources. These resources include grants, scholarships, work, and loan programs.

Academic standards contain both quantitative (cumulative credit hours earned divided by cumulative credit hours attempted) component and a qualitative (cumulative GPA) component. These are the minimum standards required in order to maintain financial aid eligibility.

The academic progress of financial aid recipients will be monitored at the end of each semester (December, May/June, and August). Students should contact the Office of Student Financial Planning with questions.

All full-time, part-time, undergraduate, and graduate students in their respective programs of study are treated the same.

## Undergraduate Students

- All students must earn (successfully complete) 66.7% of their attempted credit hours in order to continue to receive financial aid. Financial aid eligibility will end when the student has attempted more than 150% of the credit hours required for a specific program or degree.
  - Degree completion programs and/or Certificate Only Programs: equivalent to 3 full-time academic years
  - All other Undergraduate Programs: equivalent to 6 full-time academic years
- Undergraduate students are expected to achieve a cumulative GPA of at least a:
  - 1.6 after their 1<sup>st</sup> semester
  - 1.8 after their 2<sup>nd</sup> semester
  - 2.0 after their 3<sup>rd</sup> and all remaining semesters
  - All transfer students and students who have achieved a baccalaureate degree are expected to achieve at least a 2.0 GPA each semester.
- Graduate students are expected to achieve at least a 3.0 gpa each semester.

After the first semester of not completing the required number of credits and/or G.P.A., the student will be placed on financial aid warning. During this time, a student will be given one more semester of aid. After the end of the 2nd term, attempted and completed credits and G.P.A. will again be reviewed. If at this time, the student has not completed the required credits and G.P.A., the student will be placed on financial aid suspension which is a loss of all aid. If the student has been placed on financial aid suspension, the student has the ability to appeal the suspension, writing a letter explaining what happened that the student did not complete the required expectations along with an academic plan to rectify the situation and achieve their degree timely. If the student's appeal is granted, the student will be given an agreement of expectations for the following term which is a term of financial probation. The student's situation will again be reviewed after the end of the next term to see if the expectations were met. If those expectations have not been met, the student will again be placed on financial aid suspension. Students will receive notice of any financial aid warnings or suspensions via email to their student email accounts.

## Transfer Credits and GPA:

Upon admission, transfer students are assumed to be maintaining satisfactory academic progress. After admission to Morningside, courses successfully completed in subsequent terms at another institution that fulfill degree requirements at Morningside may be used to achieve satisfactory academic progress

standards. Students must provide documentation to the Office of Student Financial Planning regarding such credit. Transfer GPA is only used for Admission purposes. Once you are enrolled at Morningside University, your Morningside University gpa will only include the courses that you completed at Morningside.

**Non-Credit Course Work and Repeated Courses:**

Repeats in which a passing grade was previously earned, non-credit course work and audits will not be included when determining the number of credit hours a student has attempted or completed. The better gpa will be used in calculating the cumulative gpa. Students will receive credit for the course only one time.

**Changes in Academic Load:**

During the first week of the term (or the first day of Summer Sessions), students will have the opportunity to change their registration. After that point, the student locks in their number of credit hours they are attempting for satisfactory academic progress requirements. Course withdrawals after the drop/add period will be included as attempted credits. A dropped course grade is not used in the determination of the cumulative gpa.

**Incomplete Grades:**

Courses in which a student receives delayed/incomplete grades will be counted as hours attempted but will not be counted as successfully completed until a final passing grade is officially posted to the student's permanent record. The final grade will be used in determining the cumulative gpa.

**Students who have met all degree requirements are no longer eligible for financial aid:**

- Financial Aid will end when the student has attempted more than 150% of the credit hours required for a specific program or degree.
- Undergraduate students who have completed 124 hours and all other degree requirements.
- Students seeking a Second Degree, Teacher Certification, or Teacher Internship who have met all requirements for their Program.
- Graduate Students:
  - Students seeking an Endorsement who have met all requirements for that Endorsement.
  - Students seeking a Master's Degree who have met all requirements for the Master's Degree.