

**Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing (SFMC-CON)**  
**Satisfactory Academic Progress Requirements**  
**For Financial Aid Recipients (Undergraduate and Graduate)**

Federal and state regulations require that the College of Nursing establish and implement a policy to measure satisfactory academic progress toward the baccalaureate and the master of science degree in nursing. The progress of Financial Aid Recipients is evaluated each semester based on qualitative measurement, quantitative measurement and program completion. Students must be making academic progress regardless of whether the student had previously received aid. Before aid is disbursed, a student's progress will be evaluated according to policy guidelines.

**Qualitative Measurement** (GPA) - An Undergraduate Student must maintain a semester and cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale.  
- A Graduate Student must maintain a semester and cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

**Quantitative Measurement** (Semester Hours) - Each semester the student must successfully complete two thirds (or more) of cumulative semester hours attempted (rounded up to the nearest whole semester hour).

**Program Completion Time** - The maximum time frame may not exceed 150% of the published length of the program measured in semester hours attempted. Each semester the student must successfully complete two thirds (or more) of cumulative semester hours attempted (rounded up to the nearest whole semester hour).

**BSN Program – Undergraduate**

The published length is 62 semester hours. The maximum time frame must not exceed 93 attempted semester hours at SFMC-CON (includes any transfer nursing curriculum courses).

**RN to BSN Accelerated Option – Undergraduate**

The length of the program is 61 semester hours. The maximum time frame must not exceed 92 attempted semester hours at SFMC-CON (includes any transfer nursing curriculum courses).

**MSN Program – Graduate**

The published length is 45 semester hours. The maximum time frame must not exceed 68 attempted semester hours at SFMC-CON (includes any transfer nursing curriculum courses).

**Accelerated Pathway to the MSN for RN's with a Non-Nursing Baccalaureate Degree – Graduate**

The published length of this program is 70 semester hours. The maximum time frame must not exceed 105 attempted semester hours at SFMC-CON (includes any transfer nursing curriculum courses).

**Clinical Nurse Leader – Graduate**

The published length of this program is 35 semester hours. The maximum time frame must not exceed 53 attempted semester hours at SFMC-CON (includes any transfer nursing curriculum courses).

**Financial Aid Academic Progress Probation** - Probation occurs when requirements have not been met in both areas (qualitative and quantitative). Students can receive financial aid during this probationary status, but must “make satisfactory progress” when measured against all areas at the end of the next period of enrollment.

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**Financial Aid Academic Progress Suspension** - Suspension occurs when requirements have not been met after a semester of probation. Students on suspension are not eligible for Federal or State assistance (See Types of Financial Aid). Students on Financial Aid Suspension have the right to appeal (See Financial Aid Progress Appeal Process).

**Notification of Financial Aid Probation/Suspension** - The College of Nursing Financial Aid Office will notify, in writing, students through the US Postal Service (using the address in admissions). Students applying for Financial Assistance will be notified prior to disbursement of aid.

**Financial Aid Academic Progress Appeal Process** - Students on Financial Aid Academic Progress Suspension may appeal in writing to the Coordinator of Student Finance, Financial Assistance, Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing. The appeal letter should address specific reasons for requesting the appeal. Describe in detail:

1. The reason for past performance difficulties (including supporting documentation).
2. How the situation has changed. If it has not changed, describe how it is now being handled. Supply a outline of solutions for improvement.
3. Outline of courses remaining to complete the baccalaureate program and the semester in which you plan to complete the course.

The written appeal must be submitted within thirty (30) calendar days of notification from the Student Finance Office, or after receipt of semester grades, whichever is first. Appeals are processed on a case-by-case basis. The student's circumstances, academic advisement and current Federal Regulations are taken into consideration. Appeal decision will be mailed within (30) calendar days (Mailing procedure is the same as the Suspension notification).

**Effective immediately** and replaces all other Satisfactory Academic Progress Policies for Financial Aid Recipients printed in any institutional publication or document.

**Types of Financial Aid** - Financial Aid Programs covered with this policy are: Federal PELL Grant, Federal Family Education Loan Programs (Federal Stafford Subsidized, Federal Stafford Unsubsidized, Federal Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students, PLUS Loan for Graduate or Professional Students) and the Illinois Student Assistance Commission Monetary Award Program.

Notes: Financial Aid Programs not listed above may have additional or more stringent conditions which must be met for continuation. Contact the source which made your award or processed your application materials. Examples: College of Nursing Institutional Awards, Saint Francis Medical Center Scholarships/Contracts, Private Agency Funds or Scholarships.

Academic Policies published in the Student Handbook may have additional or more stringent conditions which must be met for continuation. Check the current Student Handbook for information.

Grades of D, F, U, W, WF, WP, or I are **not** counted as **successful** completion of semester hours.

**Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing  
Financial Aid Office**

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