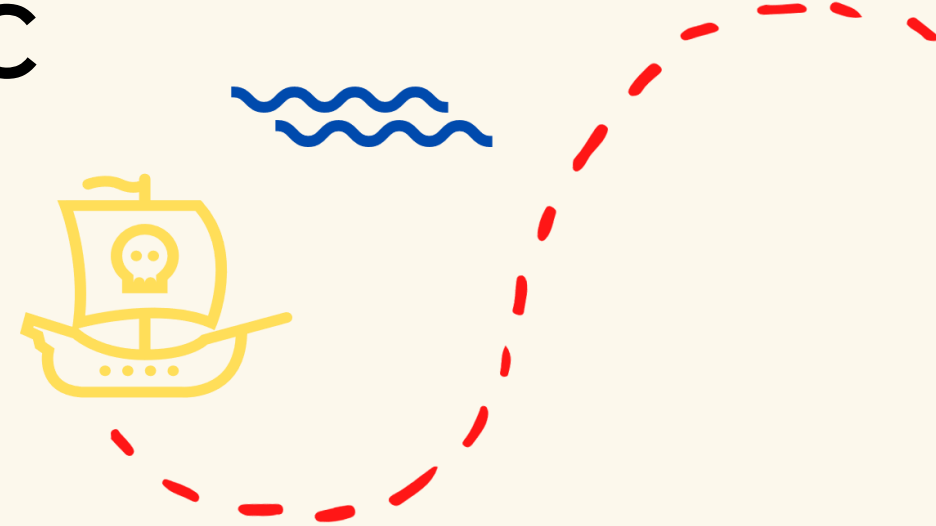


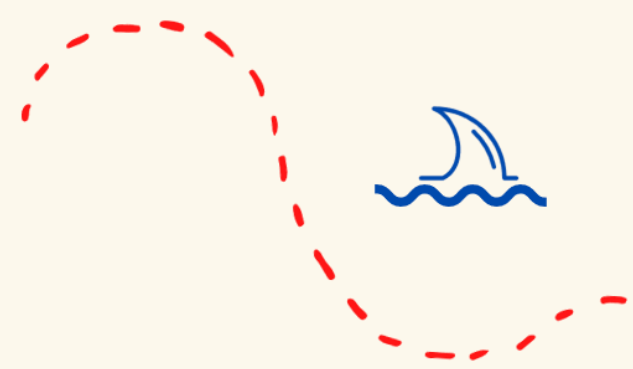
Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)



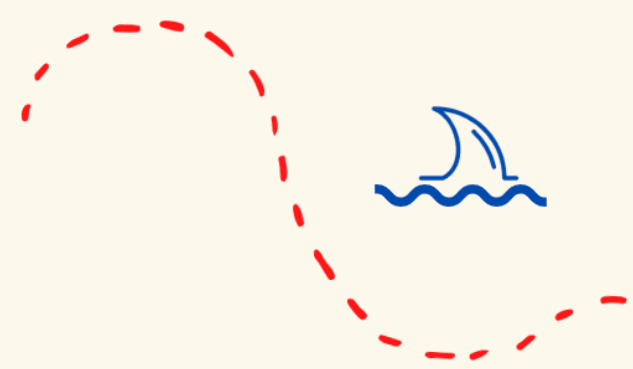
Sarah Gordon
Texas A&M University
October 4, 2022

Overview

- What is SAP?
- Regulations
- Components of SAP
- Examples



What Is SAP?



- Stands for Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)
- Minimum academic standard that aid recipients must maintain in order to be eligible for their aid over their time in college
- Based on student academic achievement and progress through their program



Straight from the FSA Handbook:



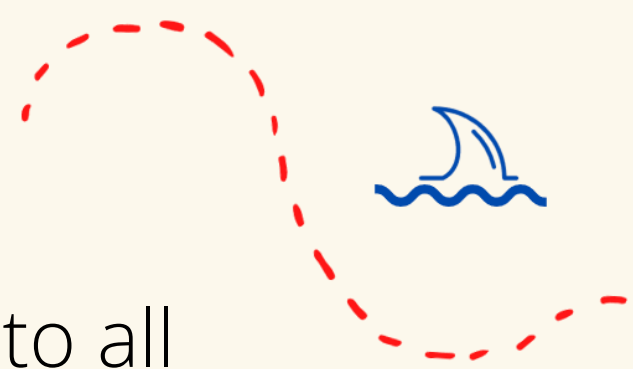
- “To be eligible for Title IV funds, a student must make satisfactory academic progress, and your school must have a reasonable policy for monitoring that progress.”
- “Reasonable policy”=must have quantitative and qualitative components

Result of this is that SAP policies can have a certain amount of variation from school to school, program to program, etc.



General Requirements

- Schools must apply their SAP policy the same way to all students in the same program or category
- This means that SAP policies can change between:
 - Classification (undergrad, grad, professional)
 - Enrollment status (full time vs part time)
- Can also change from one academic program to another



General Requirements

- SAP policies for Title IV recipients must be at least as strict as the school's overall standard for any student who does not receive financial aid
- Can be more strict, however
- Eligibility cannot be for some aid programs but not others; status is all or nothing
 - Student either meets SAP or does not
 - School can't have policy where students can be meeting SAP for Pell but not for direct loans



Main SAP Policy Components

Quantitative

- Includes pace of progress through program (% of program completed)
- Maximum timeframe

Qualitative

- Grade based
- Can be GPA or appropriate alternative measure of academic achievement

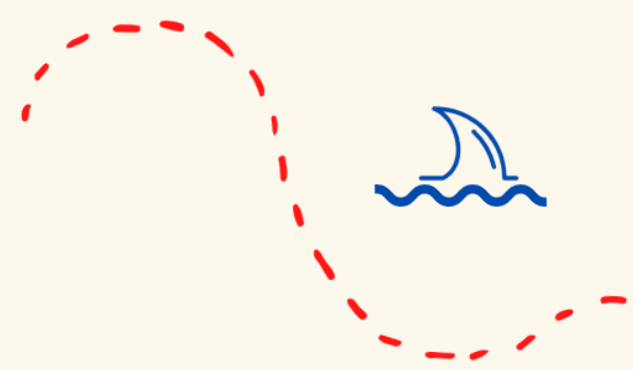
Maximum Timeframe

- Undergraduate students lose aid eligibility if they accumulate more hours than the equivalent of 150% of their published program hours
- So:
 - Program=120 credit hours
 - 150% of program=180 credit hours
- If a student is trying to finish their degree but has earned 180 or more, they will not be able to receive financial aid



What if the student...

- Withdraws from a semester (or two)?
- Fails all of their classes in a term?
- Has health problems that affect their academic performance?
- Has a family emergency that takes them away from campus?

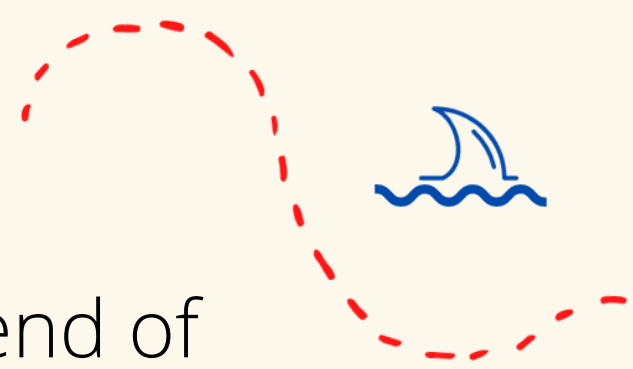


Are they sunk?



Warning Semester

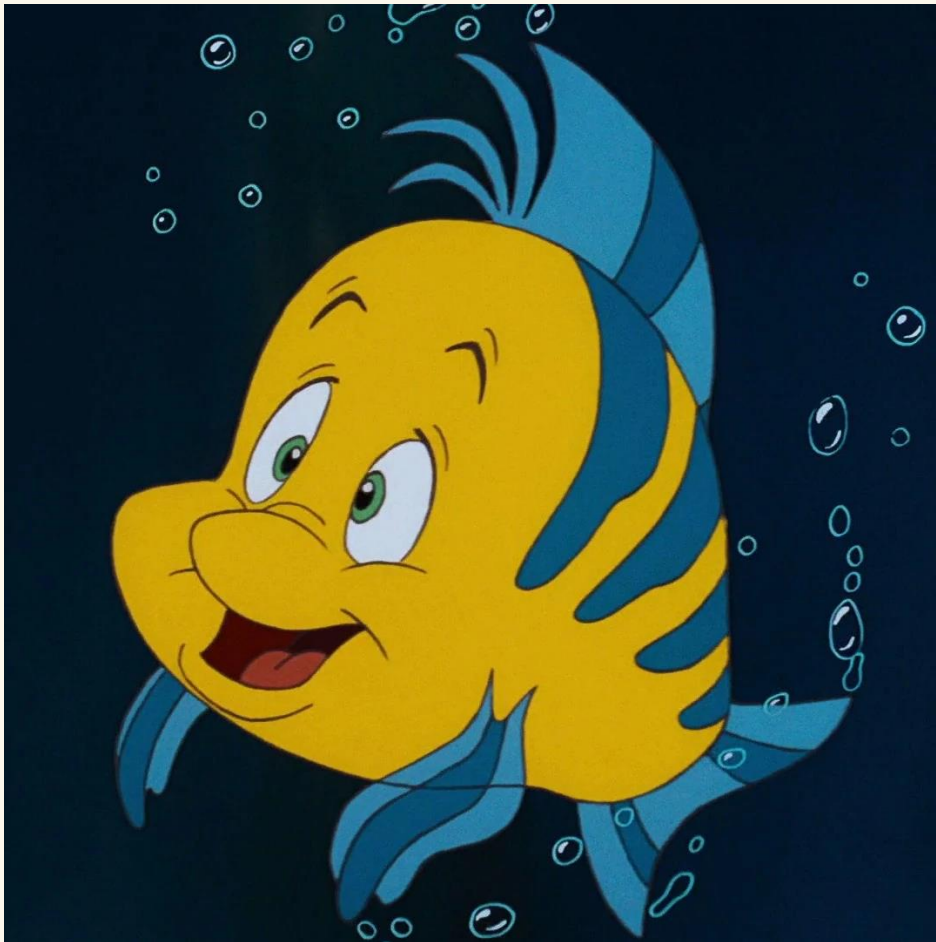
- Can be used by schools who measure SAP at the end of every payment period
- Allows students who are not meeting SAP to receive financial aid for one additional semester
- Intent is to give students the chance to reestablish their academic standing and meet the SAP requirements
- Applies to
 - Students who were meeting SAP in the previous payment period
 - Students who were in the first payment period of their program



What if one recovery semester isn't enough?



What if the student is still...



FLOUNDERING???



Students Can File SAP Appeals

SAP Appeal

- is the process by which a student can petition the school to reconsider their eligibility for financial aid based on their circumstances
- In order to grant the appeal, the student must be mathematically able to meet SAP
- To establish that, the financial aid advisor can create an academic plan for the student
- Initial and subsequent appeals are possible

Academic Plan

- Schools set their own procedures for creating academic plans
- Schools also determine what documentation a student must provide
- Resulting plan lays out exactly what the student must achieve for aid eligibility

Appeals



SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID



Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress ACADEMIC PLAN AGREEMENT – Undergraduate Low GPA/Completion Rate/Excessive Hours

Student Name: _____ UIN: _____

Because you have not met the minimum standards for Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) you are currently ineligible to receive financial aid. The goal of this Academic Plan Agreement is to assist you in meeting SAP minimum standards. As long as you meet the terms of this agreement, you will be reconsidered for financial aid eligibility on a semester-by-semester basis.

| | Hours Attempted (Comp rate) | Earned Hours (Comp rate) | |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Current - Texas A&M | 24 | 12 | 12-13 and fall 17 |
| Current - Transfer | 0 | 0 | |
| Current - Texas A&M & Transfer | 24 | 12 | |
| Q-drop/NG/W hours | 0 | | |
| | Hours Attempted (GPA) | Earned Hours (GPA) | Current GPA |
| Current - Texas A&M | 24 | 12 | 3.750 |
| | Term | Hours Attempted | Earned Hours |
| Semester 1 - Texas A&M | Spring 2018 | 9 | 9 |
| Semester 2 - Texas A&M | Fall 2018 | 9 | 9 |
| Semester 3 - Texas A&M | | | |
| Semester 4 - Texas A&M | | | |
| Semester 5 - Texas A&M | | | |
| Future Hours - Texas A&M | | 18 | 18 |
| Overall Hours - Texas A&M (comp rate) | | 42 | 30 |
| Overall Hours - Texas A&M (GPA) | | 42 | |
| Overall Hours - Texas A&M & Transfer | | 42 | 30 |
| Future GPA - Texas A&M | | 2.000 | |
| Average Semester GPA to Attain SAP* - Texas A&M | | -0.333 | |
| Final Completion Rate - Texas A&M & Transfer | | | 71.43% |

Academic Plan Details:

Student is current at a 50% completion rate with a 3.75 GPA. Student must complete 2 semesters (spring 18, and fall 18) while completing 100% of the courses she is registered for with a 2.00 or higher GPA. If student does not meet these conditions, each semester, student will be denied financial aid funds. Student is fully aware of the requirements set on this academic plan.

By signing below, I verify that I have read the information listed above/attached and I agree to adhere to the academic plan required for my financial aid eligibility to be reconsidered. I also understand that failure to satisfy this academic plan will result in the loss of my financial aid until I do meet the minimum Satisfactory Academic Progress standards for financial aid.

**** If you do not meet the terms of this agreement, eligibility for financial aid will cease and all remaining aid will be canceled. ****

Print Student Name

Student Signature

Scholarships & Financial Aid Advisor Name

Date

Office Note: Please give a completed copy to the student and send one to imaging.

Scholarships & Financial Aid
PO Box 30016
College Station, TX 77842-3016

Tel. 979.845.3236 Fax. 979.847.9061
financialaid.tamu.edu

What if...

- The student does not meet the terms of the academic plan and remains in a bad SAP status?

They can only regain aid eligibility by improving their academic performance enough that they are once again meeting SAP



Thank you very much!

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