

Maintaining Financial Aid Eligibility/ Financial Aid Probation

In order to receive financial aid funds from Whitman College, the federal government, and the state of Washington, students must make satisfactory academic progress (SAP) toward completing their degree.

Satisfactory academic progress includes 1) completing a minimum number of *cumulative* credits; 2) maintaining a minimum *term and cumulative* grade point average; and 3) completing a degree within a reasonable period of time.

1. Minimum credit requirement

All students receiving financial aid must **complete at least 66.67 percent of the cumulative credits** that they attempt in order to maintain satisfactory academic progress.

Note: Recipients of Washington State aid must successfully complete 50% or more of their attempted credits each semester. Completing less than 50% of attempted credits will trigger immediate suspension of state aid eligibility. Any less than 100% completion will result in the student being placed in a warning/probationary status for the following semester.

During the warning/probationary period for state aid, the student is expected to complete 100% of attempted credits; if not, suspension of state aid will ensue, with the possibility for appeal. If approved for an additional semester of state aid probation, the student could receive aid for one more semester, again with the expectation that 100% of attempted credits be completed. If the student fails to complete 100% of attempted credits in this probationary semester, the student will no longer be eligible to receive state aid.

2. Minimum term and cumulative grade point average

Students must earn a **minimum GPA of 1.7 each semester** and a **minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 during their second semester at Whitman and subsequently**. Transferred credits, including those received during foreign or domestic off-campus study, do not count in the calculation of the cumulative and term grade point average, but they are included in the calculation of both attempted and completed credits.

3. Maximum time frame

Whitman scholarships are awarded for four years (the equivalent of eight semesters in total). In order for a student to finish his or her degree within the four years, at least 31 credits or more should be finished each year. Transfer students will be eligible to receive institutional scholarships based on the class standing they are assigned upon admission and evaluation by the registrar's office (i.e., a junior transfer student will have two years of scholarship eligibility). Students are eligible to receive federal and state financial aid until they have **attempted a maximum of 150% of the minimum number of credits required for the degree** (186 credits), **or completed all the requirements to receive their degree**.

Students who do not meet the above standards will be placed on Financial Aid Probation. The maximum period of financial aid probation is one semester, during which time a student will maintain eligibility for financial aid. If a student does not resume good standing and/or make satisfactory progress after one semester on probation, they will lose eligibility for Whitman-administered financial aid. A student who loses that eligibility may appeal for reinstatement to the Admission and Financial Aid Committee by submitting an academic plan.

Please note: These policies govern financial aid and do not have any bearing on your Whitman academic standing as they are separate policies. The College's catalog has more information on academic requirements.