

# Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

(Starting Winter 2026)

Last Updated: 11/07/2025

In order to receive federal financial aid, all students must maintain satisfactory academic progress (SAP) toward graduation, regardless of enrollment status. BYU evaluates SAP components (see below) after every semester. Students who meet the requirements at that point and meet all other eligibility requirements are eligible for federal financial aid for their next semester of enrollment. These standards apply to all periods of attendance, including semesters students did not receive financial aid. Please note that these standards are not the same as BYU's academic requirements; however, the SAP policy is at least as strict as the BYU academic policy. Students may be eligible to attend BYU but may not be eligible to receive federal financial aid.

## Undergraduate Students

Undergraduate SAP standards include the following qualitative and quantitative requirements:

- Minimum 2.0 cumulative **GPA** (includes transfer credits)
- **Maximum Timeframe** of 150% of the number of credit hours required for the program of study (typically 180 attempted credits) which includes:
  - Passing grades (including T, P, and CR)
  - E, I, IE, UW, W, WE, F, NC, and NG
  - Repeated credits
  - Transfer credits and AP/IB credits that count toward BYU graduation requirements, excluding transfer E and W grades
  - Foreign language exams/other examination credits
- Minimum 66.67% **Pace** (completion percentage)—calculated by dividing the total number of earned or passing credits (grades A, B, C, D, P, T, or CR) by the total number of attempted credits. E, I, IE, UW, W, WE, NS, F, NC, and NG grades are attempted but not completed credits.
  - Remedial courses are included in the Pace calculation but not the cumulative GPA calculation.
- \*Prior to winter 2025, T grades for undergraduate students were counted as non-progress grades.

## Graduate Students

Graduate SAP standards include the following qualitative and quantitative requirements:

- Minimum 3.0 cumulative **GPA**—includes only those courses taken since completing any former degree(s)— (law students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.7 or higher)
- **Maximum Timeframe** of no more than 150% of the number of credit hours required for the program of study which includes:
  - Passing grades (including T, P, and CR)
  - E, I, IE, UW, W, WE, F, NC, and NG
  - Repeated credits
  - Transfer credits and AP/IB credits that count toward BYU graduation requirements, excluding transfer E and W grades
  - Foreign language exams/other examination credits

- Minimum 66.67% **Pace** (completion percentage)—calculated by dividing the total number of earned or passing credits (grades A, B, C, D, P, T, or CR) by the total number of attempted credits. E, I, IE, UW, W, WE, NS, F, NC, and NG grades are attempted but not completed credits.

### Post-baccalaureate Studies (PBS) Students

SAP standards for students in the Post-baccalaureate Studies Program are the same as those for undergraduate students, with the following exception: **Maximum Timeframe** limit is 150% of your required number of prerequisite or teacher certification credits. SAP calculations only include those courses students have taken since completing any former degree(s).

### Previous Majors, Double Majors, Pre-Professional or Graduate Prerequisite Courses

These courses count against the Maximum Timeframe limit, but do not increase the 150% credit hour limit.

### Dropping Classes

Attempted credits do not include classes a student drops before the add/drop deadline. Classes that are deleted from the academic record are not included in the SAP evaluation. Withdrawing from classes after the add/drop deadline will affect SAP because students will receive a W on their transcript.

### Repeated Courses

From fall 2011 through fall 2025, all grades from repeated courses taken during this period are calculated into a student's cumulative GPA, and all credits are counted as attempted but not completed hours toward their Maximum Timeframe and Pace calculations.

Repeated credits taken prior to fall 2011 and beginning again in winter 2026, are considered in the total number of attempted hours but not in the total number of completed hours. Of the repeated courses taken during this period, only the most recent course is included in the cumulative GPA.

### Transfer Credits

Transfer credits and AP/IB credits that count toward BYU graduation requirements, excluding transfer E and W grades, are counted in the qualitative and quantitative evaluations.

### SAP Warning

Students who do not meet SAP standards when SAP is evaluated are placed on Warning. Students on Warning can receive federal aid for one semester without requiring a petition. Students not meeting SAP at the end of their Warning semester lose federal aid eligibility. A student can have more than one Warning semester in their degree program; however, the semesters cannot be consecutive.

### Not Meeting SAP

Students not meeting SAP standards at the end of their Warning semester are ineligible to receive further federal aid until eligibility is reestablished.

### Notifications

Students are notified each time their SAP status is negatively affected, such as when they are on Warning or do not meet SAP. Students are also notified when they have reestablished eligibility or when an SAP petition is approved or denied.

### Re-establish Federal Financial Aid Eligibility

Students are evaluated at the end of each semester after grades post. Students failing to meet SAP standards can re-establish federal financial aid eligibility in future semesters by improving Cumulative GPA and/or Pace to meet the minimum requirements.

Grade changes from a prior semester that are posted mid-semester can be used to help a student re-establish federal aid eligibility during that semester.

Test credits, independent study credits, and any graded credits posted mid-semester (such as Spring, 1<sup>st</sup> block, or other session) can only be used to re-establish federal aid eligibility at the next SAP evaluation.

### Petitions

In extenuating circumstances beyond a student's control, such as accidents, extreme illness, or death of an immediate family member, a student may submit a petition, requesting that their financial aid eligibility be reinstated. The petition must explain why the student failed to make satisfactory progress and what has changed in the situation that will allow them to make satisfactory progress at the next evaluation. Students may continue to receive federal financial aid while meeting the conditions of their petition. Petitions cannot be approved twice for the same circumstances.

Students with double majors, transfer and previous major credits that do not apply toward their degree program can also petition to explain how those credits impacted their ability to graduate within the default maximum timeframe.

Petitions can be approved for one or more semesters. If a petition is approved for one semester, the student is put on probation and must meet SAP by the end of the probation semester to continue receiving aid. If a petition is approved for more than one semester, an academic plan is required. Academic plans are developed between the financial aid administrator and the student to ensure the student progresses towards meeting BYU's SAP requirements. Students not meeting the conditions of their academic plan at the end of each semester will be ineligible for federal financial aid until they reestablish eligibility.

Maximum timeframe petition approvals are only allowed for the remaining classes required for the degree program. If a student in a double major completes the requirements for one major before the other, they cannot receive Pell for the remaining major. However, the student can receive Direct Loans for the second major requirements.

### Timing of SAP Evaluations

In PeopleSoft, SAP is evaluated to determine eligibility for each semester. The evaluation for each semester is based on grade data as of the last semester of enrollment for the student. A currently enrolled student is not evaluated for the upcoming semester until grades are posted at the end of that semester. Students who are not registered for the current semester will have their SAP evaluated for the upcoming semester no sooner than the add/drop deadline of the current semester. If a student later registers for the current semester (such as a second term class), their SAP status for the upcoming semester will be reevaluated after grades are posted.

For a student who has never previously enrolled at BYU, SAP is not evaluated until grades are posted at the end of their first semester at BYU.