

Frequently Asked Questions about the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Policy

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What is Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)?

Federal and state laws require that students maintain satisfactory academic progress (SAP) to be eligible they are pursuing. For example, for a 60 credit degree (ie. An Associate in Arts degree), the student

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Completion Rate

I only took one course this semester. Was I not placed on warning/suspension?

All NHCC students are evaluated for satisfactory academic progress beginning with their first attempted credit, however we use a graduated GPA scale as shown below. Since you only attempted one course, you fall into the 1-5 attempted credits at NHCC so therefore don't have a GPA standard to meet until your 6th attempted credit.

I earned excellent grades this semester. Why did I receive a letter about warning/suspension/probation?

Satisfactory academic progress is based on your cumulative completion rate and grade point average (GPA). Often, it takes more than one semester of improvement to raise the cumulative GPA and completion rate above the minimum standards for satisfactory academic progress.

Why am I being punished for my bad grades from years ago?

All NHCC courses are considered when evaluating for satisfactory academic progress, regardless of whether older courses will negatively or positively impact the student. Courses don't ever "expire" for the purposes of satisfactory academic progress. Some students may qualify for our Academic Amnesty