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Approval:		Date: 08/15 Review by: 08/18
Date Revised: 200	7, 2012, 2015	

Policy/Revision Submitted by: Angela Robinson

SUBJECT: Satisfactory Academic Progress

#### I. GENERAL INFORMATION:

Eligibility for financial aid requires that a student meets the Satisfactory Academic Progress policy.

The purpose of Methodist College's policy on "Satisfactory Academic Progress" is to ensure that all students meet the federal, state, and local financial assistance / veteran's benefits programs requirements for eligibility. (Title 34, Section 668.32f and 688.34). MC evaluates all students for compliance with this policy at the end of each academic semester, and at the time of disbursement of any benefits. The policy consists of a completion requirement, a grade point average requirement, and a maximum time frame requirement. This policy supersedes all previous policies.

Students placed on Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Warning many continue to receive financial aid assistance for one additional semester. Failure to achieve Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements in the additional semester will result in Satisfactory Academic Progress Denial.

# Completion (Pace) Requirement

MC students must complete all coursework, including transfer credits at a pace of 67%. This measure is calculated by taking all courses and dividing by those courses which are successfully completed.

Hours attempted include all financial aid eligible courses. For the purposes of this policy, completion is defined as grades of A, B and C. Hours attempted with grades of F, W, or I are not considered successful completion grades. Grades of D are considered as passing in all general education courses except BIO 101, ENG 101 and MAT 101. Grades of D or not considered as passing in nursing, health science and gerontology courses. Failure to meet the 67% pace requirement for one semester will result in a Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Warning. Failure to meet pace in the next semester will result in SAP denial.

#### **Grade Point Average Requirement**

MC students must maintain the GPA as prescribed by the Methodist College Academic Progression Policy. Students will be considered as on Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Warning in the following situations:

- Failure to maintain a cumulative or semester GPA of 2.0
- Earning a grade of D or F in a nursing, health science or gerontology course.
- Earning a grade of F in a general education course.

Students will be placed on Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic progress denial if they fail to earn passing grades in all courses in the next semester. A passing grade is defined as a D or better in a general education course, with the exception of BIO 101, ENG 101 and MAT 101 and all remedial coursework. A passing grade in nursing, health science or gerontology is a C or better. Students are only allowed to repeat grades of D or lower in nursing, health science or gerontology courses one time. A withdrawal is considered an attempt for a nursing, health science or gerontology course; if a second attempt is unsuccessful, the student will be placed on Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Denial.



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All students must have a cumulative GPA in all lower division coursework of 2.0. A student failing to meet this requirement will be placed on Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Denial.

## **Maximum Timeframe Requirement**

The maximum time frame a student has to complete their degree is equal to 150% of the hours required for the completion of the degree. As a general rule, the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree requires 122 credit hours, and financial aid recipients have a maximum of 183 credit hours attempted. In this instance, the student would be placed on Satisfactory Academic Progress Probation when his/her attempted hours exceed 150 hours. This student would be placed on Satisfactory Academic Progress Denial after attempting 183 hours. Hours transferred to MC from previous institutions are included in this requirement.

The maximum time frame requirement is a Title IV requirement only. This rule does not apply to veteran's benefits.

A student seeking a second bachelor's degree will only have his/her transfer hours from the first degree counted in their total hours attempted.

For example, a student who completed a Bachelor of Arts Degree at another college would start out with only those hours that transferred to MC before taking a single class towards his/her second degree counted in the Maximum Time-Frame Requirement.

# Satisfactory Academic Progress Probation

A student may stay on Satisfactory Academic Progress Probation for one semester. If the student fails to meet good standing in the subsequent semester, he/she is automatically placed on Satisfactory Academic Progress Denial status. A student is eligible for all types of educational benefits while on Satisfactory Academic Progress Probation.

### **Satisfactory Academic Progress Denial**

A student is ineligible for any type of educational benefits while on Satisfactory Academic Progress Denial. The student may appeal the Satisfactory Academic Progress Denial status, (see student appeals).

### Student Appeals for SAP

A student may write to appeal his/her Satisfactory Academic Progress Denial. The letter should be written to the Director of Student Financial Assistance and include the following; a narrative explaining why the student failed to meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy requirements, a description of what the student will do to ensure he/she will regain good standing, and any other relevant supporting documentation.

If the appeal is denied, the student may further appeal by making an appointment with the Dean of Enrollment Management. The Dean of Enrollment Management will render a

decision within 7 working days of receiving the request from the student. All decisions made by the Dean of Enrollment Management Committee are final.



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If the appeal is granted, the student will be placed on Satisfactory Academic Progress Probation and an academic plan implemented. The student's status will continue to be reviewed after each semester. The goal is that the student will regain good standing within the following semester. If the student does not regain good standing within the semester, the Director of Student Financial Assistance will place the student on Satisfactory Academic Progress Denial again.

NOTE: A student may be allowed to enroll in classes at MC, even though he/she is on Satisfactory Academic Progress Denial. Satisfactory Academic Progress is a Financial Aid, Scholarships & Veteran's Benefits Policy, not a registration or admissions policy. If a student is on Satisfactory Academic Progress Denial status, he/she will not be automatically dropped from his/her classes. Neither paying for your own classes nor sitting out for an enrollment period is sufficient for a student to re-establish eligibility for Financial Aid. Denial upon the courses completion.