

1.27	Policy Statement on CT State Community College – Academic Standing	23-045	2023-06-29
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Policy Statement: CT State Community College Academic Standing

The Connecticut State Community College Academic Standing Policy is explicit to a student’s academic performance and does not address Financial Aid standing. Financial aid students must meet the standards provided under the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) policy, which is separate from this Academic Standing Policy. Academic Standing is designed to help ensure students who fall below a 2.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) are provided with structured levels of support and advising to guide students towards academic success.

No course may be repeated for credit more than twice without approval. The highest grade received will be used in calculating the student’s cumulative grade point average. This does not apply to those courses that are designed to be repeated for additional credit. Programs with professional and regulatory standards may have different requirements for repeating courses in which case, those standards shall be applied.

STAFF REPORT

Modification of Satisfactory Progress Policy/Creation of New BOR Policy

Purpose:

This effort is intended to eliminate the Community College Board of Trustees policy manual. The content of this policy is a modification and will become a new Board of Regents Policy. CT State Senate recently approved a 3-year review cycle for all policies.

Rationale:

Our current academic standing policy (BOT 3.8, Satisfactory Progress) is complicated and leads to confusion for students, faculty, and advisors. In addition to being difficult to comprehend, it does not align with the college policy on graduation which includes a 2.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) and completion of all required courses. Unlike our current academic standing policy, graduation requirements do not include progress or pace as a criterion for graduation.

Additionally, the current academic standing policy uses deficit-based language (probation) which is more akin to the criminal justice system than an institution of higher education. With the implementation of the Holistic Case Management Advising policy and resultant Guided Pathways Advising program, advisors can monitor student academic performance, proactively intervene, and establish tiered supports based on a student's academic standing.

The policy revision accomplishes three main priorities.

- Removes academic progress as part of financial aid as an element of academic standing calculation and relies solely on student cumulative grade point average. This policy is separate and distinct from BOR Policy 1.1 Satisfactory Academic Progress for Financial Aid Recipients. Combining the two policies has proven historically confusing for students and advisors.
- Removes deficit-based language (probation) and replaces it with asset-based language.
- Enables the development of a tiered and individualized support model where Guided Pathways advisors, faculty advisors, and other support staff collaborate with students to develop the best plan for success.

3.8 Satisfactory Progress - Current Policy

To read old policy, please click here: [Old Policy](#)

CSCU Board of Regents

CT BOARD OF REGENTS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

RESOLUTION

concerning

CT State Community College Academic Standing Policy

June 29, 2023

WHEREAS, The Board of Regents for Higher Education pursuant to its statutory authority in Connecticut General Statute Section 10a-6 shall “establish policies and guidelines for the regional community-technical college system” (CSCU’s 12 community colleges); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Regents has resolved to consolidate the 12 individual community colleges within the Connecticut State College and Universities System into a singularly structured and accredited College with 12 campuses; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive review of all community college policies appearing in the Board of Trustees of Community-Technical Colleges Policy Manual is underway, including review by the CT State Cabinet, committees of CT State faculty and administrative staff, CSCU Chief Financial Officer, CSCU’s General Counsel’s Office; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined by the above review group that Community Colleges Policy 3.8, Satisfactory Progress is complicated and leads to student confusion; and

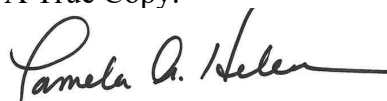
WHEREAS, the CT State Senate has approved the attached new policy; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Connecticut Board of Regents for Higher Education rescind BOT Community College policy 3.8; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents adopt the attached new policy effective with the fall 2023 semester which ensures that academic standing and satisfactory academic progress are distinct, deficit language is removed, and structured supports are provided to students; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Board of Regents charges CT State administration with the communication of the new policy to all CT State Community College staff.

A True Copy:



Pamela Heleen, Secretary of the
CT Board of Regents for Higher Education