

Brevard College Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (FA-SAP)

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What does this policy do?

- a. The FA-SAP policy calculates cumulative GPA and pace of completion based on Department of Education guidelines to determine whether students remain eligible for financial aid. The purpose of these guidelines is to ensure that students complete the requirements for graduation within the allotted time frame for which financial aid is available.

2. What is the allotted time frame for financial aid?

- a. Financial aid is available for students seeking bachelor's degrees within 150% of the published length of the program. Basically, for a degree that requires 124 credit hours, financial aid is potentially available for up to 186 attempted hours within that program.

3. When is it assessed?

- a. Unlike the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) policy governed by the Academic Affairs Office, which is calculated at the end of each semester, FA-SAP will be calculated annually at the end of each spring semester.

4. How is it different than regular SAP?

- a. FA-SAP calculations must take into account all attempted coursework, including withdrawals (W) when determining GPA and pace of completion. A student could possibly have a different academic GPA than FA-SAP GPA. In terms of completion pace, a student is required to earn 67% of all attempted hours.

5. What happens if I withdraw from a course?

- a. For the purpose of calculating FA-SAP GPA, withdrawals where a grade of W is received must be treated as attempted hours with no credit earned – basically a W equates to an F when calculating **only** FA-SAP GPA. Assessment of W's for academic GPA will remain the same. Courses dropped prior to the end of the drop/add period are not factored into calculations.

6. Should I never withdraw from a course?

- a. Withdrawals may have an effect on your FA-SAP GPA and pace of completion, though for academic purposes, they are still better than receiving an F for the course. It cannot be determined what effect a withdrawal may have until the annual assessment at the end of the spring semester.

7. What happens if I fail the assessment?

- a. If a student is assessed at the end of the spring semester and is not meeting FA-SAP, the student will be placed on financial aid suspension – this means that the student is not eligible for financial aid for the upcoming term. Academic good standing, probation, and suspension are unrelated.

8. Can I appeal suspension?

- a. Yes – if mitigating circumstances exist explaining why FA-SAP was not met, a student has the right to submit an appeal. If an appeal is granted, the student can be placed on FA-SAP probation and have their financial aid reinstated under the terms of the probation.