



# Hinds Community College

## Financial Aid and Veterans' Affairs

### Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy

Hinds Community College is required by federal regulations to establish minimum standards of satisfactory academic progress (SAP) to determine a student's eligibility for the following Title IV Federal Financial Aid programs:

- Federal Pell Grant (PELL)
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)
- Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership (LEAP)
- Federal Family Education Loan (SUB & UNSUB), Parent Plus Loan (PLUS)
- Federal College Work-Study (FWS)
- Veterans' Benefits (VA).

To receive and maintain federal financial assistance, students must make satisfactory progress toward the completion of an eligible academic or career-technical program of study. The following policies are in compliance with federal guidelines for Satisfactory Academic Progress:

**To maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress, a student must meet the following conditions:**

- \* 1. A student must pass 2/3 of cumulative semester hours attempted. The hours of a withdrawn class are considered as "attempted" hours.
- 2. A student must also maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) based on total hours attempted as outlined in the chart below.
- 3. A student receiving financial aid or veterans' benefits is expected to complete his/her program of study within a time frame not to exceed 150% of the published length of that program. Based on a standard 64 semester hour AA or AAS degree program of study, 96 semester hours is an average of the 150% rule.

Cumulative Semester Hours Attempted (including W's)	1-18	19-36	37-96
Minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average	1.75	1.85	2.00

**I. Status Review and Notification:**

At the end of each fall and spring semester, the Office of Financial Aid/Veterans' Affairs will notify in writing all students who fail to meet conditions 1 and 2 above. A student who begins a semester with a Satisfactory Financial Aid Status but who fails to meet condition 1 and 2 will be placed on **Probationary** financial status. Students on financial aid probation will be able to receive financial aid for which they are eligible for their next semester in attendance. The written notice will serve as a warning to such students that failure to meet conditions 1 and 2 during a probationary semester will result in an **Unsatisfactory** financial aid status and will prevent them from receiving financial aid or veterans' benefits during future semesters until they re-establish their eligibility. The Office of Financial Aid/Veterans' Affairs will also send written notice to students who are suspended from financial aid or veterans' benefits at the end of each fall and spring semester. A student may re-establish his/her eligibility for receiving financial aid benefits by meeting conditions 1 and 2 above and paying his/her own fees without Title IV federal financial aid.

**II. Withdrawals, Repeated, Remedial, Non-Credit, and Incomplete Courses:**

- ❖ "W's" will be counted in evaluating the number of semester hours attempted for the purpose of determining eligibility to receive financial aid, but "W's" will not be used in calculating a student's grade point average (GPA).
- ❖ A student will be allowed to repeat a course according to the policies stated in the College Catalog; however, any repeated course will be included in total hours attempted for the purpose of determining eligibility to receive financial aid.
- ❖ Semester hours for remedial/developmental courses will be recorded as hours attempted, but non-credit courses will not count in hours attempted.
- ❖ An incomplete (I) grade will have the same effect as a failing (F) grade when calculating quality points and hours attempted.

**III. Time Frame:**

Students attempting 96 semester hours without receiving a degree or certificate will be automatically suspended from financial aid. Once a student has attempted 96 semester hours and has received a degree or certificate, he/she must contact the Financial Aid Office for re-evaluation to pursue a second degree. There are no provisions for financial aid beyond the second degree and/or certificate.

**IV. Transfer Students:**

A student transferring to Hinds Community College from another college shall be assumed to have maintained satisfactory academic progress at his/her previous college. Hours transferred from previously attended colleges will be posted to the student's transcript by the Office of Admissions and Records after the student has earned 12 or more SH from Hinds. Previous college work will be counted toward the 150% of the length of the student's program of study.

**V. Appeals Process:**

In extenuating circumstances such as personal illness or illness/death in the immediate family, a student may appeal a financial aid suspension by filing a written Letter of Appeal Form through the District Dean of Student's Office. Only appeals that detail circumstances which were beyond the student's control and which affected academic performance or length of enrollment will be considered. Each appeal will be considered on its own merit. The Financial Aid Appeals Committee chaired by the District Dean of Students will review the appeal and respond to the student within 30 working days.

**\*See back side for minimum (SAP) attempted semester hours verses passed semester hours chart.**

To maintain satisfactory academic progress (**SAP**) and receiving title IV Federal Financial Aid, all students **must pass 2/3** of semester hours attempted as outline below.

<b>Semester hours attempt</b>	1	2	3-5	6	7-8	9	10-11	12	13-14	15	16-17	18	19-20
<b>Semester hours to pass</b>	1	2 hrs	3 hrs	3 hrs	5 hrs	6 hrs	7 hrs	8 hrs	9 hrs	10 hrs	11 hrs	12hrs	13 hrs

<b>Semester hours attempt</b>	21	22-23	24	25-26	27	28-29	30	31-32	33	34-35	36	37-38	39
<b>Semester hours to pass</b>	14 hrs	15 hrs	16 hrs	17 hrs	18 hrs	19 hrs	20 hrs	21 hrs	22 hrs	23 hrs	24 hrs	25 hrs	26 hrs

<b>Semester hours attempt</b>	40-41	42	43-44	45	46-47	48	49-50	51	52-53	54	55-56	57	58-59
<b>Semester hours to pass</b>	27 hrs	28 hrs	29 hrs	30 hrs	31 hrs	32 hrs	33 hrs	34 hrs	35 hrs	36 hrs	37 hrs	38 hrs	39 hrs

<b>Semester hours attempt</b>	60	61-62	63	64-65	66	67-68	69	70-71	72	73-74	75	76-77	78
<b>Semester hours to pass</b>	40 hrs	41 hrs	42 hrs	43 hrs	44 hrs	45 hrs	46 hrs	47 hrs	48 hrs	49 hrs	50 hrs	51 hrs	52 hrs

<b>Semester hours attempt</b>	79-80	81	82-83	84	85-86	87	88-89	90	91-92	93	94-95	96
<b>Semester hours to pass</b>	53 hrs	54 hrs	55 hrs	56 hrs	57 hrs	58 hrs	59 hrs	60 hrs	61 hrs	62 hrs	63 hrs	64 hrs