Federal regulations require recipients of   federal financial aid to maintain satisfactory academic progress in their pro   gram of study. It is the University's expectation that stu dents make progress toward   degree completion . Review of such progress must apply to all terms of enrollment within a   n academic year, including   term s for which no federal financial aid is   granted , as explained below .

Students must demonstrate satisfactory academic progress in three fundamental ways:

1. Maintain a cumulative   GPA of 3.0 or higher
2. Complete two -thirds of all credits attempted   per academic term if enrolled full -time or one -half of all cred its if enrolled half -time.
3. Complete program within a specified period of time

1. Maintain a cumulative GPA of   3.0 or higher

The Satisfactory Academic Progress regulations require th   at students   maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) in o   rder to remain eligible for financial aid. This cumulative GPA is a   3.0 (on a 4.0 scale).

2. Complete at least   two -thirds of all credits   attempted per academic   term if enrolled in a full-time program or complete one-half of all credits attempted per aca demic term if enrolled in   a ½ half time program .

Courses dropped   after the University drop/add period will count   towards credits attempted. Grades of D, F, Y (incomplete), W (withdrawal),   or X (unofficial withdrawal) will not sati sfy the requirements for   course completion .

3. Complet e Program w ithin a Specified Period of Time   :

Masters s tudents have   a maximum timeframe of   5 years to complete their degree requirements .

Ph.D. students have a maximum timeframe of 9 years to complete their degree requiremen ts.

All periods of enro llment will be counted toward the maximum number o   f terms . Periods of academic leave or non   -enrollment will not   count against the maximum   terms of enrollment .

Remedial and repeated coursework is counted in the same manner as all oth   er coursework for purposes of Satisfactory Academic Progress.   Students who earn credits through a consortium/contractual agreement will not qualify for additional terms of eligibility.

Students who have completed all required coursework for a degree but have not yet received their degree may not receive further federal financial aid for their academic program.

Students must be on track to complete their degree within their maximum time-frame in order to maintain their federal financial aid eligibility.

Students who have questions about how their maximum timeframe is determined may contact Student Financial Services.

Evaluation of Satisfactory Academic Progress

Student Financial Services will evaluate federal financial aid Satisfactory Academic Progress at the end of each academic year (at the end of the spring quarter) or at the end of each quarter, for Masters students enrolled in a year-long program, spanning 3-4 quarters. Reviews will occur once grades are published in the University system and will also include a review of courses attempted, pace toward graduation, and GPA.

SAP Suspension

Students who do not meet the terms of federal financial aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) will be subject to a SAP Suspension and will not be eligible to receive federal financial aid during the financial aid suspension term. In order to reinstate federal financial aid eligibility after a SAP suspension, students must meet the following criteria for reinstatement:

> -Complete 100% of courses enrolled during the suspension term with a grade of C or higher. Grades of D, F, X, Y, N, W, and V will not be considered sufficient for meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress and will therefore disqualify one from receiving financial aid in subsequent quarters.
> -M

If a student fails to meet the SAP requirements   as stated above   due to extenuating circumstances , such as a family   P H P E H U · V   G H D W K   V W X oG iHl l nh es sW of   ía n L O O Q H V V immediate family member),   etc, the student may submit a written appeal   to Student Financial Services . Th e appeal must be received by   Student Financial Services   prior to the first d ay of the next   academic term .

The wr itten appeal should explain   relevant extraordinary circumstances,   address the reason(s) for failing to meet the minimum aca   demic requirements, and offer solutions   to the problem (s) affecting prior academic performance. Supporting documentation/   statements from academic advisers, professors, professional health care worke rs, etc.,   may be requested . The appeal will be reviewed   by a committee chaired by the Director of   Student Financial Services   . All decisions made by the committee are final. St udents will be notified via their   Northwestern email account if an appeal is gran ted or denied.

If an appeal is granted, the student   will be placed in one of two categories:

1. SAP Probation

If a student is placed on SAP P   robation   after an appeal, he/she   will be eligible for federal aid during one additional academic   term . During the p robationary period, the student must meet all SAP   requirements. Failure to do so   will result in suspension of federal financial aid   without the ability to appeal. In order to reinstate   federal financial aid eligibility following   SAP suspension, students mu   st meet the criteria   for aid reinstatement listed above   , but without the use of   federal financial aid   during suspension .

2. SAP Academic Plan

Students may be placed on an academic plan upon submission of a successful appeal. If it is mathematically impossi   ble for a student to resolve all deficiencies during one W H U P   R I   D W W H Q G D Q F H   D Q G   W Kan a pHp eaXl i sG aap pQroFpHr ia tAeW aWcHt oD nG, R raQc co rf dRi ngR to I R U federal regulations, the student may be placed on an academ   ic plan with the end goal   to resolve all deficiencies.   An academic plan varies in length and is determined by the SAP committee. It does not have to equate to the exact number of terms it would take a student to resolve all deficiencies. If the student is meeting the criteria identified in the SAP appeal , the