Fact Sheet on Maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) for Graduate/Doctoral Student

What are the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements for graduate/doctoral students who are receiving federal aid?

- Graduate/Doctoral must have a minimum cumulative G.P.A. of 3.0 for all courses taken after receiving a bachelor's degree.
  Graduate students admitted for the current academic year with a G.P.A. below 3.0 may receive financial aid for the current academic year of study. Upon completion of the academic year, the applicant must meet a minimum cumulative G.P.A. of 3.0 to continue receiving financial aid.
- Full-time graduate/doctoral students must earn 75% of all credits attempted within the academic year (Fall/Spring).
- Less than full-time graduate/doctoral students must earn ALL credits attempted within the academic year (Fall/Spring).

If I am academically suspended by the University, what happens to my financial aid?
Even if you meet Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) for federal aid as listed above, you are no longer eligible to receive any federal and/or institutional aid due to academic suspension.

If I do not meet Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) for federal aid, what happens to my financial aid?
Any students who do not meet the academic progress standards will be placed on financial aid "warning" for one term. During the "warning" period, student must earn ALL credits attempted and maintain a 3.0 GPA for the semester. If you do not meet these criteria, you will be placed on financial aid suspension for the next semester.

If I am suspended due to not meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) for federal aid, how do I go about appealing?
Any student who does not meet the academic progress standards and is able to document extenuating circumstances may appeal the suspension or termination of financial aid eligibility. To appeal:

1. **S**ubmit the "Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal Form" available online at www.stu.edu/faforms with proper documentation to B.A.S.I.C. Office explaining the reason(s) for the request.
2. Submit a one page "academic plan" explaining how you will regain academic standing.
3. You will be notified of the decision within 15 business days of the receipt date.

If the Financial Aid Administrator denies the appeal, the student may request a "Final Appeal Request" form from B.A.S.I.C. Office. The Final Appeal Request will be reviewed by the Financial Aid Final Appeal Committee, and the student will be notified of their decision within 30 days. **This decision is final. Only one final appeal per academic year is allowed.**

What is timeframe limitation?
You are eligible to receive financial aid up to 133% of the credit hours required to earn your degree. Once you have met this limit, you are no longer eligible to receive financial aid. If you have documentation to support your unusual circumstances for reaching timeframe, you can submit an appeal in writing with documentation.