

Quinnipiac

School of Law

STANDARDS FOR SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS FOR FINANCIAL AID RECIPIENTS AND APPLICANTS

Law students who wish to receive assistance through any federal, state or institutionally supported grant, loan or work program must comply with the following Satisfactory Academic Progress standards. Satisfactory Academic Progress measures the quality of the academic work and the rate of progress toward the Juris Doctor degree. Students enrolled in joint degree programs must meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress guidelines for both programs. Students who fail to comply are not eligible for financial aid.

I. Qualitative Measurement -- The quality of a student's academic work.

All law students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 1.8 at the end of the student's first year and a 2.0 at the end of the second year and beyond. Transfer credits do not factor into the grade point average.

II. Quantitative Measurement – The rate of a student's progress towards a degree. Successful completion measures credits earned, not credits attempted.

Satisfactory Academic Progress is measured once per year at the end of the spring semester. To be considered satisfactory, full-time students must successfully complete at least 20 credits of academic work and part-time students must successfully complete at least 16 credits of academic work towards the Juris Doctor or joint Juris Doctor/Master of Business Administration Degrees during a period of two consecutive, required semesters. Incomplete and withdrawn courses are counted as attempted but not earned. Credits that are dropped during the published add/drop periods are not considered as attempted credits. Transfer credits are accepted as both attempted and earned. Audited courses are not counted toward degree progress.

Failed courses will be considered as attempted credits. While students who receive a failing grade in a required course can receive financial aid to repeat it, the successful completion of a failed course will not impact the cumulative grade point average but will count as earned credits.

Students may not receive financial aid for more than 150% of their published program length (full time JD = 9 required semesters, part-time JD =12 required semesters).

Please note that both the qualitative and quantitative measurements indicate the grade point average and number of credits needed to meet satisfactory academic progress requirements for financial aid and do not reflect the law school's recommended cumulative grade point average and number of credits to be taken each semester.

III. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS POLICY

Satisfactory Academic Progress is reviewed once per year, at the conclusion of the spring semester once final grades have been posted. Since summer enrollment begins prior to spring semester grades being posted, summer financial aid will be based on the student's academic progress at the time of the award. If subsequently it is determined that the student was not maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress, all undisbursed aid will be cancelled.

Students whose performance or progress does not meet the required standards will be notified by the Director of Financial Aid and will be considered ineligible for aid, including federal, state, institutional and most private loans. Students with financial aid applications on file for the upcoming year will receive a communication indicating the loss of aid at the end of June after final grades are posted. Students who are not making satisfactory progress and have not filed an application for financial aid will not receive this correspondence until the financial aid application has been filed.

Students may appeal their loss of aid based on extenuating circumstances. Appeals must be submitted in writing to the Associate Dean of the Law School and will be reviewed by the Academic Status Committee for decision. Students who do not appeal, or whose appeal is denied, will not regain financial aid eligibility until all academic standards are met. Summer courses may be considered in repairing deficiencies.

If an appeal is granted, the student will be placed on financial aid probation for one semester and an academic plan will be prescribed for the student to follow. The student's academic progress will be reviewed at the end of the probationary semester and they must have met the conditions of the academic plan to receive financial aid. A student who fails to meet these conditions will lose eligibility for financial aid. Additional appeals will not be considered.