

Academic Standards and Financial Aid

Sweet Briar College ■ Sweet Briar, Virginia 24595 ■ 1-800-381-6156 ■ Fax: 434-381-6450 ■ financialaid@sbc.edu

In accordance with Federal regulations, the College has defined standards pertaining to academic progress, which affect whether a student may receive financial assistance in a particular semester or academic year.

The standards consist of an enrollment timetable and quantitative (semester hours) and qualitative (cumulative GPA) measures for completing the requirements for the baccalaureate degree (please see the table below). If a student fails to meet any one of these, upon review by the Eligibility Committee at the conclusion of the Fall or Spring semester, she forfeits her eligibility for need-based financial aid in the next semester. If the student corrects the deficiency or deficiencies before the beginning of her next semester of enrollment, she may receive need-based aid for that semester. (The Eligibility Committee is a committee composed of faculty members charged with reviewing student academic performance and enforcing academic eligibility requirements.)

For example, a student who failed to meet the standards upon review at the end of the Spring semester would be ineligible to receive need-based aid in the following Fall semester. If she corrected the deficiency before the start of the Fall semester, she would be eligible to receive aid for which she otherwise qualified.

The standards provide for the handling of exceptions. The rule about exceptions states: "The Dean may recommend exceptions to these policies to the Eligibility Committee. Examples of circumstances that may qualify a student for an exemption include documented instances of physical or mental illness, extraordinary problems of a personal or family nature, and legally mandated modifications for students with documented learning disabilities. ..."

Irrespective of this policy, all full-time students are limited to four years (eight semesters) of eligibility for College-funded sources of need and/or merit aid; part-time students, to six years (12 semesters). Semesters in which students are enrolled away pursuing courses of study that count toward Sweet Briar graduation requirements count toward this total.

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS STANDARDS

Minimum Cumulative GPA and Credit Hours Required for Graduation and Financial Aid

By End of Semester	Full-Time Students (4 Years or 8 Semesters to Graduate)	Part-Time Students (6 Years to Graduate)
End of Freshman Year (Two Semesters)	1.70 Cum GPA 21 Credit Hours Earned	1.70 Cum GPA 16 Credit Hours Earned
3rd Semester	1.75 Cum GPA 38 Credit Hours Earned	
4th Semester	1.80 Cum GPA 54 Credit Hours Earned	34 Credit Hours Earned
5th Semester	1.85 Cum GPA 71 Credit Hours Earned	
6th Semester	1.90 Cum GPA 87 Credit Hours Earned	1.80 Cum GPA 54 Credit Hours Earned
7th Semester	1.95 Cum GPA 104 Credit Hours Earned	
8th Semester	2.00 Cum GPA 120 Credit Hours Earned	75 Credit Hours Earned
5th Year		1.90 Cum GPA 97 Credit Hours Earned
6th Year		2.00 Cum GPA 120 Credit Hours Earned