

Satisfactory Academic Progress and Review of SOM Graduate Students

To make satisfactory academic progress (SAP), SOM graduate students are required to

- maintain a cumulative graduate GPA ≥ 3.00
- exclusively receive final grades of A, B, C, P or S in all course work
- secure a permanent advisor (if required by the Program)
- if in a PhD program, pass all candidacy examinations by the ninth semester of full-time enrollment
- pass all comprehensive examinations and final defenses attempted
- meet all Program requirements in a timely fashion
- follow all VCU, Graduate School, School of Medicine and Program guidelines

A student not making satisfactory academic progress should be reviewed by their Program to determine whether they can realistically complete their current degree/certificate.

If the student has a realistic path forward leading to completion of the degree/certificate, within 2 business weeks of the Program becoming aware of the situation, the Program should provide the student with a written and/or email notice indicating

- the expectations for SAP
- why the student is not making SAP
- what the student needs to do to make SAP
- the expected target date for the student returning to SAP
- the possible consequences to the student of not returning to SAP by the target date

The student should confirm receipt and review of the notice, and then discuss the plan for returning to SAP with the Program and advisor (if in a thesis or dissertation Program).

Typically, the target date for returning to SAP should be the end of the semester in which the student is notified, but many factors inform the target date and therefore other target dates might be appropriate.

A student who does not return to SAP by the expected target date should be re-reviewed by the Program as above.

If the student does not have a realistic path forward leading to completion of the degree/certificate, the Program should discuss the student with the ADGE within 2 weeks of becoming aware of the situation to identify appropriate academic actions including, but not necessarily limited to, dismissal from the Program.

Approved: SOM Graduate Programs Committee, 2024.02