

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Policy

Jonkoping University: OPE-ID 04182800

Policy effective 2021

U.S. Federal regulations require that all students must make Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) towards their degree to remain eligible for financial aid (Title IV student aid from the U.S. Department of Education). All U.S. students receiving Direct Loans at Jonkoping University must meet the following requirements.

Maintenance of Satisfactory Academic Progress for Undergraduate and Master Students

JU will review a student's performance before the beginning of every new academic year for students in programs more than 60 credits in length and at the end of each term for programs that are 60 credits (one year) in length.

Quantitative element: A student must be making progress towards degree completion in respect to the pace at which they successfully complete attempted course work to maintain eligibility.

Student must pass 67% of the credits they attempt each year. *JU will divide the number of credits completed by the number of credits attempted at the evaluation point. A student must have completed 67% of those attempted credits in order to receive aid for the next award period. For example, if a student attempts 60 credit hours in an academic year and completes 50, their completion rate would be 83% which would meet this requirement.*

Attempted courses include:

Successfully completed courses in which the student has received a passing grade

Courses for which the student does not receive a passing grade

Repeated courses

Incomplete courses

Transfer credits applied to the student's degree

Courses for which the student withdrew after the add/drop date

The grade achieved will be calculated in the student's GPA except for transfer credits from another institution, incomplete courses, and courses that are dropped after the add/drop date.

Maximum timeframe: The maximum timeframe for completion to retain eligibility for aid is 150% of the credits required for completion of the student's program. *A student is ineligible when it becomes mathematically impossible to complete the program within 150% of its length if it is an undergraduate program. For example, if an undergraduate program is 3 years (or 6 terms) in length, a full-time student must finish the program within 9 terms. For graduate programs, a student must complete the program within the maximum timeframe established by the school if it is a graduate program. For example, if the program is 1 year in length, the student must complete the program in a year and a half.*

Qualitative element: JU uses several different grading scales, but they all have one thing in common. If a student receives a passing grade from the examiner on all obligatory parts of a course, the student is considered to have met the qualitative element of Satisfactory Academic Progress in that course. If the student can pass enough credits to progress within the academic program as determined by the programme director and published in the curriculum to each programme, the student has met the qualitative measure of SAP. For programs two or more years in length, a student must have a cumulative grade point of 2.0 or the equivalent to continue to receive aid. For specific grade charts for each school, please go to:

<https://ju.se/en/study-at-ju/after-admission/the-swedish-academic-system/grades.html>

All students at JU are supported by their programme director and a central study-counseling unit to help them follow the common academic performance and progress standards.

SAP Review

Study Counselors will monitor academic progress at the end of each academic year for programs more than 60 credits and each term for programs 60 credits in length.

60 credit programs: Progress will be reviewed each term. A student who fails to meet the SAP requirements during a semester will be placed on Financial Aid Warning and notified by email. The Financial Aid Warning continues for the next semester that the student is enrolled in classes. A student may receive financial aid for the term while on Financial Aid Warning; however, the student needs to meet the SAP requirements by the end of that semester. If the student fails to meet the SAP requirements at the end of the semester in which they are on Financial Aid Warning, they will no longer be eligible to receive financial aid. The student will be notified of his/her ineligibility by email.

Programs more than 60 credits: Progress will be reviewed at the end of each academic year. If a student fails to meet the SAP requirements, he/she will no longer be eligible to receive financial aid and will be notified by email.

Regardless of the length of the program, the SAP review will adhere to these policies within the review process:

Repeated Courses

A student may repeat a course/retake an exam to earn a passing grade. When a student retakes an exam, the credits for this course count as attempted credits in the SAP review and count as earned credits if a passing grade is obtained. In addition, students may repeat a course they have passed one time. If a student fails a course, they may repeat the course as many times as required to pass; however, all attempts are included in pace and maximum timeframe.

Transfer Credits

A student transferring credits will be evaluated by JU. Those courses which are applicable to the degree requirements will be accepted (according to the school's credit transfer policy) and will be included in the SAP calculation as both attempted and completed credits.

Change of Programme

A student who decides to change his/her programme will be evaluated similarly to Transfer Students. Only credits that apply to a student's new program will be included in the SAP calculation.

Right to Appeal SAP Determination

A student who has lost his/her eligibility for financial aid after not meeting SAP requirements has the right to appeal in writing to at JU. An appeal must be received within 3 weeks of notification of the student's loss of eligibility. The appeal should explain whether there were any special circumstances (such as illness or bereavement) that contributed to the failure to meet SAP; [what has changed in their situation](#); and how the student plans to do to ensure that he/she can make SAP at the next evaluation. If the appeal is approved, the student will be placed on financial aid probation and will be notified that they are expected to meet the SAP requirements in the next term. The letter may also outline conditions that must be met such as meeting with a study counselor to establish an academic plan to meet SAP.

If a student does not complete the appeal process, or if an appeal is denied, he/she will remain ineligible for Title IV student aid until SAP is re-established. Financial aid will not be provided retroactively.

Decision Timeframe

It is JU's goal to have a student's appeal reviewed in a timely manner. The decision will be sent to the student's email account at JU.

Loss of Financial Aid Eligibility

A student who is not meeting SAP requirements and who has had his/her appeal denied or who did not appeal his/her status will lose eligibility to receive Title IV student aid. This loss of eligibility only applies to financial aid status. It does not affect the ability to register for classes.

Regaining Eligibility for Financial Aid

A student is permitted to pay for his/her cost of attendance expenses while trying to make up for any SAP deficiencies. Students whose aid has been discontinued may apply for reinstatement of financial aid when they have met the qualitative and quantitative requirements of the SAP policy.