

Survey Results: Academic Progression

Q1. At your institution, is “good academic standing” (or the academic status required for re-enrollment with no conditions, whatever you call it) at your institution based exclusively on GPA?

158 (30.9%) institutions answered that good academic standing was based exclusively on GPA; 353 (69.1%) institutions said that it was not based exclusively on GPA.

By Type of Institution:

	Yes	No
Public 2-yr	48 (65.8%)	25 (34.2%)
Public 4-yr	121 (79.1%)	32 (20.9%)
Private, for-profit, 2-yr	3	4
Private, for-profit, 4-yr	6 (28.6%)	15 (71.4%)
Private, not-for-profit, 2-yr	7 (77.8%)	2 (22.2%)
Private, not-for-profit, 4-yr	167 (67.6%)	80 (32.4%)

By Size of Institution:

	Yes	No
Under 1,000	59 (69.4%)	26 (30.6%)
1,000-4,999	146 (64.9%)	79 (35.1%)
5,000-9,999	57 (70.4%)	24 (29.6%)
10,000-19,999	47 (73.4%)	17 (26.6%)
20,000 and above	41 (77.4%)	12 (22.6%)

Common answers for the other factors on which determination of good academic standing is based:

- Credits/hours earned
- Credits completed vs. credits attempted
- Number of failing grades
- Probation/disciplinary action

Q2. At your institution, what is the minimum GPA a first-year student can have at the end of that first year and be eligible to re-enroll in the second year unconditionally?

The five most common answers were as follows:

Min. GPA	# Responses	% Tot. Responses (463)
2.0	245	52.9%
1.5	54	11.7%

1.8	30	6.5%
1.7	30	6.5%
1.75	26	5.6%

The range of answers given was 0, with 4 respondents, to 3.0, also with 4 respondents.

Some institutions responded that they had different minimum GPA requirements depending on the number of credits completed, whether it is an undergraduate or graduate program, first-time freshman vs. other student, or first vs. second semester.

For schools that said they do not use GPA, some of the other minimum achievements required for a student to re-enroll for the second year include the following:

- Students must pass a minimum number of semester hours.
- Student with grades of W, NC/NP or Incomplete in 50% of more of their units enrolled are not eligible to reenroll
- A first-time freshman has up to three terms of study before being suspended for a term for failure to achieve academic standards set by the Board of Supervisors.

Q3. *Is this minimum GPA—or other measurement that you use to determine good academic standing for first-year students—lower than the minimum required of other students?*

321 institutions (63.3%) answered that this minimum GPA is NOT lower than the minimum required of other students, while 186 (36.7%) said that this minimum GPA IS lower than the minimum required of other students.

By Type of Institution:

	Yes, minimum standard is lower for 1st-yr students	No
Public 2-yr	15 (21.1%)	56 (78.9%)
Public 4-yr	60 (39.5%)	92 (60.5%)
Private, not-for-profit, 2-yr	4	5
Private, not-for-profit, 4-yr	99 (40.4%)	146 (59.6%)
Private, for-profit, 2-yr	3	4
Private, for-profit, 4-yr	5 (23.8%)	16 (76.2%)
Administrative Unit	0	1

By Size of Institution:

	Yes, minimum standard is lower for 1st-yr students	No
Under 1,000	28 (33.3%)	56 (66.7%)
1,000-4,999	92 (41.6%)	129 (58.4%)
5,000-9,999	29 (35.4%)	53 (64.6%)
10,000-19,999	25 (39.7%)	38 (60.3%)

20,000 and above	12 (22.2%)	42 (77.8%)
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For those institutions whose minimum GPA for first-year students is lower than for other students, some of the more common explanations include the following:

- The minimum is higher for others/upperclassmen or after a certain number of credits
- A gradual build up over two years, at the Junior level the full degree minimum goes into effect.
- The lower GPA threshold for first-year students allows them time to adjust to the college experience.

Q4. Indicate any condition(s) under which a first-year student whose GPA is below that indicated above in his/her first year can re-enroll for the second year:

<i>Formal appeal</i>	316 institutions (45%)
<i>Approval by administrator (indicate which administrator)</i>	135 (19.2%)
<i>Requirement to enroll in a special course or program</i>	88 (12.5%)
<i>Other (please explain)</i>	163 (23.2%)

Condition(s) under which a first-year student whose GPA is below that indicated above in his/her first year can re-enroll for the second year:

By Type of Institution:

	Formal Appeal	Approval by Admin.	Req. to Enroll in Special Course	Other
Public 2-yr	46 (46.5%)	22 (22.2%)	13 (13.1%)	18 (18.2%)
Public 4-yr	98 (45%)	43 (19.7%)	24 (11%)	53 (24.9%)
Private, not-for-profit, 2-yr	7 (77.8%)	0	0	2 (22.2%)
Private, not-for-profit, 4-yr	142 (42.5%)	60 (18%)	50 (15%)	82 (24.6%)
Private, for-profit, 2-yr	6	3	0	1
Private, for-profit, 4-yr	16 (57.1%)	5 (17.9%)	0	7 (25%)
Administrative Unit	1	1	1	0

By Size of Institution:

	Formal Appeal	Approval by Admin.	Req. to Enroll in Special Course	Other
Under 1,000	48 (48%)	22 (22%)	7 (2%)	23 (23%)
1,000-4,999	143 (45.5%)	58 (18.2%)	45 (14.1%)	73 (22.9%)
5,000-9,999	57 (47.5%)	22 (18.3%)	15 (12.5%)	26 (21.7%)
10,000-19,999	34 (41%)	17 (20.5%)	9 (10.8%)	23 (27.7%)
20,000 and above	33 (44%)	14 (18.7%)	11 (14.7%)	17 (22.7%)

Other conditions include the following:

- Academic mentorship program
- Academic probation
- Course, such as Study Skills or College Life
- Maintenance contract
- Weekly meetings with faculty member

Q5. *Do the conditions identified above also apply for a student after the first year if he/she has not earned a GPA—or other relevant measurement of achievement—at least at the level of the minimum requirement?*

Yes 461 institutions (93.3%)

No 33 institutions (6.7%)

By Type of Institution:

	Yes	No
Public 2-yr	67 (95.7%)	3 (4.3%)
Public 4-yr	135 (91.8%)	12 (8.2%)
Private, not-for-profit, 2-yr	7	0
Private, not-for-profit, 4-yr	224 (92.9%)	17 (7.1%)
Private, for-profit, 2-yr	6	1
Private, for-profit, 4-yr	20	0
Administrative Unit	1	0

By Size of Institution:

	Yes	No
Under 1,000	72 (90%)	8 (10%)
1,000-4,999	208 (95.9%)	9 (4.1%)
5,000-9,999	75 (91.5%)	7 (8.5%)
10,000-19,999	56 (68.3%)	4 (4.9%)
20,000 and above	47 (90.4%)	5 (9.6%)

Comments include the following:

- All students are treated the same.
- The cut-off minimum GPA gets successively higher at each level (sophomore, junior, etc).
- If students do not maintain a minimum GPA after being re-admitted, they are dismissed.
- Students are placed on probation when they fail to meet the minimum GPA requirement for their year of enrollment.

Q6. *Does your institution require students at any point to have a GPA higher than 2.0 to be in good academic standing?*

Yes 421 (82.9%)

No 87 (17.1%)

By Type of Institution:

	Yes	No
Public 2-yr	13 (18.3%)	58 (81.7%)
Public 4-yr	22 (14.4%)	131 (85.6%)
Private, not-for-profit, 2-yr	0	9
Private, not-for-profit, 4-yr	46 (18.8%)	199 (81.2%)
Private, for-profit, 2-yr	1	6
Private, for-profit, 4-yr	5 (23.8%)	16 (76.2%)
Administrative Unit	0	1

By Size of Institution:

	Yes	No
Under 1,000	18 (21.7%)	65 (78.3%)
1,000-4,999	37 (16.5%)	187 (83.5%)
5,000-9,999	15 (18.3%)	67 (81.7%)
10,000-19,999	12 (19%)	51 (81%)
20,000 and above	5 (9.4%)	48 (90.6%)

Many schools stated that the required minimum GPA depends on the program, school or major. Of those schools that stated a specific required GPA, the most common answers were 2.5 and 3.0, with 8 responses each, followed by 2.0 (or higher), with 6 responses, and 2.25, with 5 responses.

6a. The question then asked to what classification this applies. 43 answered first-year students; 60 answered sophomores; 56 answered juniors; and 64 said seniors.

By Type of Institution:

	First-Year	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
Public 2-yr	9 (37.5%)	13 (54.2%)	1 (4.2%)	1 (4.2%)
Public 4-yr	9 (13.6%)	16 (24.2%)	19 (28.8%)	22 (33.3%)
Private, not-for-profit, 2-yr	0	0	0	0
Private, not-for-profit, 4-yr	22 (19%)	27 (23.3%)	32 (27.6%)	35 (30.2%)
Private, for-profit, 2-yr	1 (33.3%)	1 (33.3%)	0	1 (33.3%)
Private, for-profit, 4-yr	2 (14.3%)	3 (21.4%)	4 (28.6%)	5 (35.7%)
Administrative Unit	0	0	0	0

By Size of Institution:

	First-Year	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
Under 1,000	10 (21.7%)	12 (26.1%)	11 (23.9%)	13 (28.3%)
1,000-4,999	17 (18.1%)	24 (25.5%)	26 (27.7%)	27 (28.7%)
5,000-9,999	7 (22.6%)	12 (38.7%)	4 (12.9%)	8 (25.8%)
10,000-19,999	7 (18.9%)	8 (21.6%)	10 (27%)	12 (32.4%)

20,000 and above	2 (13.3%)	4 (26.7%)	5 (33.3%)	4 (26.7%)
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Q7. Does your institution limit the number of hours a student may take if he or she is not in good academic standing?

Yes 302 (59.7%)

No 204 (40.3%)

By Type of Institution:

	Yes, limits #hours for students not in good acad standing	No
Public 2-yr	51 (71.8%)	20 (28.2%)
Public 4-yr	78 (51.3%)	74 (48.7%)
Private, not-for-profit, 2-yr	3	5
Private, not-for-profit, 4-yr	157 (63.8%)	89 (36.2%)
Private, for-profit, 2-yr	2	4
Private, for-profit, 4-yr	10 (47.6%)	11 (52.3%)
Administrative Unit	1	0

By Size of Institution:

	Yes	No
Under 1,000	42 (50.6%)	41 (49.4%)
1,000-4,999	147 (65.9%)	76 (34.1%)
5,000-9,999	52 (64.2%)	29 (35.8%)
10,000-19,999	36 (58.1%)	26 (41.9%)
20,000 and above	23 (42.6%)	31 (57.4%)

The most common hour limitation indicated was 12 credits or semester hours, with 53 responses; followed by 14 credits/ semester hours, with 13 responses; and 12-13 credits/semester hours, with 8 responses.

Some comments include:

- Depends on the student or circumstances (student's progress, severity of academic probation, etc.)
- Determined by dean or college
- We may require the student to reduce his/her credit hours, not participate in extra-curricular activities or reduce the amount of hours they are involved in campus activities.
- Recommendations for a reduced load may be made, but there is no mandatory enforcement.

Q8: What interventions are in place for students who fall below good academic standing who re-enroll?

Some of the most commonly indicated interventions include:

- Academic advising
- Academic probation
- Early warning system
- Limited classes
- Meetings with dean/advisors
- Study skills course

Q9: *Do you require (and enforce this requirement) that the student participates in the intervention(s)?*

Yes 318 institutions (65.6%)

No 167 institutions (34.4%) do not require it.

By Type of Institution:

	Yes	No
Public 2-yr	40 (58.8%)	28 (41.2%)
Public 4-yr	91 (61.9%)	56 (38.1%)
Private, not-for-profit, 2-yr	6 (66.7%)	3 (33.3%)
Private, not-for-profit, 4-yr	167 (71.4%)	67 (28.6%)
Private, for-profit, 2-yr	3	3
Private, for-profit, 4-yr	9 (47.4%)	10 (52.6%)
Administrative Unit	1	0

By Size of Institution:

	Yes	No
Under 1,000	55 (70.5%)	23 (29.5%)
1,000-4,999	137 (63.7%)	78 (36.3%)
5,000-9,999	51 (63.8%)	29 (36.3%)
10,000-19,999	39 (66.1%)	20 (33.9%)
20,000 and above	33 (66%)	17 (34%)

Some common explanations were the following:

- A registration hold is placed on the student's account and prohibits registration until the student receives suspension counseling.
- It is required but students may choose not to participate. Those students who choose not to participate forfeit their right to appeal should they eventually be placed on academic suspension.
- The interventions are supposed to be followed, but the enforcement is weak.
- They sign a contract and if they do not attend, they are called into the Student Success office for counseling. They then encourage the student to either attend or withdraw. So far, we have not had to withdrawn students for none compliance.

Q10: *Does your institution limit the number of no-penalty withdrawals (withdrawals that do NOT affect a student's GPA) a student may have in a semester?*

Yes 34 (6.8%)
No 469 (93.2%)

By Type of Institution:

	Yes	No
Public 2-yr	2 (2.8%)	69 (97.2%)
Public 4-yr	13 (8.5%)	140 (91.5%)
Private, not-for-profit, 2-yr	0	8 (100%)
Private, not-for-profit, 4-yr	16 (6.6%)	225 (93.4%)
Private, for-profit, 2-yr	1 (14.3%)	6 (85.7%)
Private, for-profit, 4-yr	2 (9.5%)	19 (90.5%)
Administrative Unit	9 (90%)	1 (10%)

By Size of Institution:

	Yes	No
Under 1,000	3 (3.8%)	77 (96.3%)
1,000-4,999	20 (9%)	202 (91%)
5,000-9,999	2 (2.5%)	79 (97.5%)
10,000-19,999	4 (6.3%)	59 (93.7%)
20,000 and above	5 (9.3%)	49 (90.7%)

If yes, what is the number of courses or credits?

The most common answer was 1 course, with 8 responses.

Q11: Does your institution limit the number of no-penalty withdrawals (withdrawals that do NOT affect a student's GPA) a student may have during all his/her years as an undergraduate?

No 446 (88.8%) institutions said that they do not limit the number of no-penalty withdrawals that a student may have during all his/her years as an undergraduate.
Yes 56 (11.2%)

By Type of Institution:

	Yes	No
Public 2-yr	9 (12.7%)	62 (87.3%)
Public 4-yr	27 (17.8%)	125 (82.2%)
Private, not-for-profit, 2-yr	1	7
Private, not-for-profit, 4-yr	15 (6.2%)	226 (93.8%)
Private, for-profit, 2-yr	1	6
Private, for-profit, 4-yr	3 (14.3%)	18 (85.7%)
Administrative Unit	0	1

By Size of Institution:

	Yes	No
Under 1,000	6 (7.6%)	73 (92.4%)
1,000-4,999	21 (9.5%)	201 (90.5%)
5,000-9,999	5 (6.1%)	77 (93.9%)
10,000-19,999	9 (14.5%)	53 (85.5%)
20,000 and above	15 (27.8%)	39 (72.2%)

If yes, what is the number of courses or credits?

The most common answer was 6 courses (12 responses), followed by 3 courses and 2 courses (4 responses each).

Q12: Have you revised your academic progression standards in the last three years?

No 377 (74.8%) institutions have not revised their academic progression standards in the last three years.

Yes 127 institutions (25.2%)

By Type of Institution:

	Yes	No
Public 2-yr	22 (31.4%)	48 (68.6%)
Public 4-yr	31 (20.7%)	119 (79.3%)
Private, not-for-profit, 2-yr	3	6
Private, not-for-profit, 4-yr	59 (24%)	187 (76%)
Private, for-profit, 2-yr	3	4
Private, for-profit, 4-yr	9 (45%)	11 (55%)
Administrative Unit	0	1

By Size of Institution:

	Yes	No
Under 1,000	26 (31%)	58 (69%)
1,000-4,999	53 (24.1%)	167 (75.9%)
5,000-9,999	18 (22.2%)	63 (77.8%)
10,000-19,999	16 (25.8%)	46 (74.2%)
20,000 and above	14 (25.9%)	40 (74.1%)

Some institutions had the following comments:

- A single, all-programs inclusive academic standing policy has been proposed and is nearing approval through the appropriate governance bodies. Expected implementation is Fall 09 or 10.
- First-year students' suspension GPA was lowered to better reflect decisions made by academic review committee in the first and second semester.
- Raised the minimum required GPA for good standing.

- Reinstated a status of "advising alert," which is considered to be good standing but allows for monitoring of students who earn a single D, or whose GPA lies between 2.00 and 2.20.
- Students suspended or dismissed would previously have to maintain a 2.25 semester GPA in order to remain in school. That has now been lowered to a 2.0.
- The GPA has stayed the same, but we have become more stringent on suspension.

Q13: Do you have further comments about progression standards that are not included in your answers above?

Some interesting comments are as follows:

- It is difficult when financial aid has the SAP policy that only looks at completion and the Registrar's office's academic standing only looks at GPA. So there are times a perfect 4.0 GPA student can still be suspended by Financial Aid or vice versa.
- Our stepped-up efforts in Intervention have been very successful in the last 10 years or so. Our % of students in academic difficulty at the end of any term has dropped from double digits to only about 3% at the current time. We are a small institution wh (need to find the rest of this)
- Students suspended and re-enrolled who are on a learner contract and an academic success plan have been successful in reaching and often exceeding their academic goals.
- The increasing number of students whose academic success is affected by mental health issues present special considerations. Since students progress academically each semester, some first-time students with very low GPAs due to diagnosed mental health i
- There is some discussion on campus as to whether we should require mandatory interventions for those in the 1.0 - 2.0 GPA range. I think this will happen in the near future, as our pilot project for voluntary mentoring seems to be working well.
- We are currently discussing a revision to academic progression standards to make them more rigorous for first and second year students. Many faculty would like the policy to require a 2.0 minimum GPA of ALL students, rather than juniors and seniors only.
- We believe intrusive advising is important and we require advising for the first semester of acceptance and no later than 60 hours and 90 hours. We encourage students to repeat the low grades (D and F) to help them raise the GPA and not wait too long to
- While the course to help with study skills, etc. is considered required, we don't have a consequence imposed by the college if a student does not attend. The suspension from athletics and Greek activities, however, is strictly enforced.