

RABBINICAL COLLEGE OF AMERICA

SATISFACTORY PROGRESS (SAP)

All matriculated students pursuing an approved program at Rabbinical College of America are required to maintain satisfactory academic progress, which in this institution is defined as being in good academic standing as detailed below.

The SAP standards are the same for all matriculated students, regardless of whether or not they are receiving Title IV federal financial aid. Satisfactory academic progress has two principal components: a qualitative standard and a quantitative standard. The institution will use standard rounding procedures for evaluating both the qualitative and quantitative standards. Satisfactory academic progress is always evaluated on a cumulative basis.

At the end of each semester, both the qualitative and quantitative standards are reviewed. A report is then generated which indicates whether the student is meeting SAP requirements.

If a student is readmitted to the school, the student's academic file is evaluated to determine whether he is meeting satisfactory academic progress requirements.

A comprehensive explanation of the qualitative and quantitative standards at Rabbinical College of America is provided below.

- **Qualitative Standard**

A student must achieve a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 (the equivalent of a "C" average) or better. Every student is evaluated at the end of each semester to ensure that he is maintaining a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0.

Grade point averages will be calculated according to the following numerical equivalents:

A	4.0	C	2.0
A-	3.7	C-	1.7
B+	3.3	D	1.0
B	3.0	I (Incomplete)	not included in calculation of GPA
B-	2.7	W(Withdrawn)	not included in calculation of GPA
C+	2.3	F (Fail)	0.0

Courses with a grade of incomplete or withdrawn do not affect the GPA. However, courses with a grade of fail, whether earned or unearned, are included in the GPA calculation. If a student receives failing grades for all of his courses, the student will generally be considered as having unofficially withdrawn unless there is evidence that he completed the semester.

- **Quantitative Standard**

- **Maximum Timeframe - measured in credit hours**

A student must make sufficient progress through the academic program to complete the program with a maximum attempted credit ceiling equivalent to 150% of the published length of the program in credit hours.

- **Pace of Completion**

A student must earn 67% of the cumulative credits he attempts. To assess progress, the student's cumulative credits earned are divided by the cumulative credits attempted. This calculation will determine if he is advancing through the academic program at a pace sufficient to complete the program within the maximum time frame. If the number of credits earned divided by the number of credits attempted is 67% or greater, he is determined to be meeting the pace element.

WHEN SAP IS NOT MET

WARNING

If a student fails to meet the SAP standards, he will be notified, and granted a warning period which will last one semester. The student will also be notified that he may appeal the lack of satisfactory academic progress at any point in the process. During this warning period, a designated faculty member may counsel the student and assist him in improving his academic performance. Additionally, the student may be provided with various student services including tutoring, scheduling accommodation, or other academic assistance. If, after this warning period, SAP standards are still not met, he will be subject to academic discipline which may include expulsion or suspension from the institution.

Federal and/or State Financial Aid Warning

If a student falls below the satisfactory progress standards, he will be notified, and granted a federal and/or state financial aid warning period of one semester, during which time he

maintains federal and/or state financial aid eligibility. Additionally, the student will be notified that he has the option of appealing his lack of SAP to be granted a financial aid probationary period. During the warning period, the student may receive the academic counseling and student services described above. If satisfactory progress standards are still not met after this period, the student will be notified that he is no longer eligible for federal and/or state financial aid.

APPEALS PROCESS

A student may appeal the institution's determination that he is not making satisfactory academic progress. Basis for an appeal include the death of a relative, an injury or illness of the student, or other special circumstances. In the appeal, the student must describe why he failed to make satisfactory academic progress, and what has changed in his situation that will allow him to demonstrate satisfactory academic progress at the next evaluation. The appeal, along with any applicable documentation, must be submitted in writing to the registrar's office. A senior faculty member will consider all information provided by the student and consult with other faculty members, if necessary, to reach a decision.

If the appeal is accepted, the senior faculty member will determine whether the student will be able to meet the standard SAP requirements of the institution by the end of a one semester probationary period. If it is determined that the student will be able to meet the standard SAP requirements after the probationary period, he will be placed on academic probation as described below. However, if it is determined that the student will not be able to meet the standard SAP requirements by the end of the probationary period, he will be placed on academic probation with a customized study plan, as described below. A student on academic probation, with or without a study plan, will continue to be eligible for federal and/or state financial aid.

If the appeal is not accepted, the student will be subject to academic discipline, which may include expulsion or suspension from the institution. He will also be ineligible for federal and/or state financial aid until he reestablishes eligibility as described below in the section entitled "Reinstatement." The final decision, academic probation with or without a study plan or denial of the appeal, will be conveyed to the student in writing.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

If a student successfully appeals the lack of satisfactory academic progress, and it is determined that he can meet the standard SAP requirements after a probationary period, the student will

be placed on academic probation. Academic probation is a one semester probation period at the end of which the student must meet the SAP standards of the institution. Upon request, the institution may provide various student services including academic counseling, tutoring, scheduling accommodation, or other academic assistance. A student on academic probation will continue to be eligible for federal and/or state financial aid.

ACADEMIC PROBATION WITH A STUDY PLAN

If a student successfully appeals the lack of satisfactory academic progress, and it is determined that he will not be able to meet the standard SAP requirements after a probationary period, he will be placed on academic probation with a study plan. This study plan will include customized SAP standards which will enable the student to meet the SAP requirements, as well as other academic provisions to assist him in meeting those standards. The plan will ensure that the student can meet the school's satisfactory progress standards by a specific time, though an academic plan could take the student all the way through successful program completion. A senior faculty member will develop a study plan in conjunction with the student and other faculty, as needed. A student on academic probation with a study plan will continue to be eligible for federal and/or state financial aid.

A student must appeal to change his plan. He must explain what has happened to make the change necessary and how he will be able to make academic progress.

REEVALUATION AFTER A PROBATIONARY PERIOD

At the end of the probationary period, the student's satisfactory academic progress will be reevaluated. If the student is meeting the standard SAP requirements of the institution, or the satisfactory academic progress standards of his study plan, he will be considered to be meeting SAP.

If the student's academic performance fails to meet the academic progress standards of the institution, or the provisions of his study plan, the student will be notified that he no longer meets SAP standards. The student will be ineligible to receive federal and/or state financial aid, and he will be subject to academic discipline which may include expulsion or suspension from the institution.

REINSTATEMENT FOR FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID

A student who became ineligible for federal and/or state financial aid because he was not

meeting satisfactory academic progress standards may reestablish eligibility by meeting institutional SAP standards. At the start of each semester, the financial aid office will receive notification of every student's status. If the student is meeting institutional SAP standards, he will also be notified that he is once again eligible to receive federal and/or state financial aid.

INCOMPLETES

A student who has not completed all the required course work for a particular course may have, at the discretion of the instructor, additional time (up to six months) to complete the work. A temporary grade of incomplete will then be assigned.

Courses with a grade of incomplete will be included in the student's number of credits attempted but not completed. As long as the incomplete grade remains on the transcript, the grade will not be included in the student's GPA. The incomplete grade will be replaced with the student's earned grade at the conclusion of the period of time given for the work to be completed. If the required work is not completed on time, the student will receive a grade based on the work previously completed.

WITHDRAWALS FROM A COURSE

A student who withdraws from a course will have the course grade recorded as withdrawn. A grade of withdrawn will not be included in his GPA, however, the course will be counted towards the number of credits attempted but not completed.

TRANSFER CREDITS AND SATISFACTORY PROGRESS

Transfer credits are not included in the GPA calculation; however, they are counted toward both the number of credits attempted and credits earned by the student.

REPETITIONS

All repeated courses are counted in the number of the student's attempted credits, and are included in the student's GPA, including failing grades. A student repeating a course must remain within the time frame required for SAP standards.

A repeated course in which the student has already received a passing grade is counted towards the student's enrollment status only the first time the course is retaken. A repeated course in which the student received a failing grade is always counted towards the student's enrollment, regardless of how many times he repeats that course in an attempt to pass.

CHANGE OF MAJOR

If a student switches his major, any credits and grades that are not applicable to the new major will not be considered in the determination of SAP.

REMEDIAL COURSES

Rabbinical College of America does not offer any ESL or remedial courses.