

FINANCIAL AID SUSPENSION

Financial Aid recipients will be placed on Suspension Status if:

1. They withdraw from Western.
2. They fail to satisfactorily complete the required number of credits for which they were funded.
3. They fail to achieve satisfactory progress while in a Warning status.
4. They are academically suspended--A student placed on academic probation will be dismissed for one semester if either of the following conditions occur:
 - a. A student on probation fails to achieve a semester grade point average of 2.00 during the next semester of enrollment, or
 - b. A transfer student admitted on probation fails to achieve a grade point average of at least 2.00 during the first semester at Western.

A student will be dismissed for one semester if either of the following conditions occur, even though the student's cumulative grade point average is above a 2.00:

- a. The student's semester grade point average is below 1.00, or
- b. Two consecutive semester grade point averages are below 2.00

Students on suspension for the first time must earn enough credits at their own expense to correct the deficiency. Students on second or subsequent suspension are ineligible to receive any aid for one year from the end of the term in which the infraction occurred.

APPEAL OF SUSPENSION

Students may appeal in writing to the Financial Aid Office. To assist the students in the Appeals Process, an Appeals Form may be picked up from the Financial Aid Office or downloaded at financialaid.umwestern.edu/formts.html. An Appeals Committee has been established to review each case and meets as needed. It is the responsibility of the student to know if their grade reports when compared to the Satisfactory Progress Standards, will cause immediate suspension of their Financial Aid. It is not the responsibility of the Financial Aid Office to notify the students. Further, it is the student's responsibility to notify the Financial Aid Office when reinstatement conditions have been met or to initiate an appeal.

REINSTATEMENT OF FINANCIAL AID

Students whose suspension time has elapsed or have successfully corrected the deficiency, must notify the Financial Aid Office and submit a grade transcript for review. Reinstatement of aid will be subject to funds available at the time the completed file is reviewed.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Only transfer credits that are accepted, passing grades, by UM Western will be included in PACE and Duration calculations.

NON-DEGREE STUDENTS

A non-degree student is by definition not considered to be in a degree program and is, therefore, not eligible for Financial Aid. Students enrolled for teaching certification or re-certification may be eligible for aid.

WITHDRAWALS/REFUND/REPAYMENTS

Financial Aid recipients who drop classes which result in a reduction of fees paid are subject to Western's Return of Title IV calculations. Refund monies will be used to repay any financial aid awards before any refund is made to the student. Students may be required to repay financial aid when they withdraw before the end of the semester. The amount of repayment is determined according to Federal regulations which take into account the number of class days attended and the total dollar amount of aid received.

CHANGES IN SATISFACTORY PROGRESS STANDARDS

Exceptions or amendments to any of the specific provisions regarding Satisfactory Progress Standards may be made at any time, without publication, due to changes in Federal, State and/or Institutional Regulations and Policies. Questions concerning this policy should be addressed to the Financial Aid Office, University of Montana Western, 710 S Atlantic St, Dillon MT 59725.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Many scholarship recipients are required to maintain higher scholarship standards than outlined in this policy. Such standards are often outlined in a notification letter sent to the student. Students who feel they may not be able to maintain minimum acceptable standards should contact the Financial Aid Office at (406)683-7511.