

# BLUE MOUNTAIN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

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## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

AREA: Academic Affairs

NUMBER: Policy 2.30

SUBJECT: Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) for Financial Aid Eligibility

1. Eligibility for Receiving Financial Aid

Blue Mountain Christian University follows federal regulations with regard to the establishment and application of reasonable standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) for the purpose of the receipt of financial assistance under the programs authorized by Title IV of the Higher Education Act.

Blue Mountain Christian University is committed to assisting students with obtaining financial aid to help them meet their educational goals. To be eligible for student financial aid, a student must meet SAP standards, and be seeking a degree at Blue Mountain Christian University. The Office of Financial Aid has established guidelines (based on federal regulations) for evaluating academic progress of students, taking into consideration their cumulative Blue Mountain Christian University GPA, the cumulative number of hours a student has attempted at Blue Mountain Christian University and transferred courses listed on official Blue Mountain Christian University Transcripts. Failure to maintain SAP will result in the loss of federal student aid. Financial aid standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress are not the same as the academic standards of the University. Permission to enroll does not equal financial aid SAP.

**Generally, all periods of the student's enrollment count when assessing progress, even periods in which the student did not receive FSA funds.**

2. The University measures **students' progress by using the following criteria:**

Qualitative Standard:

- A. Students who have attempted between 0-29 hours must maintain a minimum 1.5 cumulative BMC grade point average (GPA).
- B. Students who have attempted 30 or more hours must maintain a minimum of 2.0 cumulative BMC GPA.

If all other eligibility criteria have been met, students can regain eligibility for student aid funds once the BMC GPA requirements have been met. Students who are granted Academic Bankruptcy should be aware that those courses will be included in cumulative GPA calculations and hours attempted/earned when determining SAP.

Quantitative Standard (PACE):

- Students must successfully complete a minimum of 67% of their cumulative attempted hours.

# BLUE MOUNTAIN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

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## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Attempted hours include courses with grades of F, FA, FE, I, W, WP, WF, P, and AP classes. Remedial courses and repeated courses are also included in attempted/earned hours. Attempted hours are measured as of the last day to change class schedule and receive tuition/fee adjustment as indicated on the University academic calendar.

Maximum Time frame:

- Students must complete degree requirements within 150% of the published length of their academic programs as published in the BMC Undergraduate Catalog.
  - Example: Psychology 120 hours X 150% = 180 hours

This includes all courses attempted at BMC including remedial/developmental courses, pass/fail courses, and all transfer work that is accepted by BMC and appears on official BMC transcripts.

Transfer Credits:

- Coursework taken at other institutions that is accepted and appear on official BMC transcripts will count as both attempted and completed credit hours toward pace and maximum time frame and will be used in determining GPA standards.

### 3. Financial Aid Standards

The Office of Financial Aid strictly adheres to the academic standards established by Blue Mountain Christian University as printed in the *Blue Mountain Christian University Catalog*. These standards are used to measure a student's academic progress for financial aid purposes.

Financial Aid Warning

Calculations are performed at the end of each semester to determine if minimum standards are met. A student who fails to meet SAP requirements will be placed on either Financial Aid Warning or Financial Aid Suspension. Accepted transfer credits will be subject to the same SAP standards as institutional credits, and a SAP status will be assigned to the transfer student as calculated according to this policy.

### 4. Appeals

A student may appeal the loss of financial aid eligibility if extenuating circumstances interfered with the ability to meet satisfactory academic progress standards.

### 5. Additional Undergraduate Degrees

A student seeking a second or subsequent undergraduate degree may be eligible for federal financial aid for a maximum of 270 attempted hours\*, including all undergraduate hours attempted.

### 6. Financial Aid for Graduate Students

A graduate student is considered to be making SAP when admitted to a graduate program and will continue to receive financial aid while meeting the academic standards set by the department and/or up to their level of eligibility. In order to maintain financial aid eligibility, a graduate student must maintain the required cumulative GPA, **complete the Master's degree** requirements

# BLUE MOUNTAIN CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

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## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

within six years of beginning the program, and successfully complete a minimum of 67% of all hours attempted.

### 7. Non-Degree/Certification

A non-degree seeking student is generally not eligible for financial aid. An appointment with the Director of Financial Aid is required to determine eligibility.

*\*Attempted hours* refer to hours in which a student is enrolled as of the “last day to change class schedule and receive tuition/fee adjustment” as indicated on the University academic calendar.

SOURCE: Board of Trustees: February 12, 2021; Executive Committee: July 05, 2017; Board of Trustees: October 07, 2016; February 22, 2013; February 24, 2012; June 27, 2011 [Executive Committee]; February 25, 2011 [Editorial Change]; February 29, 2008; November 27, 2006; June 19, 2006; October 04, 2002; February 22, 2002

EDITORIAL CHANGES: October 24, 2022; May 31, 2013

#### ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS:

1. Procedures