

## 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 toward graduation, which in this institution is defined as being in good academic standing as detailed below.

The SAP standards required for students receiving Title IV federal financial aid are the same for all matriculated students at Rabbinical College of America. Satisfactory academic progress at Rabbinical College of America has two principal components: a qualitative standard and a quantitative standard:

At the end of each semester, a report is generated which indicates whether or not each student is meeting SAP requirements. If a student is readmitted to the school the student's academic file is evaluated to determine if the student is meeting satisfactory academic progress requirements.

- **Qualitative Standard**

In pursuit of graduation, the student must achieve a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 (the equivalent of a "C" average) or better. Each student is evaluated at the end of each semester and is expected to maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0.

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

A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D	1.0
W	not included in calculation of GPA
I	not included in calculation of GPA

F 0.0

The GPA is established by multiplying the grade point equivalent of each course by the number of credits it yields. The products of each course are then added together. The sum is then divided by the total number of credits earned in the semester.

Credit hours with a grade of Incomplete and Withdrawn are not included in the determination of the grade point average. Credit hours with a grade of fail, whether or not the Fail is earned or unearned are included in the determination of the grade point average. If a student receives failing grades for all of his courses, the Registrar will determine whether or not the student completed the semester.

- **Quantitative Standard**

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

Students 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 his cumulative attempted credits. Every semester, each student is evaluated to see if he has successfully earned 67% of his cumulative attempted credits. The student's cumulative earned credits are divided by the student's cumulative attempted credits to determine if the student is progressing 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 quantitative standard.

### **WHEN SAP IS NOT MET**

### **WARNING**

If a student falls below the SAP standards, he will be notified that he is being given a warning period which will last one semester. The student will also be notified that he has the option of appealing his lack of satisfactory academic progress at any point. During the warning period, a designated faculty member may counsel the student and assist the student to improve his

performance. The student may be provided with various student services that might include 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 Financial Aid Warning**

For continued eligibility for federal financial aid programs, if a student falls below the satisfactory progress standards, he will be given a period of financial aid warning during which time he maintains federal financial aid eligibility. The warning period will last for one semester. During the federal financial aid warning period, the student will receive the counseling described above. If, after this federal financial aid warning period, satisfactory progress standards are still not met, the student will be notified that he will no longer be eligible for financial aid. The student will also be notified that he has the option of appealing his lack of satisfactory academic progress in order to be granted a probationary period.

### **APPEALS PROCESS, MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES**

A student may appeal the institution's determination that he is not making satisfactory academic progress. Basis for appeal include the death of a relative, an injury or illness of the student, or other special circumstances. The student must submit the appeal in writing to the administrative office. 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 senior faculty member will consider all information provided by the student and will consult with faculty members, as appropriate. If it is determined that the appeal should be accepted, then the senior faculty member will determine whether or not 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, the student will be placed on academic probation as described below. If it is determined that the student will be able to meet the standard SAP requirements of the institution by the end of the probationary period with a customized study plan, then the student will be placed on academic probation with a study plan, as described below.

If the appeal is accepted, the student will be granted a semester of academic probation or academic probation with a study plan, as described below. 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 financial aid until he reestablishes eligibility

as described below in the section entitled “Reinstatement.” The final decision (denial of appeal, academic probation, or academic probation with a study plan) will be conveyed to the student in writing.

### **ACADEMIC PROBATION**

If after the period of warning, a student is still not making SAP and successfully appeals the lack of SAP, and it is determined that the student will be able to meet the standard SAP requirements after a probationary period, the student will be placed on academic probation. The period of academic probation is one semester during which the student has the opportunity to attempt to meet the SAP standards of the institution. The student can request counseling to assist him to improve his performance. In addition, the student may request to be provided with various student services that might include tutoring, scheduling accommodation, or other academic assistance.

### **ACADEMIC PROBATION WITH A STUDY PLAN**

If after the period of warning, a student is still not making SAP and successfully appeals the lack of SAP, and it is determined that the student will not be able to meet the standard SAP requirements after a probationary period, the student will be placed on academic probation with a study plan. For a student on academic probation with a study plan, a senior faculty member will develop a study plan in conjunction with the student and other faculty, as needed. The study plan will include a customized plan for the SAP standards (as well as other academic provisions to assist the student in meeting those standards) that ensures that the student is able to 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.

### **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 now meeting the standard SAP requirements of the institution, or is meeting the SAP standards of his study plan, he will be considered as meeting satisfactory academic progress. If, after the period of probation, the student’s academic performance still fails to meet the academic progress standards of the institution, or the provisions of his study plan, he will be subject to academic discipline which may include expulsion or suspension from the institution, and he will be ineligible to receive Title IV federal financial aid.

### **REINSTATEMENT FOR FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID**

A student who became ineligible for federal financial aid because he was not meeting satisfactory academic progress standards, has the opportunity to reestablish eligibility. Eligibility is reestablished by meeting institutional SAP standards. The financial aid office will receive notification of each student's status at the start of each semester, and the student will be notified that he may once again receive aid from the Title IV programs.

### **INCOMPLETES**

If a student has not completed all required course work for a particular course, he may have additional time (up to six months), at the discretion of the instructor, to complete the work. A grade of incomplete will only be assigned with a documented plan from the instructor detailing course work that must be completed. In the interim, those course grades are marked as incomplete. Courses in which a student receives a grade of incomplete are not included in the GPA as long as the Incomplete remains on the transcript. The courses marked incomplete are included in the student's number of credits attempted but not credits completed. A grade of incomplete will be replaced with a grade at the conclusion of the period of time given for the work to be completed

### **WITHDRAWALS FROM A COURSE**

A student who withdraws from a course(s) will have the course recorded as Withdrawn. This grade will not be counted in the student's GPA. However, the course(s) will be counted towards the student's 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 attempted credits and the number of credits earned by the student.

### **REPETITIONS**

All repeated courses are counted in the number of the student's attempted credits.

For determination of a student's enrollment status, if a student is repeating a course in which he received a passing grade, for the purpose of grade improvement, it is counted towards his enrollment status only the first time the course is retaken. If a student is repeating a course in which he received a failing grade, it is counted towards his enrollment status for as many times

as he is repeating that course in an attempt to pass.

A student repeating a course must remain within the time frame required for satisfactory academic progress standards.

### **CHANGE OF MAJOR**

All credits attempted are included in making a student's SAP determination, regardless of any subsequent changes in major, if applicable.

### **ESL/NONCREDIT REMEDIAL COURSES**

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