

Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships 1 University Parkway University Park, IL 60484 708.534.4480 govst.edu/financialaid

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP) APPEAL INSTRUCTIONS

Students who have lost eligibility for financial aid due to the Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy may appeal the decision. You are allowed to appeal once per each program. Completing a SAP appeal does not guarantee approval.

Appeals will be reviewed by the Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal Committee. The Committee consists of members from various colleges and departments at GSU. The Committee will collectively decide if your financial aid should be reinstated or remain in cancellation. Please be aware that if the Committee reinstates your financial aid eligibility, they will require certain stipulations that must be met each semester. Failure to meet these stipulations at any point in time will result in your financial aid once again being suspended. You will be notified via email of the Committee's decision. The Committee's decision is final.

Directions & Process:

- 1. Meet with your academic advisor to complete the Evaluation of Academic Performance Form and an updated Study Plan or Degree Audit signed by your academic advisor.
 - It must verify your major
 - It must list the specific courses and number of hours remaining for your major and degree completion.

If you submit your appeal without the evaluation from your academic advisor, your appeal will not be considered.

You must also submit a <u>DEGREE STUDY PLAN</u> if you have been cancelled for exceeding the maximum time frame requirement to complete your degree.

- 2. Prepare to upload your complete appeal packet with all supporting documents by the published deadline for the semester for which you are appealing.
 - Appeals without supporting documentation will be denied. **Please see page 2 for examples of supporting documentation.**
 - If a professional is providing a letter to support your appeal, it must be signed, dated and on letterhead.
 - All letters must include contact information for the committee to contact if they determine follow up is necessary. However, you must document your circumstances in writing. Do not expect for the committee to use this contact information to call and document your circumstances for you.
- 3. Complete the Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal Form online at https://www.govst.edu/SAPappealapp.
 - Be sure to upload all required documents to prevent any delay in the processing of your appeal.
 - You will be notified via email of any missing documents.



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EXAMPLES OF APPROPRIATE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

FAMILY CIRCUMSTANCES	MEDICAL CONCERNS	WORK CIRCUMSTANCES
Marriage Certificate	Copy of medical bills	Letter from Employer
Birth Certificate Divorce Papers	Statement from Doctor	Unemployment Statement
Court Documentation		
Police Report		
Copy of Plane Ticket	EMOTIONAL CONCEDNIC	ACCIDENT
DEATH	EMOTIONAL CONCERNS	ACCIDENT
Death Certificate	Letter from Counselor/ Therapist	Police Report
Obituary		Medical documentation
		Car repair bills

Submitting incomplete documentation will result in a delay in processing your appeal or cancellation of your appeal.

All requests will be reviewed by the Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal Committee. Appeals submitted after the deadline will not be reviewed until the next committee meeting. You will be informed of the decision in writing. Students whose appeals are denied will have all aid cancelled and will be responsible for paying for their classes or dropping them within the required refund period. Your classes are not automatically dropped when your financial aid is suspended.

FINANCIAL AID APPEAL DUE DATES The Committee meets the week after the appeal due date

FALL 2025	SPRING 2026	SUMMER 2026
Thursday, July 31, 2025	Thursday, January 8, 2026	Thursday, April 16, 2026
Thursday, August 14, 2025	Thursday, January 22, 2026	Thursday, May 7, 2026
Thursday, September 18, 2025	Thursday, February 19, 2026	Thursday, June 11, 2026
Thursday, October 23, 2025	Thursday, March 19, 2026	