REPORT: Committee on Scholastic Standards and Petitions

Change in 2007-2008 Undergraduate Bulletin under Academic Regulations

CURRENT LANGUAGE

Academic Standing
It is the expectation of the University that students will maintain at least a C average on all work attempted. On the grading scale employed by the University, this means that a student must maintain a semester, yearly, and cumulative GPA of at least 2.00 in order to remain in good academic standing in the institution.

The following standards regarding scholastic eligibility are applicable to all undergraduate students. In addition, the individual colleges of the University may have retention standards for the students majoring in academic programs of those colleges. However, students will not be suspended from the University unless they fail to meet the standards specified here. Administration of these regulations is the responsibility of the academic deans, who are not empowered to waive any of the provisions. A student may be granted relief from these regulations by the petitions committees of the individual colleges only in extraordinary circumstances.

Scholastic Deficiency
Any student whose semester, yearly, or cumulative GPA falls below 2.00 is considered to be scholastically deficient.

The dean of each college will review all deficiency situations and determine the appropriate action to be taken. Scholastically deficient students who have failed to make satisfactory progress toward completion of the degree may be placed on scholastic probation on such terms as the dean may designate or may be advised to withdraw from the major or from the University. Students who fail to meet the conditions of the probation may be required to leave that degree program.

Students are reminded that progression standards may vary from one major to another.

Academic Suspension
A scholastically deficient student's eligibility to continue in the University is determined by the grade point deficit (GPD). The GPD is the number of grade points a student lacks of having a 2.00 GPA. This can easily be calculated by subtracting the number of grade points earned from twice the number of grade point hours attempted:

\[
GPD=(2 \times \text{grade point hours})-(\text{grade points earned})
\]

A student's cumulative GPD will be based only on work at USC taken in fall semester 1980 or later.

The record of every scholastically deficient student will be reviewed at the end of each fall and spring semester. The following standards will then be applied:

PROPOSED LANGUAGE

Academic Standards
The following standards for continuing at the University of South Carolina apply to all undergraduate students enrolled at the Columbia and regional campuses beginning with the Fall 2008 semester. Administration of these regulations is the responsibility of the academic deans, who are not empowered to waive any of the provisions.

Academic Review
The record of every undergraduate student will be reviewed at the end of each fall and spring semester. Many of the individual colleges of the University have higher academic requirements for students to continue in their degree programs. However, no student will be suspended academically from the University unless he/she fails to meet the standards specified here.

Academic Probation – USC Grade Point Average less than 2.000
When a student’s cumulative University of South Carolina GPA at the end of any semester is less than a 2.00, he or she is placed on academic probation.

First-Year Freshmen Academic Recovery Program
First-year freshmen on the Columbia campus who have less than a 2.00 cumulative Grade Point Average at the end of their first semester of collegiate enrollment are considered at risk. During the first six weeks of their second semester, these students must participate in an academic coaching session coordinated through the Student Success Center before being eligible to register for courses for the third semester. These sessions will provide students with assistance in developing academic skills and learning strategies and will identify other resources they need to meet their academic goals. This requirement is in addition to any made by the student's college, school, or academic program.

Removal from Academic Probation
When a student’s cumulative GPA at the end of any semester is a 2.00 or above, he or she is not on academic probation.

Continuing on Academic Probation
Any student who is on probation at the beginning of a fall or spring semester must achieve a certain cumulative University of South Carolina grade point average at the end of that semester in order to avoid suspension. A student may also continue on probation and avoid suspension if the semester grade point average is 2.50 or greater. Standards for continuing on probation are based on the cumulative grade hours the student has attempted at USC. The chart below shows the grade point averages required in order to avoid suspension.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cumulative Grade Hours Attempted (GH)</th>
<th>Placed on Probation</th>
<th>Continue on probation (avoid suspension)</th>
<th>Removed from Probation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12-34</td>
<td>Below 2.00 cum GPA</td>
<td>1.800 cumulative GPA or 2.500 semester GPA</td>
<td>2.00 or higher cumulative GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-59</td>
<td>Below 2.00 cum GPA</td>
<td>1.900 cumulative GPA or 2.500 semester GPA</td>
<td>2.00 or higher cumulative GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60+</td>
<td>Below 2.00 cum GPA</td>
<td>2.000 cumulative GPA or 2.500 semester GPA</td>
<td>2.00 or higher cumulative GPA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attachment 2.
First suspension: Any student who is scholastically deficient at the beginning of a fall or spring semester will be suspended at the end of that semester if either the yearly or the cumulative GPD is 24 or more. Suspended students will not be considered for readmission to the University until they have served at least one major term and the summer on suspension (approximately eight months).

Subsequent suspension: A student reinstated or readmitted from suspension will be reviewed at the end of the first semester after returning. A grade point average of 2.00 or higher must be obtained each semester to avoid a subsequent suspension.

The duration of a second or subsequent suspension is indefinite, and the student can be considered for readmission only after being approved for reinstatement by action of the petitions committee of the college or school to which the student is seeking admission. A favorable decision by the committee is unlikely within two years of the suspension.

A student on suspension may not be admitted to, or continue in, any program of the University for credit or for grade point average purposes. Credit earned at other institutions or by correspondence of any origin while a student is on suspension from the University may not be applied toward a degree from USC or used for improving the grade point average.

Students are reminded that these rules are for suspension from the University. Some colleges or schools in the University may impose more stringent requirements for retention in degree programs.

First Suspension
Students unable to meet the standards shown above are suspended from the University of South Carolina for one Fall or Spring semester and the contiguous summer (approximately eight months). Students have the right to appeal their suspension to the petitions committee of the college or school in which they were enrolled when suspended.

Returning after First Suspension
After the suspension has been served, a student will be considered for readmission by the college or school to which the student is seeking admission. A student readmitted following suspension continues on probation and is reviewed for suspension at the end of each fall and spring semester. A semester grade point average of 2.500 or higher must be achieved each semester until the cumulative University of South Carolina GPA reaches the level above which suspension would occur (see chart).

During the first six weeks after returning from a first suspension, students on the Columbia campus must participate in an academic coaching session coordinated through the Student Success Center before being eligible to register for courses for the following semester. These sessions will provide students with the resources they need to meet their academic goals.

Returning after a Subsequent Suspension
The duration of the second suspension is indefinite, and the student can be considered for readmission only after being approved for reinstatement by action of the petitions committee of the college or school to which the student is seeking admission. A favorable decision by the committee is unlikely within two years of the suspension.

Earning Academic Credit While on Suspension
A student on suspension is given an opportunity to reorder priorities and reassess his or her situation before returning. While serving suspension, a student may not be admitted to, or continue in, any academic program of the University. Credit earned at any other institution while a student is on suspension from the University may not be applied toward a degree from USC, unless approved by the Standards and Petitions Committee of the college to which the student is readmitted. Prior approvals for transient study will be revoked for suspended students.

Retention in Degree Programs
Students are reminded that the above regulations are for all undergraduate students in the University. Many colleges and schools offer degree programs that have more stringent requirements for retention in those programs. Failure to meet the academic requirements of those degree programs may result in the student being asked to leave that program. Students should consult the colleges and schools section of the Academic Bulletin to review the specific degree retention requirements.

To be put forward at December 2007 Faculty Senate Meeting
Approved by Faculty Senate Committee on Scholastic Standards and Petitions (11/01/07)
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7-6088