



TASFAA 2011 Annual Conference

October 5-7, 2011
Arlington, Texas



1

Federal Student Aid

- Kevin Campbell
- Training Officer
- Federal Student Aid
- United States Department of Education





Satisfactory Academic Progress

- Consolidates SAP regulations into 34 CFR 668.34
 - Administrative capability 668.16 now only refers to policy
 - Student eligibility in 668.32 still includes as eligibility requirement
 - Satisfactory progress in 668.34 now contains all elements of SAP



Satisfactory Academic Progress

- SAP is a Title IV requirement for student eligibility
- In general, a student who is not making SAP is no longer eligible for Title IV aid



SAP Policy

- SAP policy required elements include
 - Measurement of student's progress at each evaluation
 - GPA that a student must achieve at each evaluation (qualitative standard)
 - Pace of progression to ensure completion within the maximum time frame (quantitative standard)



SAP Policy

SAP policy required elements include

- How GPA and pace of completion affected by
 - Incompletes
 - Withdrawals
 - Repetitions
 - Transfers of credit from other schools
 - At a minimum, school must count transfer hours, accepted toward completion of student's program, as both hours attempted and hours completed



SAP – Qualitative Element

- HEA Requirement that student must have 2.0 on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, after two years
- End of second academic year
 - Regardless of how many credits earned or grade level



SAP – Quantitative Element

- Quantitative element has two components
 - Maximum timeframe
 - Period of time that student has to complete the program of study and still be making SAP
 - Pace of Progression
 - An ongoing measure that ensures student is on track to complete program in the maximum timeframe



Maximum Time Frame

- For undergraduate programs of study, must be no longer than 150% of published length of educational program
 - For credit hour programs, as measured in credit hours attempted
 - For clock hour programs, as measured in cumulative clock hours required to complete and expressed in calendar time
- For graduate programs of study, institution defines the maximum period based upon length of educational program



Change of Major

- Still in place is the longstanding policy that schools may set their own SAP policy dealing with changes of major as they relate to maximum time frame
- SAP policy may limit the number of times that a student may change majors and have the maximum time frame recalculated



Pace of Progression

- School's policy must specify
 - Pace of progression required to ensure student completes within maximum time frame and that pace is measured at each evaluation
 - Pace calculated by dividing cumulative hours student successfully completed by cumulative hours student has attempted
 - o Remedial coursework may be excluded



How Often Is SAP Evaluated?

- For programs of study that are one academic year or less in length, school must evaluate SAP at end of each payment period
- For programs of study longer than one academic year –
 - School must evaluate at least annually **to correspond with end of a payment period**
 - School **may** evaluate at end of each payment period



Definitions

- Warning
- Probation
- Appeal
- Academic Plan
- All defined for Title IV purposes NOT academic purposes



School Options

- Warning status may be used by schools that measure at end of each payment period
- Probation status may be used by schools who have an appeal process
- Academic Plan is a tool that schools with an appeal process may choose to implement
- Appeal process may be used by schools, if they wish



School Options

- Warning
- Probation
- Academic Plan
- Appeal
- School may choose to implement one, several, all or none of these options



SAP - Warning

- Financial Aid Warning
 - School must evaluate SAP at the end of each payment period to use this status
 - School may establish when it is used in policy
 - Status assigned to a student who fails to make SAP
 - Student may continue to receive Title IV aid for **one** payment period
 - No appeal necessary for this status
 - Student is not making SAP while in this status



SAP - Probation

- Financial Aid Probation
 - Status assigned by an institution to a student who fails to make SAP and who has successfully *appealed* and has had eligibility for Title IV aid reinstated
 - Institution may impose conditions for student's continued eligibility to receive Title IV aid
 - Student may receive aid in this status for **one** payment period
 - Student is not making SAP in this status



SAP - Probation

- While student is on financial aid probation, status must be checked each payment period even if non-probationary students are checked less frequently
- If it appears that student can return to SAP status after one payment period, school may choose to implement an academic plan or not



SAP - Probation

- If it appears that student will take multiple payment periods to reach the status of SAP, the school may implement an academic plan immediately
- The first payment period under the academic plan is considered probationary
- Subsequent payment periods under the academic plan: the student is making SAP under the provisions of the academic plan
- Conversely, if the student is not meeting the provisions of the academic plan, he or she is not making SAP



SAP - Appeal

- Process by which a student who is not meeting institution's SAP policy petitions for reconsideration of eligibility for Title IV aid, due to unusual circumstances
 - Appeal policy must specify the conditions under which a student may appeal
 - Student's appeal must include
 - o Why he or she failed to make SAP
 - &
 - o What has changed that will allow the student to make SAP at the next evaluation



If School Decides to Grant the Appeal

- School has determined that the student
 - Will be able to make SAP standards by end of next payment period
 - This is the probationary payment period

OR

- Will be placed on academic plan that will ensure able to meet SAP standards by a specific point in time in the future
 - The first payment period is the probationary payment period



Academic Plan

- Plan must have a point in time identified when student will be making SAP as defined by the School SAP Policy
- If student fails to meet the requirements of the Academic Plan, the student is not making SAP
- Not making SAP = Loss of Title IV eligibility



Does Not Evaluate Each Payment Period

- At an institution that evaluates SAP **less often than each payment period**, if a student loses eligibility for Title IV aid
 - Student may be placed on Financial Aid Probation for one payment period after a successful appeal or placed immediately on an academic plan
 - After Financial Aid Probation, if the student was not placed on an academic plan, the student must be making SAP or successfully appeal again in order to be placed on an academic plan, or lose Title IV eligibility



Evaluate Each Payment Period

- At an institution that evaluates SAP **each payment period**, if student loses eligibility for Title IV aid
 - Student may be placed on Financial Aid Warning for **one** payment period
 - After the warning period, if student is not making SAP, the student may be allowed to appeal the loss of Title IV eligibility



Evaluate Each Payment Period

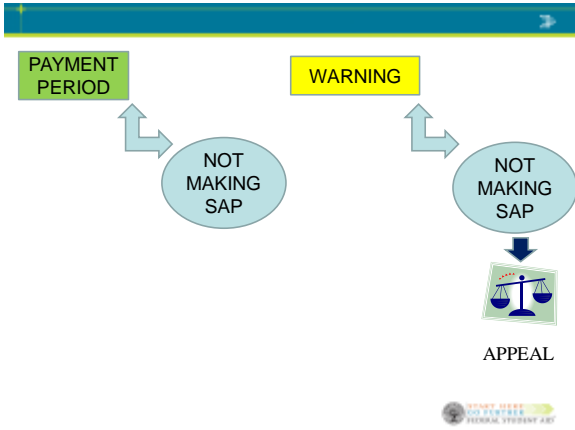
- At an institution that evaluates SAP **each payment period**, if student loses eligibility for Title IV aid (cont'd)
 - If the appeal is successful, the student may be placed on Financial Aid Probation for one payment period or placed immediately on an academic plan
 - After Financial Aid Probation, if the student was not placed on an academic plan, the student must be making SAP or successfully appeal again in order to be placed on an academic plan

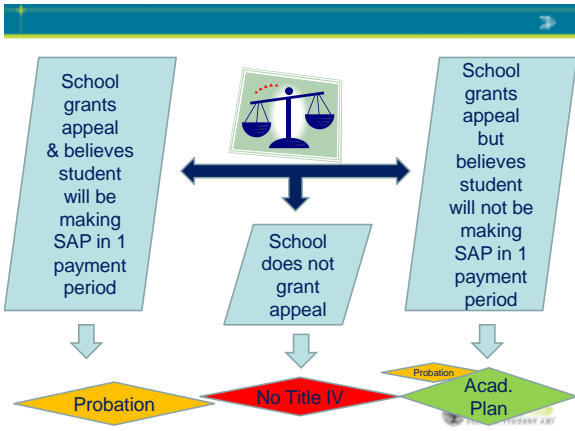


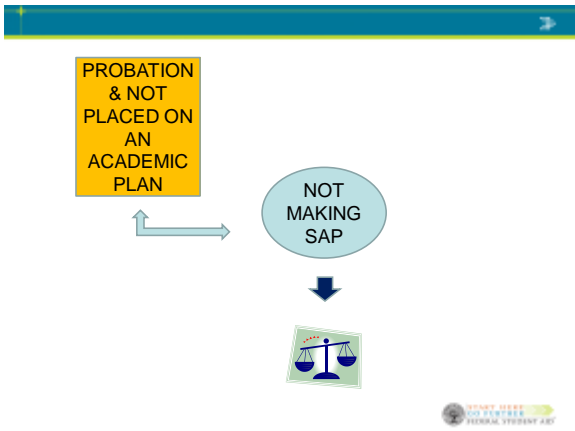
If School Implements All Options

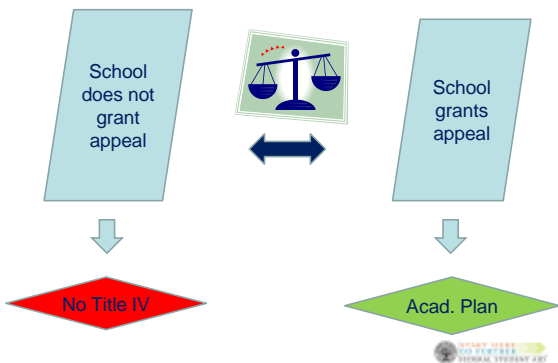
- School exercises its option to evaluate SAP at the end of every payment period
- School chooses to have a warning status
- School chooses to have an appeal process
- School chooses to have a probationary status
- School chooses to use an academic plan













No Lifetime Limitation on SAP Statuses

- One warning payment period means not two consecutive warning payment periods
- May be multiple warning payment periods throughout student's academic career





No Lifetime Limitation on SAP Statuses

- One probation payment period means not two consecutive probation payment periods linked to the same appeal
- May be multiple probation payment periods throughout student's academic career



No Limitation on SAP Statuses

- School may allow one appeal or multiple appeals or NO appeals
- School may craft academic plan as it sees fit
 - May choose to limit the # or not



SAP - Notifications

- Required SAP notifications
 - Institution must notify student of results of SAP review that impacts the student's eligibility for Title IV aid
 - Institution must describe how a student who has failed SAP reestablishes eligibility for Title IV aid
 - If the institution has an appeal process, must describe the specific elements required to appeal the loss of Title IV eligibility due to a lack of SAP



Thank You

- Thanks to TASFAA for allowing FSA, and me, to participate in your conference!



**Supervisor of Training
Officers Requests Feedback
from FAAs**

- Jo Ann Borel
- Supervisor of Training Officers
- United States Department of Education/Federal Student Aid
- Phone: 202-377-3930
- joann.borel@ed.gov



Contact Info

- Kevin Campbell
- Training Officer
- United States Department of Education
- Federal Student Aid
- Dallas Regional Office
- 214 661 9488
- kevin.campbell@ed.gov