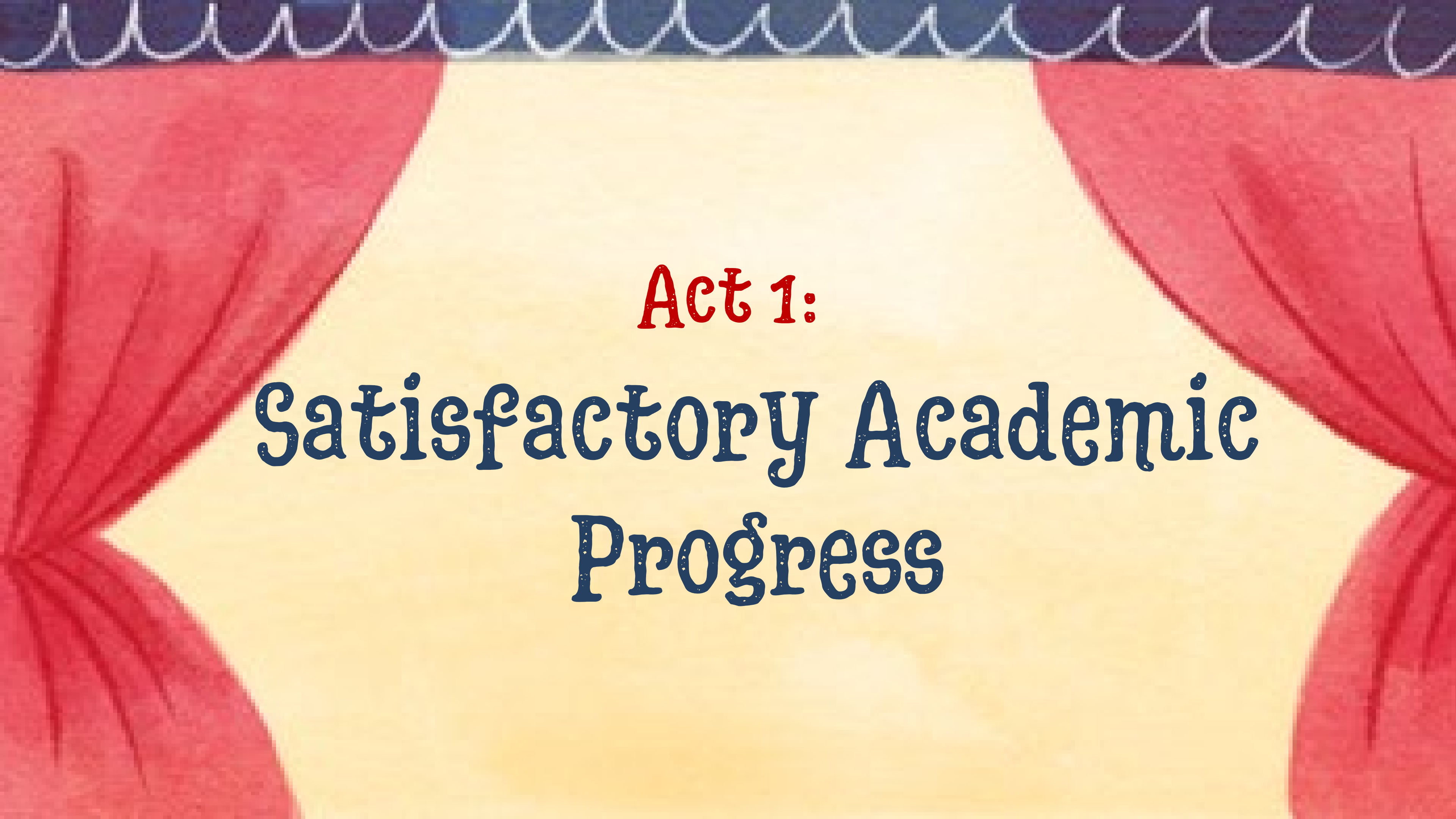


New Aid Officer Workshop

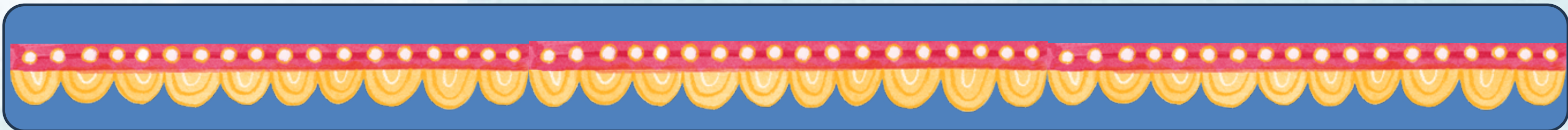


April 10-12, 2024 · Great Wolf Lodge · Dallas/Grapevine

A stage with red curtains and a yellow spotlight. The text is centered on the spotlight.

Act 1:

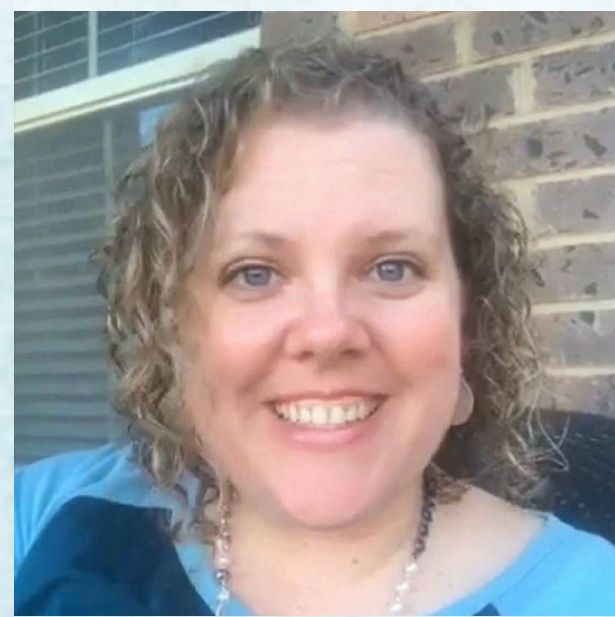
Satisfactory Academic
Progress



COME ONE
COME ALL



Presenter



Melissa Jones
Assistant Director of Financial Aid
University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

SAP is a measure of progress required for a financial aid recipient to complete an educational program within a specified period.

SAP contains three components

- **Grade Based or its equivalent (qualitative)**
- **Pace (quantitative) measure**
- **Maximum Timeframe**

Students must meet general student eligibility requirements for receipt of Title IV aid.

- **Schools have the responsibility of confirming students are making satisfactory academic progress before disbursing Title IV aid.**





SAP Elements

Academic standards for students receiving Title IV aid must be the same or stricter than the school's standards for those not receiving federal aid in the same academic program.

Examples: Wiley E. Coyote College requires its students to maintain a 2.5 grade point average (GPA) to graduate, the Office of Financial Aid cannot evaluate the students' satisfactory academic progress based upon a minimum 2.0 GPA. Financial aid recipients also must maintain a 2.5 GPA or higher.



Regulations

2024-2025 Federal Student Aid Handbook Volume 1- Student Eligibility

- **Applies to all Title IV (federal) financial aid**
- **Most state and institutional aid**
- **Some programs have academic progress requirements in addition to SAP (ex: TEXAS, TEACH)**



Regulations

Schools must have a reasonable policy for monitoring academic progress.

- **Reasonable means it measures both qualitative and quantitative components.**

Policy must be at least as strict as academic policies for students in same program who are not receiving financial aid but can be more strict.



Regulations



Must be the same for all students within the same category

- **Undergraduate, Graduate, Full Time, Half Time or Program of Study**

Must evaluate SAP at least once per year at the end of a payment period of the school's choice

- **Schools who choose to use a warning semester must evaluate SAP after every payment period (semester).**




And more regulations

Policy must evaluate three main components

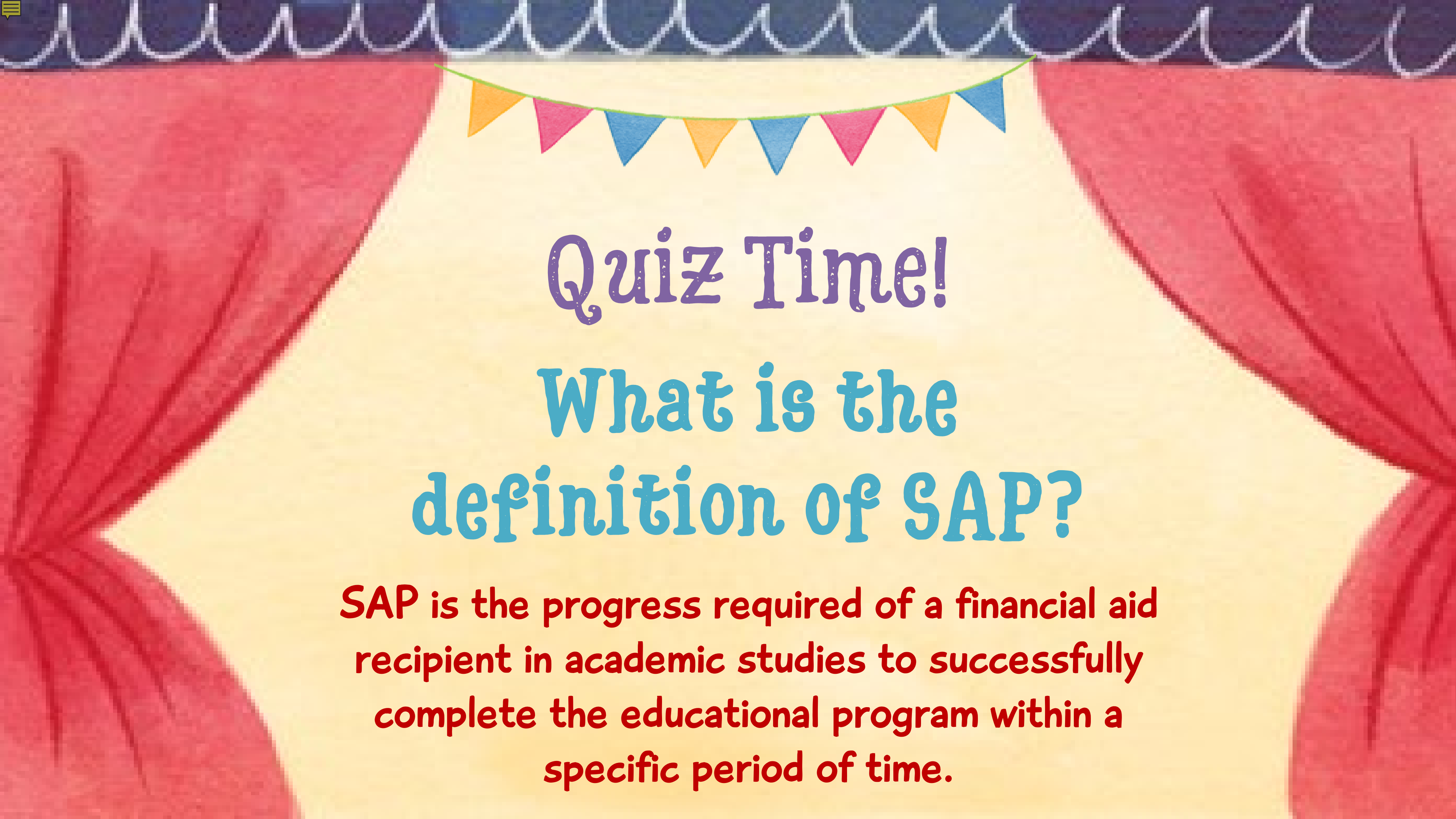
- **Qualitative component - GPA**
- **Quantitative component – completion rate (pace)**
- **Maximum timeframe**





Quiz Time!

What is the
definition of SAP?



Quiz Time!

What is the definition of SAP?

SAP is the progress required of a financial aid recipient in academic studies to successfully complete the educational program within a specific period of time.

Main SAP Components



Quantitative

- Includes pace of progress through program (% of program completed)
- Maximum timeframe



Qualitative

- Grade based
- Can be GPA



Maximum Timeframe

Undergraduate students lose aid eligibility if they accumulate more hours than the equivalent of 150% of their published program hours.

So:

- Program=120 credit hours
- 150% of program=180 credit hours

If a student is trying to finish their degree but has earned 180 or more, they will not be able to receive financial aid.

Graduate students:

- Maximum timeframe is defined by the school, based on the length of the program



Warning Semester

- **Can be used by schools who measure SAP at the end of every payment period**
- **Allows students who are not meeting SAP to receive financial aid for one additional semester/payment period**
- **Intent is to give students the chance to re-establish their academic standing and meet SAP requirements**
- **It is possible for a student to receive more than one warning period, but not for two semesters/payment periods in a row.**



**What if one
semester is NOT
enough???**



Student Can File an SAP Appeal

SAP Appeal

- Is a process by which a student who is not meeting school's SAP policy petitions for reconsideration of eligibility for Aid
- To grant the appeal, the student must be mathematically able to meet SAP
- Plan must identify a point in time, in the future, when the student will regain SAP or will successfully complete the academic program (one or more semesters)
- Initial and subsequent appeals are possible



Student Can File an SAP Appeal

Academic Plan

- Schools set their own procedures for creating academic plans
- Schools also determine what documentation a student must provide
- Resulting plan lays out exactly what the student must achieve for aid eligibility



Example of an Academic Plan

SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID



Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress ACADEMIC PLAN AGREEMENT – Undergraduate Low GPA/Completion Rate/Excessive Hours

Student Name: _____

UIN: _____

Because you have not met the minimum standards for Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) you are currently ineligible to receive financial aid. The goal of this Academic Plan Agreement is to assist you in meeting SAP minimum standards. As long as you meet the terms of this agreement, you will be reconsidered for financial aid eligibility on a semester-by-semester basis.

	Hours Attempted (Comp rate)	Earned Hours (Comp rate)	
Current - Texas A&M	24	12	12-13 and fall 17
Current - Transfer	0	0	
Current - Texas A&M & Transfer	24	12	
Q-drop/NG/W hours	0		
	Hours Attempted (GPA)	Earned Hours (GPA)	Current GPA
Current - Texas A&M	24	12	3.750
	Term	Hours Attempted	Earned Hours
Semester 1 - Texas A&M	Spring 2018	9	9
Semester 2 - Texas A&M	Fall 2018	9	9
Semester 3 - Texas A&M			
Semester 4 - Texas A&M			
Semester 5 - Texas A&M			
Future Hours - Texas A&M		18	18
Overall Hours - Texas A&M (comp rate)		42	30
Overall Hours - Texas A&M (GPA)		42	
Overall Hours - Texas A&M & Transfer		42	30
Future GPA - Texas A&M		2.000	
Average Semester GPA to Attain SAP* - Texas A&M		-0.333	
Final Completion Rate - Texas A&M & Transfer			71.43%



Example of an Academic Plan

Academic Plan Details:

Student is current at a 50% completion rate with a 3.75 GPA. Student must complete 2 semesters (spring 18, and fall 18) while completing 100% of the courses she is registered for with a 2.00 or higher GPA. If student does not meet these conditions, each semester, student will be denied financial aid funds. Student is fully aware of the requirements set on this academic plan.

By signing below, I verify that I have read the information listed above/attached and I agree to adhere to the academic plan required for my financial aid eligibility to be reconsidered. I also understand that failure to satisfy this academic plan will result in the loss of my financial aid until I do meet the minimum Satisfactory Academic Progress standards for financial aid.

**** If you do not meet the terms of this agreement, eligibility for financial aid will cease and all remaining aid will be canceled. ****

Print Student Name

Student Signature

Scholarships & Financial Aid Advisor Name

Date

Office Note: Please give a completed copy to the student and send one to imaging.

Scholarships & Financial Aid

PO Box 30016

College Station, TX 77842-3016

Tel. 979.845.3236 Fax. 979.847.9061

financialaid.tamu.edu

Once an Academic Plan Is In Place

This is after a WARNING semester, if not evaluating SAP annually

PROBATION

- **To be placed on probation, a student must have an appeal approved by the school**
- **A student on Probation may only receive Title IV funds for one payment period**



Once a Student is on an Academic Plan

A student on probation may not receive title IV funds for subsequent semesters/periods unless:

- **Student is now meeting SAP**

OR

- **School determines student met requirements specified on the academic plan and has remaining semesters/periods on the academic plan**

**SAP must be checked at the end of the probationary semester/period
(even if SAP is checked annually by your school)**



What if you do not meet the academic plan set?

The student does not meet the terms of the academic plan and remains in failed SAP status?

Student can only regain eligibility by improving their academic performance enough that they are meeting overall SAP requirements.

Things to Do Now

- **Read your SAP Policy**
- **Does your office allow appeal?**
 - **Do you know what your academic plan looks like?**
- **Who processes appeals in your office?**
 - **Do they work directly with the students?**
- **How often does your school evaluate SAP?**
 - **End of Each Term**
 - **Annually***

*** REMEMBER --- No WARN term can be given**





Quiz Time!

Pace is...

- A. A quantitative standard
- B. A qualitative standard
- C. The same as maximum timeframe
- D. Not a component of SAP



Quiz Time!

Pace is...

- A. A quantitative standard**
- B. A qualitative standard**
- C. The same as maximum timeframe**
- D. Not a component of SAP**



QUESTIONS?



Thank You for
Completing our
Survey



SAP