

SAP Policy for Spring 2020

When grades are posted for SS20, most initially will be in numeric format but students will have the ability afterward to choose a S/NS grade format for individual courses. The Office of Financial Aid will perform SAP monitoring while grades are in the numeric format. All SAP criteria for Withdrawals, Time to Degree, and Completion Rate will be evaluated as usual.

However, students who fail SAP due to GPA will be assigned a Preliminary SAP status. We will not place holds on these students nor require appeals until May 21, in order to give students time to decide whether or not to change one or more grades from numeric to S/NS. OFA will check GPA again after the S/NS grades are final and determine a Final SAP status for all students.

Changing from numeric format to S/NS format may improve SAP for some students, while others may not change. If the student has now regained Good Standing, their hold will be cleared. If they were in Warning, they may continue in Warning.

If the student was previously in Denial, and the additional monitoring does not move the student out of Denial status, they will be notified of that and told they will need to file a SAP Appeal to continue to receive aid.

Merit Awards

Most MSU merit awards do not require a specific GPA, but simply ask for students to be in Good SAP standing. Students in Warning status also continue to be eligible, so generally a change from numeric to S/NS cannot harm a student's eligibility for MSU merit awards.

However, some external awards require a specific GPA to remain eligible, and we will continue to monitor eligibility according to their standards. Students may speak to their donor about exceptions if necessary.