

4. Measuring Academic Progress

Academic Standing and Minimum Progress

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Academic Standing and Minimum Progress

Full-time undergraduate students at UCSC are expected to enroll in and earn a grade of C or better (or P) in an average of 15 credits per quarter, completing the 180 credits needed for graduation in four years. Extensions of enrollment beyond the equivalent of 13 full-time quarters require the approval of your college. (See page 68 for *adjustments for part-time students*.)

Your college will regularly check to insure that you are making (at least) **minimum progress** toward completing your degree and, at the end of each term, will determine whether you are in **good academic standing**. If you do not pass enough credits with a grade of C or better (or P), you may be placed on **academic probation**. If your academic standing or progress falls below minimally acceptable levels, you may be **disqualified** from further enrollment in the university.

Determining Your Academic Standing

Policy Applying to Students Entering UCSC Fall 2001 and After:

Your academic standing is calculated at the end of each term based upon your current and cumulative UCSC GPA. If both your current and cumulative UCSC GPA are 2.0 or greater, then you are in good academic standing. If either your current or cumulative GPA is less than 2.0, then you are on academic probation. In that event, you should consult with your college academic preceptor about what you need to do to return to good standing. If your current UCSC GPA falls below 1.5 in any term, or if you are already on academic probation and your cumulative UCSC GPA falls below 2.0, then you are subject to disqualification from further enrollment in the university. See the section on *What Happens When You Are in Academic Trouble*, page 70.

Policy Applying to Students Who Entered UCSC Before Fall 2001:

Your academic standing is determined by your academic progress, a comparison of the number of credits for which you have earned a grade of C or better (or P) to the number of full-time quarters you have been at UCSC. Courses in which you earn a grade of D, F, or NP do not count toward academic progress (nor do courses from which you officially withdraw or in which you receive an Incomplete grade notation). At the end of each term, your college will determine your academic standing by measuring your **current progress** and your **cumulative progress**.

- **Current Progress.** Your current progress is determined by checking *Chart 1* for the number of credits in which you earn a grade of C or better (or P). If you have passed fewer than 30 credits in your most recent three full-time quarters, you are below minimum progress and will be reviewed for disqualification. If you have passed between 30 and 34 credits in that period, your standing based upon your current progress is Academic Probation.
- **Cumulative Progress.** Your cumulative progress is determined by comparing against *Chart 2* the number of full-time quarters you have been at UCSC with the total number of credits that you have earned at UCSC with a grade of C or better (or P). For example, if at the end of your fourth full-time quarter, you have not passed at least 40 credits, then you are below minimum progress and will be reviewed for disqualification.

Your academic standing is determined by whichever measure is lower. That is, in order to be in good academic standing, you must be in good academic standing on both the current progress chart and the cumulative progress chart. If you are below minimum progress on either the current progress chart or the cumulative progress chart, you will be reviewed for disqualification.

Chart 1: Current Progress

You must have passed at least 30 credits in your three most recent quarters of attendance at UCSC. Minimum number of credits to be in good standing is 40 per three-quarter period.

Number of credits passed in three most current quarters	Standing
40–plus	Good Standing
35–39	Academic Warning*
30–34	Academic Probation
fewer than 30	Review for Disqualification

* There is no warning category for students in their first two quarters of enrollment at UCSC.

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Chart 2: Cumulative Progress

You must pass a minimum number of credits appropriate to your total quarters of attendance at UCSC to remain in good standing.

Number of full-time quarters at UCSC	Good Standing (Satisfactory Progress)		Academic Probation (Minimum Progress)		Review for Disqualification
	from	down to	from	down to	
	Number of credits passed				
					less than
1	15	10	9	5	5
2	30	25	24	15	15
3	45	35	34	30	30
4	60	50	49	40	40
5	75	60	59	50	50
6	90	75	74	65	65
7	105	85	84	75	75
8	120	95	94	85	85
9	135	110	109	100	100
10	150	120	119	110	110
11	165	135	134	125	125
12	180	150	149	140	140

What Grades Do You Need to Return to Good Academic Standing?

A grade point balance (GPB) is the difference between the number of grade points that you have earned and the number of grade points needed for a 2.0 GPA. In order to be in good academic standing, both your current and cumulative GPBs must be greater than (or equal to) 0. To return to good academic standing, a negative grade point balance (i.e., a grade point deficit) must be eliminated. Earning grades above the C level (C+ or better) adds points to your GPB. Grades of D or F subtract points from your GPB. (A grade of C has no effect on your GPB.)

The chart below shows the effect of grades on your grade point balance. (Note that balance points earned by a letter grade are multiplied by the number of credits for the course.)

Grade earned	Points per credit	Points for a 5-credit course
A or A+	+2.0	+10.0
A-	+1.7	+8.5
B+	+1.3	+6.5
B	+1.0	+5.0
B-	+0.7	+3.5
C+	+0.3	+1.5
C	0.0	0.0
D	-1.0	-5.0
F	-2.0	-10.0

For example, if your cumulative grade-point balance is -10 at the end of the term, your grade point deficit would be eliminated by any of the following grades in three 5-credit courses: an A with two Cs; two Bs and a C; or a B, a B-, and a C+.