



AB789 FINANCIAL AID SAP

MTSAC SPEAC PRESENTATION MAY 20, 2024

Manuel Cerda
Director of Financial Aid

AB 789 SUMMARY

Purpose of the bill is to help standardize SAP policies throughout California Community colleges in order to provide students with flexibility, certainty and clarity when it comes to Financial Aid SAP standards and the appeal process.

Statewide about 24% of first-time community college students that receive a Federal Pell Grant fail to meet SAP standards after their first two semesters

❖ *At MtSAC its about 21%*





AB789 REQUIREMENTS

EFFECTIVE FALL 2024

- Set the standards for grade point average and pace of completion at the **minimum** federal standards
- Provide information to students about the institution's "satisfactory academic progress" standards and financial aid appeals process during new student orientation and include student-friendly language on the institution's internet website and financial aid award letters regarding the standards and appeals process.
- The institution shall request its faculty to include student-friendly language on course syllabi regarding the standards and appeals process.



AB789 REQUIREMENTS

EFFECTIVE FALL 2024

- Notify a student when the student has not achieved the “satisfactory academic progress” standards following every term of enrollment, regardless of the frequency at which “satisfactory academic progress” is formally evaluated. .
- Evaluate whether a student satisfies the grade point average and pace of completion standards based on cumulative measures not term specific measures.
- Exclude remedial coursework from maximum timeframe calculations if the institution offers remedial coursework.

AB789 REQUIREMENTS

EFFECTIVE FALL 2024



- Allow a student who fulfills the terms and conditions of the student's academic plan to remain on "financial aid probation", including continuing to receive financial aid for any term for which the student fulfills the terms and conditions of the student's academic plan.
- In the case of a "satisfactory academic progress" determination for a transfer student, when calculating maximum timeframe, only include those credits from other institutions that count towards the student's current program of study.



AB789 REQUIREMENTS

EFFECTIVE FALL 2024

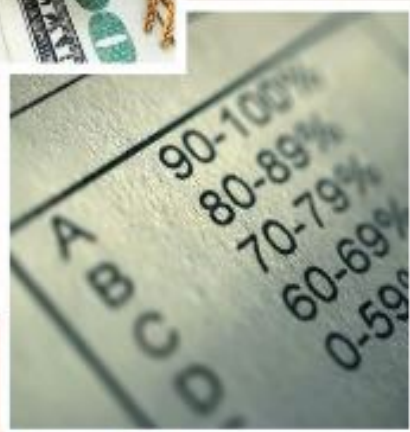
- Accept both electronic and hard copy financial aid appeals for any student who is ineligible to receive financial aid.
- A student who loses financial aid eligibility may appeal the determination during any subsequent term following loss of financial aid eligibility.
- The institution shall not limit the total number of appeals that may be submitted by a student throughout the duration of the student's enrollment.
- Each appeal that is denied shall be subject to the second review process.



*Satisfactory
Academic
Progress*



keep
your
financial
aid



AB789 REQUIREMENTS

EFFECTIVE FALL 2024

- The institution shall not impose deadlines for submitting an appeal that are earlier than three weeks before the end of each term.
- A student that previously disenrolled while being ineligible to receive financial aid may appeal the loss of financial aid upon re-enrollment. The timing for consideration of the appeal shall allow the student, if the student meets the criteria for eligibility re-instatement to qualify upon the first term of reenrollment.

AB789 REQUIREMENTS

EFFECTIVE FALL 2024

- The institution shall provide a student who is ineligible to receive financial aid with written notice of the financial aid appeals process, including the process for a student to file an appeal, information about the second review process for an appeal that is denied and how a student may request a second review.
- In reviewing a student's appeal, the institution may consider any additional special circumstances that the institution deems appropriate, and shall consider a broad range of special circumstances, including, but not limited to any of the following;





AB789 REQUIREMENTS

EFFECTIVE FALL 2024

- Death of a relative or other significant person.
- (II) Injury or illness, including, but not limited to, behavioral health conditions, of the student or a relative or other significant person.
- (III) Pregnancy or birth of a child.
- (IV) Homelessness.
- (V) Loss of childcare.
- (VI) Loss or change in employment.
- (VII) Loss of access to personal or public transportation.
- (VIII) Being a victim of a serious crime, including, but not limited to, domestic abuse, even if the crime was not reported or did not result in criminal prosecution or civil liability.
- (IX) Natural disaster.
- (X) Change of major.

Satisfactory
Academic
Progress



keep
your
financial
aid



AB789

Mt SAC Updates effective Fall 2024

- Include SAP details and appeal process in new student orientation. **(In process, text update complete)**
- Develop a manual calculation process to include only courses required for student's current program of study when calculating SAP maximum timeframe. **(implement Aug 2024)**
- Update MtSAC Financial Aid website, appeal forms and award letters to incorporate all required updates including student-friendly language **(update by August 2024)**
- Request for faculty to include student-friendly SAP information on course syllabi **(send request for effect Fall 2024)**

AB789 UPDATE TO NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements

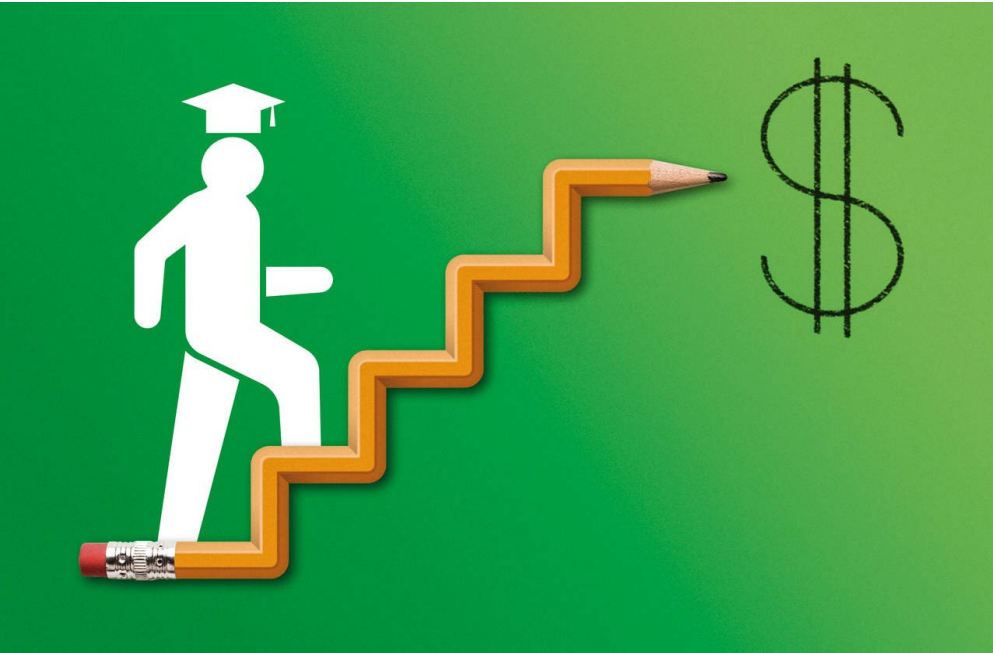
All students receiving federal and state financial aid are required to maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) in order to remain eligible to receive financial aid. Failure to meet the SAP standards described below will result in loss of federal and state financial aid with the exception of the California College Promise Grant (fee waiver).

SAP Standards

- Maintain a GPA of 2.0
- Must complete at least 67% of all attempted units
- All students are required to complete their academic program within 150% of the published length of the program.

Students right to appeal financial aid SAP disqualification

- Students that have failed to meet SAP standards, will have the opportunity to appeal the reinstatement of their financial aid eligibility.
- All students deemed disqualified for financial aid due to not meeting minimum SAP standards will receive communication through email and student portal of the steps and timeline to appeal. |



QUESTIONS

Manuel Cerda • mcerda@mtsac.edu • (909) 274-5970

