

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number 5513S

Date of Senate Approval 03/21/13

Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

APC Document 49: Change in the Academic Standing Policy:
Academic Warning, Suspension, and Dismissal

Effective Date: Fall 2013

- Delete:** On pages 46-47, Academic Warning, Suspension, and Dismissal; First Semester Rule, and Returning to the University after Suspension.

Academic Warning, Suspension and Dismissal

A student whose cumulative grade-point average falls below a 2.0 at the end of any semester is placed on academic warning. This is not a punishment but a way of extending help to those in academic difficulty. Students placed on academic warning will be sent email notification of their status to their UNC Asheville email account. Students on academic warning are limited to 14 credit hours per semester and to one course per summer term.

Students placed on academic warning must see their academic advisors to discuss the issues surrounding the poor performance and to determine ways to improve. Because students with persistent academic difficulties may benefit from taking time off, the university imposes a suspension of one regular semester when students fail to meet a minimum grade-point average on their total attempted hours. Students must maintain a grade point average at or above the following levels in order to be enrolled at UNC Asheville.

Total Attempted Hours	Minimum Grade-Point Average
<i>(Includes transferred hours and hours attempted at UNC Asheville)</i>	
0–23	1.00 (see First Semester Rule below)
24–44	1.50
45–74	1.75
75 and above	2.00 (required to graduate)

First Semester Rule

Students completing their first semester of enrollment at UNC Asheville must earn a grade-point average of 1.00 or above. Students whose grade-point average is below 1.00 at the end of their first semester will be suspended for one semester.

Students who have academic difficulty after their first semester must have been on academic warning for at least one regular semester of enrollment at UNCA before being subject to suspension.

Returning to the University after Suspension

After suspension, a student is eligible to re-enroll by submitting an Application for Readmission to the Office of the Registrar by the stated deadline for the semester of reenrollment. Students returning from suspension are limited to 14 credit hours per semester or one course per summer term.

A student returning from Suspension or Dismissal must:

- a) earn a 2.25 semester GPA during each semester or summer term of enrollment until his/her cumulative GPA is above minimal levels, *AND*
- b) achieve his/her appropriate minimal cumulative GPA level within 24 attempted semester hours after re-enrollment.

Students who fail to achieve *either* of these two conditions will be dismissed from the University. Students who have been dismissed and have been out of school for at least three calendar years may apply for readmission. However, students who are dismissed from the university have no guarantee of reinstatement.

Academic warning, suspension and dismissal apply to all classifications of students. A student who is eligible to register at UNC Asheville is considered to be in good academic standing. This policy became effective in the Fall of 1988. Academic appeals forms and submission deadlines may be obtained from the OneStop Student Services Office.

Add: On pages 46-47, in place of deleted entry:

ACADEMIC STANDING

All students are expected to earn and maintain a grade-point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 each semester and to successfully complete (earn) at least 67% of their attempted hours each semester. Successful completion of a course means that a student must earn credit or have credit pending for the course with a grade other than F, U, or W.

Good Academic Standing

Students with a semester and cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher and who successfully complete at least 67% of their attempted hours each semester are considered to be in Good Academic Standing.

Academic Warning

Students are placed on Academic Warning if any of the following three conditions occur:

- The student's semester GPA is < 2.0,
- The student's cumulative GPA is < 2.0, or
- The student's successful completion rate (earned hours divided by attempted hours), either for the semester or cumulative, is less than 67%.

Students on Academic Warning are eligible to continue their enrollment in subsequent semesters if they meet all of the following conditions each semester until they are in Good Academic Standing.

- The student must earn a semester GPA of at least 2.25;
- The student must successfully complete at least 70% of their attempted hours each semester, *AND*

- The student must meet with a OneStop Advisor prior to the first day of class to complete an Academic Recovery contract. This contract may stipulate additional requirements that the student must fulfill in order to continue enrollment.

Exception: Students who earn all F grades or a combination of all F, U, or W grades will be Suspended without a period of Academic Warning. (see below)

Suspension

Students who are on Academic Warning and who fail to meet any of the three criteria necessary for continued enrollment (see above) will be **Suspended**. Students who earn all F grades or a combination of all F, U, or W grades will be **Suspended**. Students who are **Suspended** are not eligible to enroll at the university during the next regular semester, but may return after they have served one semester of suspension.

When students return from Suspension, they are placed on Academic Warning and must meet the criteria outlined for continued enrollment (see above) until they are in Good Academic standing. Failure to meet any of the three expected GPA and semester hour completion rate standards will result in **Dismissal** from the university. (See below)

Dismissal

Students who have served a semester of **Suspension** and who, while still on **Academic Warning**, fail to meet the 2.25 semester GPA and 70% successful completion standard will be **Dismissed** from the university. Students who are dismissed have no right to future enrollment at UNC Asheville and must wait at least three years before appealing to return.

Summary

Academic Standing	Requirements/Conditions	Expectations and Eligibility to Enroll
Good Academic Standing	* Cumulative and Semester GPA of at least 2.0, and * Successful completion of at least 67% of attempted hours each semester.	Eligible to continue enrollment.
Academic Warning	* Cumulative or Semester GPA < 2.0, or * Did not successfully complete at least 67% of attempted hours.	Must earn a GPA of 2.25 and successfully complete at least 70% of attempted hours each subsequent semester until in Good Academic Standing to be eligible to enroll.
Suspension	* On Academic Warning, and * Did not meet the expected 2.25 semester GPA or 70% of attempted hours completion rate standards. OR * Earned all F grades or combination of all F, U, or W grades for the semester.	Is not eligible to enroll in the next regular semester. May return to the university after serving the semester of suspension.

Dismissal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Has served a semester of suspension, and * Did not meet the expected 2.25 semester GPA or 70% of attempted hours completion rate standards. 	Is not eligible to enroll in the university. May appeal for readmission after a period of at least three years.
------------------	--	--

Impact: The new policy will impact students who experience academic difficulty, but will benefit those who commit to academic recovery by better aligning clear academic expectations and students' ability to enroll with policies regulating financial aid eligibility. Students will not be able to continue enrollment with substandard GPAs and course completion rates; however, those who work to improve their academic performance will be able to continue their enrollment.

Rationale: The standard GPA required for a degree and for continuing financial aid is 2.0. We should expect this attainment from the start of a student's enrollment. This policy provides clear expectations and, if a student does experience a difficult semester, provides clear, appropriate measures for GPA and course completion rates in order to continue enrollment and earn their degree.

The Financial Aid eligibility policies will be aligned with this policy: if a student is eligible to enroll, he/she will be eligible for financial aid. The previous academic standing and financial aid policies were not in alignment. For students with financial need, it is counterproductive to allow students' enrollment if they are not eligible to receive financial aid.