

## Academic Standing

The progress of all students is evaluated at the end of each semester. The College recognizes three categories of academic standing: Good Standing, Academic Probation, and Academic Suspension. Each student's academic standing will be determined by academic performance as reflected in the institutional grade point average (IGPA), calculated each semester.

### Academic Probation

Academic probation occurs when a student's IGPA falls below the satisfactory progress levels shown below:

<u>Total Hours Attempted (includes transfer hrs.)</u>	<u>Minimum Cumulative IGPA</u>
0-12	1.5
13-24	1.6
25-36	1.7
37-48	1.8
49-60	1.9
60+	2.0

A student on Academic Probation is restricted to enrollment in a maximum of 14 semester hours and is required to seek assistance through the Academic Intervention Management Program (AIM). Students on Academic Probation may be in jeopardy of losing financial aid.

### Academic Suspension

A student who does not attain minimum academic standards after being placed on Academic Probation will be suspended from the College. The minimum standards for avoiding Academic Suspension are below:

<u>Total Hours Attempted (includes transfer hrs.)</u>	<u>Minimum Cumulative IGPA</u>
1-24	No minimum
25-36	1.5
37-48	1.6
49-60	1.7
60+	1.8

Students who do not meet these minimum standards will be suspended from the College. The first suspension will be for one semester; subsequent suspensions will be for one calendar year (3 terms).

A student may appeal Academic Suspension by writing a letter of appeal to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Appeals must be filed no later than noon on the day prior to registration day for the semester in which the student wishes to re-enroll.

## Learning Support Suspension

Learning Support Suspension occurs when a required Learning Support subject area is not satisfied after three course attempts. The length of suspension is three calendar years.

Before being placed on suspension, a student may appeal for one additional Learning Support course attempt, if the following conditions are met. The student must

1. be individually evaluated and determined to have a reasonable chance of success;
2. be in an exit level course;
3. have reached the limit in only one Learning Support area.

If granted the additional attempt, the student may enroll in a maximum of seven semester hours, including the Learning Support course.

For more information on appealing Learning Support suspension, see Ms. Cathy Rogers ([crogers@abac.edu](mailto:crogers@abac.edu)) in Conger Hall, Room 324.

## Standards of Academic Progress for Financial Aid

Students who receive financial aid through the College must meet additional standards of academic progress in order to continue to receive aid. These standards apply to all institutionally awarded federal and state funds, including Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Education Grants, Federal Work-Study, HOPE scholarships, Federal Stafford Student loans, and Federal Parent Loans (PLUS).

1. Qualitative Standard—Students receiving financial aid must maintain Good Academic Standing, as defined above.
2. Quantitative Standard—A student enrolled in six (6) or more credit hours must satisfactorily complete at least 67% of the credit hours attempted, and on which financial aid was based. A student enrolled in less than six (6) credit hours must satisfactorily complete all hours attempted, and on which financial aid was based. Satisfactory completion is defined as a letter grade of *A, B, C, D, or IP*. Unsatisfactory completion is defined as a letter grade of *F, I, W, or WF*.
3. Time Frame—Federal regulations limit receipt of federal financial aid to no more than 150% of the course work required for any particular degree or certificate. The average certificate program at ABAC requires approximately 30 credit hours, 150% of which is 45. The average associate degree at ABAC requires approximately 60 credit hours, 150% of which is 90. The average baccalaureate degree at ABAC requires approximately 120 credit hours, 150% of which is 180. Therefore, no further aid will be awarded when a student has attempted 45 credit hours in the one-year certificate program, 90 credit hours in an associate degree program, or 180 hours in a baccalaureate program. Learning Support courses will not be included in the total credit-hour limitation. Transfer credit will be included. Pre-nursing majors are limited to a total of 50 attempted credit hours of financial aid; however, financial aid eligibility is re-established for pre-nursing majors once accepted into the nursing program.

The Financial Aid Office will evaluate satisfactory progress once each academic year, at the end of spring term. At this time, students who have attempted six or more hours and are failing to make satisfactory progress will be informed, in writing, of their ineligibility to receive future financial aid at the college.

Students who withdraw, or are withdrawn, from ABAC will not receive further financial aid, except under documented mitigating circumstances.

Students who lose their financial aid eligibility because of failure to meet the above standards may appeal to have their eligibility reinstated. The Financial Aid section of this Handbook outlines the appeals process.

### **Additional Requirements for HOPE Scholarship Recipients**

Students receiving the HOPE Scholarship are required to demonstrate a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 at the end of each spring semester and when they have attempted 30, 60, and 90 hours.