



Widener University

2023-2024

APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL AID SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS APPEAL

*The process to appeal for financial aid after receiving notification of denial, is to complete this application and attach a letter of appeal, along with any supporting documentation. This application and all attachments must be submitted to Financial Aid Services, Lipka Hall, One University Place, Chester, PA 19013. You may also fax the application and all attachments to the Appeals Committee at (610) 499-4687, or email the information to finaidmc@widener.edu. **Deadline to submit an appeal for Summer is June 30, 2023, for Fall is October 1, 2023, and for Spring is February 15, 2024.** The Financial Aid Services Appeals Committee meets as needed each month. Your application must be complete before it will be reviewed by the committee.*

I. Student Information:

Starting Semester Requesting Reinstatement for: Fall Spring Summer _____ (year)

Name: _____ Student ID#: _____
Last First

II. Instructions for Student:

1. Students must attach a written statement clearly explaining any extenuating circumstances that led to financial aid termination. Also, clearly explain how your circumstances have changed and how that will allow you to make satisfactory academic progress. It is important to submit any documentation that will support your request.
2. If you or a family member had an illness or death, YOU MUST provide proof of this otherwise your petition will be returned to you as incomplete. Your doctor's statement must state your ability to return to school. For deaths, you may provide a copy of a death certificate, obituary, or a program from the funeral.
3. Make an appointment with a Widener University Academic Advisor to develop an academic plan. **Make sure you bring your written statement and this form with you, to your advising appointment or you run the risk of being turned away from your scheduled appointment.**
4. Submit the Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal Form along with your written statement and your academic plan to Financial Aid Services at Widener University, located in Lipka Hall, for processing/review.

III. Student Responsibility/Acknowledgement: Please read and check each box

- I have confirmed that my declared major on my transcript matches what is written on this financial aid academic plan.
- I understand that this appeal is for FINANCIAL AID purposes only and does not guarantee success in my academic program.
- I understand that I must register and adhere to my academic plan to work toward reaching my stated educational goal.
- I understand any deviation from my identified goal as approved on my academic plan, may result in a non-payment of a partial or full financial aid award.
- I understand it is my responsibility to review and stay current with changes pertaining to financial aid regulations/policies.
- I understand this appeal process will require a **minimum of 3 weeks** to be processed and reviewed by the Financial Aid Services Appeals Committee (FASAC).
- Once a decision has been rendered, notification will be mailed by FASAC.
- I understand that I can only have one academic plan completed for the purpose of this appeal.
- Students are allowed **ONE** appeal in their academic career at Widener University. Subsequent appeals will be denied and a student will need to make up any unit/GPA deficiencies at their own expense.

Student Signature _____

Date _____

OFFICE USE ONLY: Approved Denied Petition# _____ Reviewed by _____

Student Academic Plan for Financial Aid

Contact list for required signatures

School/College	Contact Person
A & S (Gender & Women's Studies)	Annalisa Castaldo, GWS Director
A & S (Humanities)	Associate Dean Paul Goldberg
A & S (Science)	Associate Dean Loyd Bastin
A & S (Social Science)	Associate Dean David Fendrich (22/FA), James Vike (starting 23/SP)
Business	Assistant Dean Jessica Delaney OR Associate Dean Donna McCloskey
Education	Brenda Gillo, Director
Engineering	Assistant Dean TBD
Exploratory Studies	Rhonda Bates, Associate Director
Nursing	Assistant Dean DeLisa Cofer OR Associate Dean Rose Schwartz
Social Work	Associate Dean Jennifer Cullen OR Richard Cooper, BSW Program Director
Undergraduate Continuing Studies	Associate Dean Janelle Williams

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) for Financial Aid

Widener University is required by federal regulations to adhere to minimum standards of satisfactory academic progress that relate to a student's eligibility for federally funded financial aid programs, including state, federal and institutional grant(s), scholarships, employment, and loan programs.

Students must meet minimum satisfactory academic progress standards in order to initially receive and to maintain eligibility for federal Title IV and ALL Institutional funds. The satisfactory academic progress standards apply to all students in degree seeking programs of study who wish to be considered for financial assistance.

SAP is a qualitative as well as a quantitative measurement of credits attempted and credits completed. Failure to pass progress can be a failure in one or both of the measurements.

A student's completed credit hours must be equal to or greater than 67% of the credit hours attempted to meet the **quantitative** measurement.

The **qualitative** standard is measured by grade point average (GPA) and academic classification level. The minimum GPA for each classification level is indicated below:

Total Credit Hours Earned	Cumulative Grade Point Average
15.5 or fewer	1.7 or higher
16 – 30.5 credit hours	1.8 or higher
31 – 60.5 credit hours	1.9 or higher
61 or more credit hours	2.0 or higher

These minimum standards must be met in order to be considered for federal and institutional financial assistance. Aid will be terminated for any student who does not maintain the minimum standard.

Please note: Individual School/College GPA may be higher. Consult with the appropriate academic unit.

Requirement to Reinstate Aid if Appeal is Denied or Benchmarks are Failed

If an appeal is denied or benchmarks are failed, it will be necessary for the student to enroll in classes at their own expense. After successfully meeting the minimum satisfactory academic standard, students may be considered for financial assistance in upcoming terms. It is the student's responsibility to notify Financial Aid Services by submitting the Reinstatement of Financial Aid form when they have earned the necessary cumulative grade point average and/or met the quantitative standard that meets the minimum satisfactory academic progress requirement to receive aid.

Questions regarding SAP for Financial Aid should be directed to Widener University's Office of Enrollment Services at (610)499-4161.

Student Academic Plan Summary for Financial Aid

Student Name: _____

Widener ID: _____

Student Program: _____

Academic Section (to be completed by the Program Director or Dean)

History of Student's Academic Progress:

1. Number of credits required to fulfill degree requirements_____.
2. Total number of credits, **including transfer credits**, which are **shown on the student's transcript** attempted_____ and completed_____. _____% completion rate
3. Plan end date when student will be reviewed to be in good academic standing for continued financial aid eligibility: _____ (**must be included**). **This is a hard deadline; no extensions or modifications can be considered after approval.**
4. Current Cumulative GPA_____

Academic Recommendation:

Financial Aid Services will consider extenuating circumstances if, in the judgment of the advisor, they are warranted. Appeals will be evaluated on the likelihood that 1) the academic plan summary for the student will ensure academic progress in the future and 2) coursework outlined will remedy the lack of academic progress to date. Students should be advised that failure to successfully complete course work outlined in the academic plan indicated will result in removal of future aid and all subsequent appeals will be denied. Students may still attend Widener University without the benefit of aid.

Complete and sign the student's academic plan. Federal regulations mandate that all specified benchmarks are met in order to be eligible for financial aid, no deviation from individual components will be allowed. The student's dated signature is also required to acknowledge the original academic plan and any/all changes made to the plan before approval or denial by Financial Aid Services.

Please briefly summarize what plans the student has discussed with you, and provide any comments or recommendations that you think would assist the Financial Aid Services committee in making a decision.

Student Academic Plan for Financial Aid

Student Name: _____

Widener ID: _____

Student Program: _____

Academic Section (to be completed by the Program Director or Dean)

Student's Academic Plan

1. Period for which the plan will be in place: 23/SU _____ 23/FA _____ 24/SP _____
(check all that apply)
2. Number of credits student **must** register for: 23/SU _____ 23/FA _____ 24/SP _____
3. Minimum number of credits student **must** complete: 23/SU _____ 23/FA _____ 24/SP _____
4. Minimum GPA student **must** achieve per semester: 23/SU _____ 23/FA _____ 24/SP _____

OR

Minimum cumulative GPA student **must** achieve at the end of each semester:

23/SU _____ 23/FA _____ 24/SP _____

By signing this academic plan, you acknowledge and agree that the declared major on your transcript matches what is written on this financial aid academic plan. You understand and agree that this academic plan is for FINANCIAL AID purposes only and does not guarantee success in your academic program. You understand and agree that you must register and adhere to the approved academic plan to work toward reaching your stated educational goal. You understand and agree that any deviation from your identified goals, as approved on your academic plan, may result in a non-payment of a partial or full financial aid award.

*You understand and agree that you can only have one academic plan completed for the purpose of this appeal. You understand and agree that students are allowed **ONE** appeal in their academic career at Widener University. Subsequent appeals will be denied and a student will need to make up any unit/GPA deficiencies at their own expense.*

Director or Dean's Name: _____

Director or Dean's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student's Name: _____

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Widener Email Address: _____