

Date: March 5, 2014

To: Eddy Souffrant, Faculty President

From: Brian Cooper, Chair, FAPSC

Re: Motion to revise the Academic Probation and Suspension policy

Appendices:

Tracked Changes: Academic Probation and Suspension tracked 2014-02-28.doc

Fostering Undergraduate Student Success regulations: Transmittal #83.pdf

Motion. At our February 28, 2014 meeting, the Faculty Academic Policy and Standards Committee voted unanimously to recommend the revisions to the Academic Probation and Suspension policy discussed below. A tracked-changes version of the current policy is appended as a separate document. But the recommended changes are so substantial that they are difficult to read in that format, so we also included the final version on the last page of this motion.

Justification. We recently confirmed that the regulations from UNC General Administration (GA) implementing the system-wide "Fostering Undergraduate Student Success" policy require us to add a completion rate standard to our definition of satisfactory academic progress/good academic standing. Section II.A.2 of these regulations specifies a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 for good academic standing, which we already require. But we (and apparently most other UNC system campuses) do not currently meet the requirement in Section II.A.3, which says:

"All campuses must develop an academic progress policy that defines the ratio of attempted to earned semester credit hours required for continued enrollment. Federal Title IV regulations for Satisfactory Academic Progress shall be the minimum allowable standard."

This ratio should actually be described as "earned to attempted," not "attempted to earned." Title IV requires a minimum completion rate of two-thirds.

At our January 24, 2014 meeting FAPSC drafted language to add this requirement to our Academic Probation and Suspension policy. But while working on these changes, we found ourselves confused by the current language defining academic suspension:

"An undergraduate student who remains on academic probation for two consecutive semesters (excluding summer sessions) is suspended from the University. However, a student who has a current Fall or Spring semester GPA of 2.3 or higher will not be suspended."

Many committee members interpreted this as allowing students *two* semesters to try to recover from having dropped below the minimum standards for Good Academic Standing before being suspended. But apart from the "semester GPA of 2.3 or higher" exception, students actually have only one semester to recover. The reason for this confusion is that "Academic Probation" status is assigned (on the transcript) to the semester in which it was incurred—in a sense "retroactively." Many feel that this is illogical—that it should instead be assigned to the following [enrolled] semester, since that's when students would most logically assume that they are "on probation."

The committee was also uncertain about other aspects of the policy, like the purpose and implementation of "semester warnings." So we took the opportunity to overhaul the entire policy in an effort to make it clearer to both faculty and students. A near-final draft of the suggested changes was shared with staff in the Registrar's Office who spend a lot of time explaining the current policy to students. They were "very pleased" with the new wording and made a few small suggestions. The proposed changes are summarized below:

- We added an introduction that clearly defines this as an undergraduate policy and makes it explicit that students begin in good academic standing.
- The introduction also says when academic standing is evaluated (at the end of each fall or spring semester for which the student is enrolled). This was previously in the “Good Academic Standing” paragraph, but it more logically belongs in the introduction since it applies to all possible evaluation results. And the enrollment requirement was not explicit.
- The introduction also makes it explicit that evaluation is based only on hours attempted at UNC Charlotte, and that a student’s academic standing is the result of this evaluation.
- We added the completion rate requirement (“cumulative ratio of earned to attempted credit hours of at least two-thirds”) to the definition of good academic standing.
- We made it clearer that “semester warning” is not a separate “status” since it only applies to students in good academic standing, and we explicitly stated that semester warnings do **not** appear on the transcript.
- We added a semester completion rate standard to semester warnings, and we tried to make it clearer that academic standing is always based on cumulative performance, and that semester performance is used only for semester warnings.
- The “performs below either numerical standard in the semester of the evaluation” language was found to be much less clumsy than attempting to restate the minimum 2.0 (semester) GPA and minimum two-thirds (semester) ratio of earned to attempted hours requirements in the semester warning section.
- We added completion rate language to the academic probation section, and explicitly stated how probation is indicated on the transcript and when it applies.
- In the academic suspension section, we replaced the “on probation for two consecutive semesters” language with wording that refers to the student’s probationary status at the time of the next evaluation.
- We made it explicit that a student remains on probation if they are not suspended because of the “semester GPA of at least 2.3” exception.
- We also explicitly stated that academic suspension appears on the transcript.

Note. FAPSC also encourages Academic Affairs to add definitions of “earned hours” and “attempted hours” (or a combined definition of their ratio) to the web listing for this policy.

Recommended final version. A tracked-changes version is appended as a separate document.

II. Policy and Procedure Statement

This policy applies only to undergraduates: "student" should be read as "undergraduate student" throughout. Newly admitted students begin in good academic standing. Each student's academic standing is evaluated at the end of every fall or spring semester for which the student was enrolled, based on hours attempted at UNC Charlotte only. The possible results of this evaluation are described below:

GOOD ACADEMIC STANDING

To remain in good academic standing, a student must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 **and** a cumulative ratio of earned to attempted credit hours of at least two-thirds.

Semester Warning

A student who meets the cumulative requirements for good academic standing but performs below either numerical standard in the semester of the evaluation is given a "semester warning." This indicates potential academic problems and is communicated to the student and to the student's advisor and major department(s). Semester warnings do not appear on the student's permanent academic record.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

A student whose cumulative GPA falls below 2.0 or whose cumulative ratio of earned to attempted hours falls below two-thirds is placed on academic probation. This status is noted on the student's permanent academic record with the semester of the evaluation, and continues until the next evaluation opportunity.

ACADEMIC SUSPENSION

A student on academic probation who does not meet the cumulative requirements for good academic standing at the next evaluation is suspended from the University, unless the student's GPA for that semester is at least 2.3, in which case the student remains on probation instead. Academic suspension is noted on the student's permanent academic record.

Exception for Summer Enrollment

Students on academic suspension are permitted to enroll in summer-session classes, but are not eligible to enroll for fall or spring semesters until they have applied and been approved for reinstatement or readmission.

Draft revisions approved by FAPSC on February 28, 2014.

UNC Charlotte Academic Policy: Academic Probation and Suspension

I. Introduction

There is no introduction for this policy.

II. Policy and Procedure Statement

This policy applies only to undergraduates: "student" should be read as "undergraduate student" throughout. Newly admitted students begin in good academic standing. Each student's academic standing is evaluated at the end of every fall or spring semester for which the student was enrolled, based on hours attempted at UNC Charlotte only. The possible results of this evaluation are described below: Requirements for Continued Enrollment include:

GOOD ACADEMIC STANDING

To remain in good academic standing, a ~~An undergraduate~~ student must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 and a cumulative ratio of earned to attempted credit hours of at least two-thirds. ~~or above at UNC Charlotte to remain in good academic standing. Academic Standing of each student is calculated at the end of the Fall and Spring semesters.~~

SEMESTER WARNING-Semester Warning

A student who meets the cumulative requirements for good academic standing but performs below either numerical standard in the semester of the evaluation is ~~An undergraduate student whose cumulative GPA is at or above 2.0 at the end of a Fall or Spring semester but whose GPA for that semester is below 2.0 is placed on given a~~ "semester warning." This warning status is an indication of ~~indicates~~ potential academic problems and is communicated to the student and to the student's advisor and major department(s). Semester warnings do not appear on the student's permanent academic record.

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ACADEMIC PROBATION

An undergraduate ~~A~~ student whose cumulative GPA is falls below 2.0 or whose cumulative ratio of earned to attempted hours falls below two-thirds at the end of the Fall or Spring semester ~~is placed on academic probation,~~ and this ~~This status~~ is noted on the student's permanent academic record with the semester of the evaluation, and continues until the next evaluation opportunity.

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Exception for Summer Enrollment

Students ~~who are~~ on academic suspension are permitted to enroll in summer ~~session~~ classes, ~~but~~ ~~They~~ are not eligible to ~~continue enrollment in the Fall and Spring for fall or~~ spring semesters until they have applied and been approved for reinstatement or readmission.

III. Definitions

- **GPA (Grade Point Average)** – A system of recording academic achievement based on an average of a student's grades. The student's semester GPA is an average of grade points earned during that semester, ranging from 0.0 to 4.0. Cumulative GPA is an average of all grade points earned in a certain degree program or university.
- **Semester or Term** – A period of study of approximately 16 weeks, usually half of the academic year (i.e., fall and spring semesters). The fall semester begins in August and the spring semester begins in January at UNC Charlotte. There are summer terms as well: one ten-week and two five-week terms.

IV. Policy and Procedure Contact(s)

- **Authority:** Faculty Council [Faculty Academic Policy and Standards Committee]
- **Responsible Office:** Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
- **Additional Contact(s):** Office of the Registrar

V. History

- Revised: January 27, 2011
- Revised: April 27, 2000
- Approved: November 15, 1982

VI. Related Policies, Procedures, and Resources

- [Office of the Registrar FAQs About Academic Suspension](#)
- [Academic Advising](#)

VII. Frequently Asked Questions

- **Which students are covered under this policy and procedure?**
This policy and procedure applies to all undergraduate students at UNC Charlotte.
- **Can a student appeal an Academic Suspension status?**
Yes, every student is given the opportunity to appeal their suspension status. Please refer to the [Office of the Registrar](#) for additional information on appeals.



TRANSMITTAL LETTER

The University of North Carolina
General Administration

Transmittal Number 83
May 2, 2013

THIS LETTER TRANSMITS CHANGES TO THE *UNC POLICY MANUAL*

400.1.5[R] *Regulations Related to Fostering Undergraduate Student Success*
These Regulations were developed in accordance with feedback from the campuses and were approved by President Ross on April 29, 2013. (*see attachment*)

400.1.5 *Fostering Undergraduate Student Success*
This Policy Amended 01/11/13 was transmitted to you on January 24, 2013, per UNC General Administration Transmittal Letter #81. Please be advised that the proper title should read *Fostering Undergraduate Student Success*. (*see attachment*)

Please contact Dr. Suzanne Ortega, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, at 919-962-4614 or Dr. Karrie Dixon, Senior Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs at 919-843-5389 if you have any questions.

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The UNC Policy Manual is accessible at:

<http://www.northcarolina.edu/policy/index.php>

Attachments

Regulations Related to Fostering Undergraduate Student Success

I. Limiting Hours for Baccalaureate Degree Programs

Baccalaureate degree programs shall be limited to no more than 128 semester credit hours. Any requirement beyond 128 hours must be approved by the Board of Governors. Any program authorized by the Board of Governors to require 135 semester credit hours or more shall be officially designated as a five-year baccalaureate program.

- A. Campuses shall observe these guidelines in all proposals for new degree programs.
- B. Campuses must publicize the required number of semester credit hours and projected length of full-time enrollment required to obtain the baccalaureate degree in both printed and online catalogs, as applicable. During new student orientation sessions and in publications for students and parents, campuses must provide a description of factors that may extend the length of time to complete a degree.

II. Student Success Policies

A. Satisfactory Academic Progress and Good Academic Standing

Satisfactory Academic Progress and Good Academic Standing are determined by:

- Term Grade Point Average
- Cumulative Grade Point Average, and
- Ratio of attempted to completed semester credit hours.

The implementation of these criteria shall include the following:

1. Upon initial admission to a UNC campus, a student is in Good Academic Standing.
2. All undergraduates in the University of North Carolina system must earn and maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 to be considered in Good Academic Standing and making Satisfactory Academic Progress.
3. All campuses must develop an academic progress policy that defines the ratio of attempted to earned semester credit hours required for continued enrollment. Federal Title IV regulations for Satisfactory Academic Progress shall be the minimum allowable standard.
4. If a student meets the criteria in each of the these standards above, then the student is considered to be making Satisfactory Academic Progress, remains in Good Academic Standing, and is eligible to continue enrollment at that UNC campus.
5. Campuses may develop policies that allow students falling below one or more of the standards to be placed on academic warning and/or academic probation¹ as opposed to being academically dismissed or academically suspended. These policies must, at a minimum, be in accord with Federal Title IV regulations and should include the use of academic success contracts where appropriate.
6. Campus policies related to this section must be published in all campus academic and financial aid materials, both printed and online. Students should be informed of these policies at new student orientation.

¹Campuses are not obligated to enact policies for either academic probation or academic warning below the allowable standards.

B. The Course Adjustment Period (i.e., “Drop/Add”)

The Course Adjustment Period will be established as the time during which students may drop or add courses without academic penalty (i.e., no impact on the Grade Point Average (GPA), attempted hours, or tuition surcharge). Campuses may choose to make the period for adding courses and the period for dropping courses the same or different; however, both the drop and add periods must be concluded by the census date.²

The implementation of this section shall include the following:

1. Campuses may set policies that allow faculty to drop students administratively if they do not attend the course by the end of the Course Adjustment Period.³ These policies must be publicized to students. Faculty using this option must have a limited window to take such action in order to complete the drop without causing the student to incur financial penalties other than those normally applied during the course adjustment period. Campuses may allow faculty to add students into those seats in a timely fashion under guidelines set by the campus.
2. Campus business practices⁴ determine if adjustments made during Course Adjustment Period result in any refund or additional charges to the student. Any financial repercussions to students must be publicized in campus academic and financial aid policies describing the Course Adjustment Period.
3. Federal Title IV regulations shall be the minimum standard for all policies related to student refunds during the course adjustment period.

C. Course Withdrawal⁵

Students are expected to complete all the courses for which they are registered at the close of the Course Adjustment Period. These courses must be recorded on a student’s official transcript and receive a grade that is used in the calculation of a GPA, count as attempted hours, count toward the tuition surcharge calculation,⁶ and conform to all financial aid and Satisfactory Academic Progress rules *unless* withdrawal is permitted under conditions described below:

1. Course withdrawal with extenuating circumstances
 - a. Campuses will develop policies that permit a student to withdraw from a course or courses at any time and without academic penalty for serious extenuating circumstances, including military deployment. These policies must describe a clear process that defines the documentation required, the nature of the review by a designated campus body or official, and an opportunity for one level of appeal at the campus level.
 - b. Any campus policy developed for course withdrawal for extenuating circumstances must require that:
 - i. a W be recorded on the transcript

²For regular term instruction, the census date is the conclusion of the 10th class day of the fall and spring semesters. For summer sessions, degree credit extension courses, and any other degree-credit courses taught on an irregular calendar, the census date is the end of the class day representing the passage of 10 percent of the instructional period. UNC Policy Manual 400.1.8[R]

³If the course is offered online, the instructor may administratively drop the student from the course if the student has not signed in by the end of the course adjustment period.

⁴All campus business practices must conform to UNC FIT Student Account Standards.

⁵All campus policies on withdrawal must include policies about refunds and conform to UNC FIT Financial Aid and Student Account Standards.

⁶Summer courses are excluded from the tuition surcharge as per UNC Policy Manual 1000.1.5[G]

- ii. the course(s) count as attempted hours
 - iii. the course(s) not count in tuition surcharge calculations (see Policy Manual 1000.1.5[G])
 - iv. the course(s) not count in GPA calculation
 - v. the course(s) are subject to all financial aid and SAP rules and calculations
2. Course withdrawals without extenuating circumstances
- a. After the initial Course Adjustment Period, campuses may develop policies that allow students to withdraw from one or more courses without meeting the standards for withdrawals for extenuating circumstances. These policies must specify up to four courses or up to 16 semester credit hours as the maximum number of such withdrawals permitted over the course of a student's degree or degrees.
 - b. Any policy developed for course withdrawal without extenuating circumstances must require that:
 - i. a W be recorded on the transcript
 - ii. the course(s) count as attempted hours
 - iii. the course(s) count in surcharge calculations
 - iv. the course(s) are subject to all financial aid and SAP rules and calculations
 - c. Campus policies must include a deadline for such withdrawal at a date no later than the completion of 60% of the term⁷.

Students who must withdraw from a course or courses due to military service should consult the UNC Policy on Military Student Success.

D. Course Repeats

Campus policies on course repeats must conform, at the minimum, to Federal Title IV Financial Aid standards with regard to course repeats. Students receiving Federal financial aid cannot be treated differently from students not on such aid.

In addition, all campus policies on course repeats must, at the minimum:

- Include on the student transcript all attempts to complete a course,
- Count all attempts to complete a course in calculations of satisfactory academic progress,
- Count all attempts to complete a course in the tuition surcharge calculation in accordance with Policy Manual 1000.1.5[G], and
- Use all grades earned in a course in the calculation of the GPA, unless the grade can be excluded through a campus-based grade exclusion or replacement policy.

E. Forgiveness Policies

Campuses may establish policies that permit a student who is academically dismissed or academically suspended to be readmitted after a specified period of time, have a modified or new GPA calculation, and to be under other specific steps for re-admittance to the campus.

⁷The calculation of this date should begin with the first day of classes and conclude on the last day of regular class meetings. It should exclude the reading day and exam period.

F. Grade Exclusion or Grade Replacement

Campuses must develop policies on grade exclusion and/or grade replacement.⁸ These policies must specify up to four courses or up to 16 semester hours as a maximum number of allowable exclusions/replacements.

Campus policies that permit either grade exclusion and/or grade replacement must provide for:

- the inclusion on the transcript of both the initial grade earned for the course and a notation of its exclusion from or replacement in the calculation of the GPA, and
- the inclusion of the course(s) in both the calculations of satisfactory academic progress and the tuition surcharge.

G. Minimum, Maximum, and Average Semester Course Load

A minimum “full-time” undergraduate course load is defined as 12 credit hours per semester. In advising and other communications, campuses shall encourage full-time students to consider an average semester load of 15 credit hours, when possible, to stay on track for a timely graduation. Campuses may allow students in good academic standing to enroll in up to 18 semester hours in a fall or spring semester without any special permission. No student shall exceed 18 semester hours in a fall or spring semester without special permission as designated by campus policy. Campuses shall develop appropriate policies for a maximum load in summer terms.

III. Student Success Review and Reporting

Campuses will establish a student success support structure of one or more committees comprised of the appropriate officials from areas such as admissions, registrar’s office, financial aid, advising, the counseling center, the cashier’s office, faculty governance, and student government to review and issue regular reports on:

A. Retention and Graduation

Each campus shall, in consultation with General Administration, establish goals for retention⁹ and graduation¹⁰ for first-time, full-time students. Campuses shall also work with General Administration to develop a tracking model for the retention and graduation rates of full-time students, transfer students, and part-time students.

General Administration will report annually on the success of these various categories at both the campus and system level.

B. Additional Student Success Measures

Campuses shall work with the General Administration to develop common output measures of student success and achievement as a means to assess the academic progress goals set by each campus.

⁸The development of a policy does not imply that a campus must allow grade replacement and/or exclusion. A policy may simply state that the campus does not allow such.

⁹For purposes of reporting on first-time, full-time students, retention rate shall be defined as “the percentage of first-time degree-seeking undergraduates from the previous fall who are again enrolled in the current fall.” (<http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/glossary/>)

¹⁰For purposes of reporting, graduation rate data shall be collected as defined by “the number of students entering the institution as full-time, first-time undergraduate students in a particular year (cohort), completing their program within 150 percent of normal time to completion. It shall be calculated by race/ethnicity and gender.” (<http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/glossary/>)

C. Review of Course Scheduling and Offerings

Campuses shall develop mechanisms to monitor whether all courses necessary for graduation are offered on a timely basis and with an adequate number of sections for a student to graduate in four years.

As a part of this review, campuses shall determine:

- If general education requirements (e.g., themes, designators, etc.) allow appropriate student progress,
- If excessive or unnecessary specification or augmentation of general education courses for certain majors places an undue burden on students changing majors, and
- If excessive GPA or course grade requirements for admission to or completion of a major are delaying student progress toward graduation.

These evaluations will be prepared on a three-year cycle beginning in Fall 2014 and will examine data from the previous three academic years. General Administration will consult with campuses to develop the reporting format and required data.

D. Advising

Campuses shall develop policies to monitor the availability of appropriate and timely academic advising, particularly for first-time undergraduates and first-semester transfer students to:

- assist students in making effective academic and career decisions
- increase the potential for students selecting appropriate courses and schedules
- provide students with assistance in selecting a major in a timely fashion
- prevent excessive changes of major
- increase students' awareness of an appropriate course load and academic assistance available to them.
- Provide information as appropriate on course selection and the impact on tuition surcharge.

This review should take place on a three-year cycle beginning in Fall 2014 and examine data from the previous three academic years. General Administration will consult with campuses to develop the reporting format and required data.

E. Early Warning System Plan

Effective in the Fall 2014 semester, each campus will have an early warning system (EWS) to alert campus personnel to signs of poor academic performance by a student or of behavior likely to lead to a student's poor academic performance. Each campus will submit a comprehensive intervention plan to General Administration that describes how students are identified by the EWS, what campus staff or faculty are notified when a student is identified by the EWS, and how the staff or faculty member is to respond. Interventions may include written communication with students, phone calls or text messages, face-to-face meetings with campus personnel, and/or formal programs involving extended student participation.

The plan should specify what interventions will be used, who will be responsible for them, how warnings will be communicated to responsible personnel, and how interventions will be tracked and reported.

Each campus will identify strategies to assess the effectiveness of its EWS and use the results for ongoing improvement.

IV. Regulations on Student Financial Aid and Title IV

All campuses will develop financial aid disclosure practices that will, at the minimum, include entrance and exit counseling for students receiving financial aid.¹¹

All campus policies will be compliant with Federal Title IV Regulations, including, but not limited to, the following:

A. Common definition of the Federal Title IV regulation that defines a student as eligible for Federal financial aid for up to 150% of normal time to graduation.

Four-year degree requirements in the University of North Carolina system range from 120-128 semester credit hours. The system will use 120 hours as the common definition for defining federal financial aid eligibility, making 180 hours the limit for 150% of normal time to graduation.

Campuses will define procedures whereby a student completing 180 or more attempted hours will undergo an automatic review to determine continued federal financial aid eligibility. If the student is enrolled in a program requiring more than 120 hours, the appropriate allowance will be calculated on campus based on the exact number of credits required for that degree.

These policies must be widely distributed in all campus academic and financial aid materials.

B. Guidelines to monitor first undergraduate degree completion

Federal Title IV regulations require that campuses monitor first undergraduate degree completion and offer no additional federal grant aid (e.g. Pell, SEOG) after a student earns the initial undergraduate degree. Under federal rules, a student can take out federal loans for a second degree, if eligible. To ensure compliance, campuses must develop protocols for:

- monitoring student degree completion each term (fall, spring, summer), and
- for advising students of their status and eligibility for federal financial aid

These policies must be widely distributed in all campus academic and financial aid materials.

V. Compliance with the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement (CAA) with the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) and Transfer within the UNC System

Campuses will be fully compliant with the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement with the NCCCS.

Campuses shall develop policies that provide a student at any UNC campus who has successfully completed¹² the lower institution-wide division's general education requirements to be considered if applying as a transfer student to have completed the general education requirements at another UNC campus.

Any change by a campus in its General Education requirements must be consistent with the CAA.

¹¹All campus policies on disclosure practices must conform to UNC FIT Financial Aid and Student Account standards.

¹²To be eligible for inclusion in this policy, a student must have an overall GPA of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale at the time of transfer and a grade of "C" or better in all core courses.

VI. Information Distribution

To ensure that students receive policy information that is both comprehensive and timely, campuses must develop broad-based communications plans that inform students about:

- Recommended course loads, required numbers of earned hours, and the projected length of full- time enrollment needed to obtain the baccalaureate degrees;
- Factors that may extend the length of time to complete a degree;
- Requirements for Good Academic Standing and Satisfactory Academic Progress; and
- The course adjustment period,
- Tuition surcharge, and
- Other policies on course withdrawal, course repeat, and grade replacement or exclusion and their potential financial consequences.

All policies and procedures listed in this regulation will be effective no later than the Fall Semester, 2014.

Fostering Undergraduate Student Success

The University of North Carolina’s policies on student success adopted by the Board of Governors direct constituent institutions to:

- set academic progress and degree attainment as primary outcomes;
- promote academic quality, rigor, and integrity;
- make possible “seamless” educational opportunities across the UNC campuses, with the North Carolina Community College system, and early college high schools.

Improving retention, graduation rates, and time to degree are important aspects of such policies. However, the Board of Governors also recognizes that students come into the system from a number of different life circumstances and their paths to success vary accordingly. Policies, therefore, set parameters within which a campus can best meet the needs of its diverse student populations.

University-Wide Policies:

The Board of Governors has adopted the following policies for all institutions comprising the University of North Carolina except the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics.¹

1. Campuses will follow the credit hour limits determined by the Board of Governors for four-year and five-year baccalaureate degree programs in UNC Policy 400.1.5[R].
2. Campuses will develop academic policies within the regulations established by the UNC General Administration on:
 - a. Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)
 - b. Course Adjustment Periods (“Drop/Add”)
 - c. Course Withdrawal
 - d. Grade Exclusion or Replacement
 - e. Minimum, Maximum, and Average Course Load

*[Supersedes and Replaces Policy 400.1.5 originally entitled “Improving Retention and Graduation Rates” and this version was approved by the Board of Governors on January 11, 2013.]

¹The North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics shall track data on student attrition, completion rates of its high school curriculum, and high school graduation. See G.S. 116-235.

3. Campuses will establish a student success and support structure to review and to issue regular reports on:
 - a. retention, academic progression, graduation, and time to degree
 - b. course scheduling as it relates to whether courses required for graduation are offered on a timely basis and with an adequate number of sections and seats
 - c. course offerings and grade requirements to assess if any undue additions to general education requirements exist or if such requirements unintentionally lengthen time to graduation
 - d. the academic advisement system to ensure students receive appropriate assistance in proceeding toward graduation in a timely manner.
4. Campuses will be compliant with Title IV regulations that define student eligibility for and receipt of federal financial aid.
5. Campuses will be compliant with the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement with the NCCCS and are encouraged to develop policies that promote seamless transfer among schools in the University of North Carolina system.

These policies are designed to ensure that campus and system-wide policies and practices facilitate behaviors that support retention and timely graduation.

The President shall establish regulations to implement the requirements of this policy.