Faculty Council on Academic Standards (FCAS)  
Policy on Satisfactory Progress

The University of Washington seeks to allow fair access to as many eligible applicants as possible each year while enabling students, who so choose, to have a four-year college experience beyond high school. Consequently, the University has set limits on the number of quarters and credits allocated for each student. A student may continue to enroll at the University of Washington until reaching both the quarter and credit limits.

Students admitted as freshmen, including those who have earned credit as part of the Running Start Program, may accrue as many credits as they wish, as long as they graduate within 12 quarters of college work while registered at the University. Transfer students are allowed 6 quarters of college work while registered at the University if they have completed two or more years of college work. Transfer students who enter the University after completing one year of college work will be allowed 9 quarters of college work while registered at the University of Washington. Summer quarters do not count in these limits.

Students who do not complete their degree requirements within the time frames specified above may continue to enroll through the quarter in which they reach 30 credits beyond the number of credits required for their degree. Students pursuing more than one degree may enroll through the quarter in which they reach 30 credits beyond the number of credits required for their concurrent degrees. After reaching these limits, students will no longer be permitted to register as continuing University of Washington students in the regular academic year (Autumn-Winter-Spring).

Administration and Logistics

- Exceptions to the satisfactory progress policy that allow students to continue to enroll at the University of Washington beyond the satisfactory progress limits are rarely granted. Completing a minor, completing requirements for graduate or professional programs, or enrolling in an additional major or degree program is not grounds for an exception. However, circumstances beyond a student's control will be considered in granting exceptions.

- The timing and process of holds, registration restrictions, current "exception" practices (such as hardship withdrawals) will be evaluated and adjusted as needed by the Registrar and advisors, including revision of the current hold/graduation plan at 180 credits.

- To ensure that students can complete requirements on time, administrative and academic units will adjust advising and policy as appropriate to ensure timely completion of requirements, including admission to majors.

- Students will be informed of these policies and implications at the beginning of their UW career so they can plan accordingly.

Revised by the Faculty Council on Academic Standards on May 25, 2012.