

Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy

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Students attending the University of Reading and in receipt of US Direct Loans (Title IV Aid) are required to make satisfactory progress in their degree programme. Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) means the student is proceeding in a positive manner towards fulfilling degree requirements.

4-year undergraduate degree	480	6 years (720 credits)	67%
12 month postgraduate taught degree	180	18 months (270 credits)	67%
Postgraduate research degree (PhD) (4 years)	Not applicable	4 years, 6 months	
Postgraduate research degree (PhD) (4 years)	Not applicable	6 years	

Students must also be studying at least half-time in order to be eligible for federal loans.

Both the qualitative and quantitative SAP standards are reviewed at each evaluation point. For students on courses lasting 12 months or less, SAP is evaluated towards the end of each payment period, ie October - February; February - June; and June – September (Postgraduate Taught students). For students on programmes lasting more than 12 months, SAP is evaluated annually towards the end of the final payment period in the academic year ie February – June for Undergraduate students or March – September for Postgraduate Research students (September entry).

Payment Periods:

COURSE LEVEL	UNDERGRADUATE	POSTGRADUATE TAUGHT	POSTGRADUATE TAUGHT (JAN)	POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH
Entry Month	September	September	January	September
Payment Period 1	September to February	September to February	January to July	September to March
Disbursement	October	October	January	October
Payment Period 2	February to June	February to June	July to January	March to September
Disbursement	February	February	July	March/April
Payment Period 3	Not Applicable	June to September	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Disbursement	Not Applicable	June	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

Credits transferred from another programme or a change of course/modules at the same grade level will count towards the 150% timeframe (quantitative standard – pace). Only those credits, which contribute towards the final award, will be considered for the purposes of Satisfactory Academic Progress. When all elements of the new programme are unrelated to the previous programme, then credits will not be included in the quantitative standard - pace.

This time scale includes any previous period of study at other institutions for the same programme (for example an undergraduate student with 1 year of previous study at another institution must complete their studies within 3.5 years at the University of Reading).

A student must attempt to complete a set number of credits (Modules) per payment period and must attempt to complete all modules they enrol onto. Where a student fails to complete a module, this will be reflected in their progression or classification result and therefore negatively affect their cumulative average grade and academic progress impacting on both the quantitative (pace) and qualitative (grades) standards.

Students may be permitted to resit failed modules. As set out in the University's regulations resit marks may be capped for the purpose of calculating the progression result, or the overall degree result may be capped for resit candidates. Resitting a module involves being reassessed without taking further classes, normally during the student's current academic year. If a student is required to retake part/full year of study this will count towards the 150% timeframe (quantitative standard-pace).

Students must pass all Part 1 and Part 2 modules at Grade C or above to confirm satisfactory academic

The Student Financial Support team will verify SAP requirements have been met prior to originating any US Direct Loans.

Please note: Regardless of the above, students who exceed 150% of the published length of their programme are no longer entitled to receive Federal Aid.