SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

All students pursuing an approved program at RSA are required to maintain satisfactory academic progress toward graduation. Additionally, students are only eligible to receive Title IV federal financial aid if they maintain satisfactory academic progress. The satisfactory academic standards are identical for purposes of graduation and Title IV award eligibility. However, consequences other than reduction of Title IV awards, such as expulsion, is solely an institutional academic consequence. Satisfactory academic progress has two components: a quantitative and a qualitative standard:

QUALITATIVE ACADEMIC PROGRESS

Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher, which is equivalent to a C at RSA, to meet good academic standing, receive federal financial aid, and continue studying at RSA.

QUANTITIATIVE ACADEMIC PROGRESS

The academic program should be completed in a maximum of 150% of the time allotted. Thus, students enrolled in the Yeshiva's four-year program should complete the program within six years, whereas students enrolled in the five-year program should complete the program within seven and one-half years. To remain on track to complete the four-year program within the maximum timeframe, a student is expected to complete an average of at least 11 credit hours per semester and can attempt a maximum of 192 credits. To remain on track to complete the five-year program, within the maximum timeframe, a student is expected to complete an average of at least 10 credit hours per semester and can attempt a maximum of 225 credits.

A student must earn at least 67% of the cumulative credits they attempt. Progress is assessed by dividing the total cumulative credits earned by the total cumulative credits attempted. If this percentage is 67% or greater, the student is determined to be meeting the pace element.

Withdrawals after the add/drop period will be counted as attempted credits for quantitative SAP purposes. If the withdrawal results in a failing grade under institutional policy, it will also affect the GPA and qualitative SAP calculation. Repetitions will only be counted toward the quantitative SAP as attempted credits. Once the grade of the repeated course is submitted, the first attempt will not affect the GPA nor the qualitative SAP. Incomplete courses are counted as attempted credits in the quantitative SAP calculation until a final grade is posted. They do not count as earned credits until successfully completed. They will affect the qualitative SAP calculation once a final letter grade is assigned.

At the end of every payment period, RSA will evaluate qualitative and quantitative SAP. In regard to quantitative academic progress, students fail the maximum timeframe measure at the point at which it is determined that it is not possible to complete their program within the maximum timeframe, not at the point they actually reach the maximum timeframe. Students who fail to complete the program within the maximum time frame may lose eligibility for financial aid and/or be dismissed from the Yeshiva. In the case of extenuating circumstances, written approval from the Academic Dean or the Office of the Registrar must be obtained.

ACADEMIC WARNING AND PROBATION

Any student who fails to maintain satisfactory academic progress during a given semester will be placed on financial aid warning for the following semester, during which they will continue to receive financial aid. To promote academic improvement during the warning period, students must consult with their advisor, who may recommend an academic support plan and other support services. During this time, tutoring will be offered and the student's progress will be monitored.

Financial aid warning lasts for one payment period only. At the end of that payment period, the student must be meeting SAP standards to remain eligible for Title IV aid, unless the student successfully appeals and is placed on financial aid probation. The school may use this warning status without appeal or any other action by the student. This warning status will only last for one payment period. After such time, students who fail to make satisfactory academic progress will lose their aid eligibility unless they successfully appeal and are placed on probation. Students who fail to remain in good academic standing and do not successfully appeal will be unable to receive financial aid, may be dismissed from the yeshiva.

The student will receive notification from the financial aid office of any changes in their status in any given payment period. The notice will include SAP results, the subsequent impact on their Title IV eligibility, appeal opportunities and deadlines, and conditions for reinstatement.

If the student's appeal is approved and the institution determines that the student cannot reasonably be expected to meet SAP standards after one payment period, the student will be placed on probation and an academic plan will be developed. The student will be eligible to receive Title IV aid while on probation and while successfully following the approved academic plan. The student's progress will be reviewed at the end of each evaluation period specified in the academic plan. If the student continues to meet the requirements of the academic plan, the student will remain eligible for Title IV aid until he or she regains satisfactory academic progress status or completes the program.

Any academic plan that needs to be developed will be designed for that particular student to ensure that the student is able to meet the school’s SAP standards by a specific time that will lead to a successful program completion. Students may appeal their plan if they can explain what has happened to make the change necessary and how they will be able to make academic progress.

A student can reinstate his Title IV eligibility at any time through meeting the SAP standards on his own or successfully appealing and meeting the probationary conditions.

Students must take action as outlined above that brings them into compliance with our SAP standards. Paying for one’s classes or sitting out for a semester are both not sufficient to reestablish aid eligibility.