New Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy (SAP) Information.

Why is there a change? The U.S. Department of Education recently published new regulations in an effort to ensure program integrity at higher education institutions. These regulations were designed to ensure that only eligible students receive aid. Colleges and universities across the nation will be asked to review and update their SAP policies.

What changes will GMC make to its policy? At the end of fall 1 (4-term academic year) or fall (3-term academic year) of 2011, the following new changes will take effect:

- **Evaluation Period:** Student compliance with SAP requirements will be monitored every term.
- **New Warning Status:** Students who do not meet the minimum cumulative GPA requirement and 66.67% completion rate minimum each term will be placed on financial aid WARNING. Students who do not meet the minimum requirements their next term of attendance, will not be eligible for financial aid.
- **New Appeal Process:** If a student is no longer eligible for aid, s/he may appeal. However, new appeal guidelines are much more restrictive and will require more documentation. Successful appeals will also have more restrictive conditions to maintain eligibility.
- **Transfer Credits:** Transfer credits used toward program requirements will now count when calculating completion rate.
- **Returning to Good Standing:** Students who meet the cumulative minimums will return to good standing and be able to continue receiving financial aid.
- **Learning Support Classes (Remedial):** LSS classes will no longer be counted when calculating completion rate.

What will NOT change in the new policy? Students will still be expected to maintain a minimum cumulative GPA and an overall completion rate of 66.67% at each evaluation period. Students will still have a maximum timeframe of 150% to complete a program.

When do these changes take effect? The new policy will be enforced at the end of fall 1 (4-term academic year) or fall (3-term academic year) 2011 after grades for the term have posted.

What should students do now to prepare for the new changes? Current GMC students should become familiar with the new SAP policy.

Where can I see a copy of the new SAP policy? The Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy can be viewed by selecting Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards for Financial Aid Eligibility on the Financial Aid Menu.