
Undergraduate Academic Standing Policy

Policy Sponsor:	Office of the Registrar
Policy Contact:	Registrar
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Review Date:	Annually
Procedure:	Undergraduate Academic Standing Procedure (151a)

Purpose

In order to maximize the student's opportunities for success in their studies Athabasca University will notify students of their academic standing at regular intervals. AU students are expected to meet standards for acceptable academic progress. This policy establishes the minimum standards for acceptable academic progress at Athabasca University (AU) and avenues for remediation.

Definitions

Academic Probation	A specified period of time during which a student will have limits on the number of courses for which they can register.
Academic Suspension	A period during which a student will not be allowed to register in credit courses, receive letters of permission or transfer credits, or apply to, or graduate from, a program of study at AU.
Course Contract Period	The time that a student is actively registered in an AU course. The course begins on the course contract start date (usually the first day of a month) and runs until the contract end date. The



contract period can be lengthened by applying for course extensions in an individualized study course only.

Good Academic Standing

The status of a student who has met or exceeded the minimum requirements specified in AU's Academic Standing Policy and who does not have active sanctions for misconduct per the [Academic](#) or [Non-Academic Misconduct policies](#).

Grade Point

A number between 0 and 4.00 that is assigned to a grade (alpha or percentage) and then used to calculate a grade point average (GPA). The grade point value is reflected in the Official Student Record.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

The weighted average of the grade points awarded over the credit hours calculated as: $\text{Sum of (grade point X credit hours)} / (\text{sum of credit hours})$. Courses graded on a pass/fail basis and those courses accepted on transfer credit are not included in the GPA calculation.

In Progress

A course is in progress if the course contract start date has occurred and there has been no withdrawal or final grade entered and the course contract end date has not been reached.

Official Student Record

A file containing documents and data, regardless of their physical medium (paper, electronic), their format, type or characteristics, created to gather, to store and to preserve information regarding a student's entire history of learning at a postsecondary institution. The file includes courses, grades, credits and degrees pertaining to the file's subject.

Skills Development Courses

A course or set of courses intended to prepare the student for continuation of their regular program of studies.

Transcript

An official document issued by AU that conveys information related to the official student record.

Policy Statements

1. Students enrolled at AU will be notified of their Academic Standing at regular intervals.
2. Academic Standing will be recorded in the Official Student Record and reported on the Transcript.
3. AU may block future registrations and/or remove students from courses as appropriate to their respective Academic Standing.



4. To be in Good Academic Standing students must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.00 over each interval of 15 credits attempted. Students who have been suspended or expelled will not be considered in good standing while such a sanction is active.
5. Individual programs may have additional requirements for acceptable Academic Standing. If they do, they will be found in their degree regulations.
6. Students who are not in Good Academic Standing will be placed on Academic Probation.
7. AU will restrict the number of courses a student may have in progress to three until Academic Probation is lifted.
8. Students on Academic Probation will be returned to Good Academic Standing if they achieve a GPA of at least 2.00 in the subsequent 15 credits attempted.
9. Students on Academic Probation will be subject to Academic Suspension if they do not achieve a GPA of at least 2.00 in the subsequent 15 credits attempted.
10. Students who have courses In Progress when notified of an Academic Probation or Academic Suspension may be required to withdraw from their course(s). Students directed to withdraw from course(s) as a result of Academic Probation or Suspension will be able to do so without academic penalty and may be eligible for tuition refunds per the [Undergraduate Academic Standing Procedures](#).
11. Students not in Good Academic Standing may be directed to skills development courses or support services.
12. Students returning from Academic Suspension will be placed on Academic Probation until they've met the academic standards for probation to be lifted.
13. In circumstances where the student has graduated with an AU credential, the Academic Probation status will be lifted and the notation on the student's transcript will be removed.
14. [Student appeals](#) will only be considered in cases for which a supplemental examination has been booked or an official grade appeal is in progress at the time the student has been sent the notification of their Academic Standing.
15. All appeals related to this policy must be in accordance with the procedures of the [Undergraduate Academic Standing Procedures](#).

Applicable Legislation and Regulations

[*Bill C-35 – An Act to amend the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*](#)



Related References, Policies, Procedures and Forms

[Undergraduate Academic Standing Procedures](#) (151a)

[Undergraduate Grading Policy](#) (129)

[Student Appeals Policy](#) (079)

[Student Academic Appeals Procedure](#) (079a)

[Undergraduate Course Withdrawal and Refund Policy – Individualized Study](#) (148)

[Undergraduate Course Withdrawal and Refund Procedures – Individualized Study](#) (148a)

[Student Academic Misconduct Policy](#) (087)

[Student Academic Misconduct Procedures](#) (087a)

[Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#) (088)

[AU Degree Regulations](#)

[Undergraduate Course Re-Registration Policy](#) (066)

History

General Faculties Council, December 10, 2014 Motion # 23-08 (approved)