

**MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE'S**  
**SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS (SAP) POLICY**  
**FOR TITLE IV FINANCIAL AID ELIGIBILITY**  
**MASTERS OF HEALTH SCIENCES (MHS) STUDENTS**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

The following policy has been developed to ensure that applicants for Title IV funds meet the requirements set forth by Federal regulations governing academic standards of progress for financial aid eligibility.

Meharry Medical College is required by the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, to establish standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress for students receiving assistance through the following programs: The William D. Ford Direct Lending Program (Unsubsidized/Graduate PLUS loans). Federal regulations consist of three components. Each one must be met by the aid recipient for each semester of enrollment. The three components are as follows: A **Qualitative** Component (GPA), a **Quantitative** Component (number of credit hours you must successfully complete), and a **Time Frame** Component (the maximum enrollment time for which you may complete degree requirements and/or receive aid).

**II. SCOPE**

The policy applies to all students receiving Title IV financial aid.

**III. QUALITATIVE COMPONENT**

A Masters of Health Sciences' student is expected to maintain satisfactory academic progress (i.e., maintain an average of "B" (3.0) or better, throughout his or her program). A minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of "B" must be achieved after the first semester of enrollment. The CGPA requirement will be checked prior to the beginning of the spring semester.

A student whose CGPA falls below the 3.0 at the end of the fall semester will be placed on financial aid **'alert'** status for the upcoming spring semester. Federal financial aid eligibility will remain. No additional steps will be required from the student. **Exception to the rule:** At any given time, an academic plan can be developed by the Academic Dean in the School of Graduate Studies and Research, which if followed, will ensure that the student will be able to meet the College's SAP standards for the spring semester.

**IV. QUANTITATIVE COMPONENT**

The maximum time frame for completing all requirements in the Masters of Health Sciences program is one (1) academic year.

The hours 'attempted' versus hours 'completed' will be checked at the end of each semester. Students who have received aid while in an eligible status and are found to be deficient in hours earned at the end of the fall semester will be allowed to receive financial aid on an financial aid 'alert' status during the spring semester.

**V. ENFORCEMENT**

The Director of Financial Aid shall have primary responsibility for enforcement of this policy.

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