
Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy

Satisfactory Academic Progress

Students who have a residence permit for study purposes through Utrecht University are required to maintain satisfactory academic progress toward their degree requirements for each year in which they are enrolled, and to be in good standing (i.e. pay tuition on time and meet other University requirements).

This policy applies to all non-EU/EEA students who have a residence permit for study purposes.

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), as described below, is evaluated once a year, after the second semester. Failure to maintain satisfactory progress may result in cancellation of the residence permit.

Standard for Satisfactory Performance

Undergraduate and Graduate students must complete at least 50% of the normal study load towards their degree in each academic year.

Treatment of Repeated Course Work and Failed Courses

For a course that is repeated, credits can only be counted once. A failed course does not earn any credits.

Unforeseen circumstances

It is possible that, due to unforeseen circumstances such as prolonged illness, a functional disorder, or serious family circumstances, a delay in your academic progress can occur. If you wish to have such circumstances taken into consideration, you must contact your study advisor as soon as possible so that he or she can determine whether your circumstances qualify for an extension of your SAP.

Please note that only specific circumstances can be taken into account to make an exception to Satisfactory Academic Progress and that a reason for delay can only be used once during your studies.

Denied Status

Students who fail to complete 50% of the normal study load (= 30 EC start in September) and have no circumstances that can be taken into account to make an exception are placed on Denied Status and will receive a formal decision made by the Director of Student & Academic Affairs. The University is required by law to report the status to the Immigration Services (IND). The IND will proceed to withdraw the student's residence permit.

Objection

A student can lodge a notice of objection only in the case that he/she is of the opinion that unforeseen circumstances were in fact the cause of the study delay.

The notice of objection needs to be submitted within six weeks after the decision has been made by the Director of Student & Academic Affairs. In case the objection is granted, the student is placed on Probation Status for the semester/term rather than on Denied status.