

MOTION to amend catalog language for readmission of academically disqualified students.

Submitted for the Faculty Senate's consideration by Mike Earnest, Registrar, and by Dana Thomas, Vice Provost, January 14, 2011.

MOTION:

The UAF Faculty Senate moves to adopt the following changes to the readmission of academically disqualified students policy described in the catalog:

Current UAF catalog language:

Academic Disqualification

Undergraduate students -- Undergraduate students on probation whose semester and cumulative GPAs are less than 2.0 at the end of spring semester will be disqualified from degree-seeking status. Disqualified students may continue their enrollment at UAF only as non-degree students, are limited to a maximum of 10 credits per semester and must register in person. Credit load overrides are permitted under certain circumstances. To be eligible for reinstatement in an academic degree program, the student is expected to earn at least a C grade (2.0) in all courses taken as a non-degree student. To be restored to degree-seeking status, the student must apply for readmission. A student may be reinstated but may still be on probation.

PROPOSED catalog language:

Academic Disqualification

Undergraduate students – Undergraduate students on probation whose semester and/or cumulative GPA falls below a 2.0 for two consecutive regular (Fall/Spring or Spring/Fall) semesters will be placed on Academic Disqualification. Academically disqualified students may continue their enrollment at UAF only as non-degree students, are limited to 10 credits per semester, and are ineligible for most types of financial aid.

To be eligible for readmission to an academic degree program, the student must:

1. complete nine (9) credits at UAF and/or another regionally-accredited institution with a GPA of 2.0 or higher and reapply for admission (Note: Grades of 'P' or 'CR' do not count; all 9 credits must be letter-graded. In considering students for readmission, deans will look for coursework taken that relates to the student's intended program.)

OR

Comment [d1]: Some students game the system by taking courses unrelated to their major that they can pass easily. We should say something here or in the paragraph below that deans assessing readmission will look for students to take and earn a C or better in courses that relate to the student's intended program.

2. achieve a 2.0 cumulative grade point average by repeating courses previously failed at UAF (may be less than 9 credits) and reapply for admission

Readmission to a degree program is not automatic or guaranteed. The student must reapply and the application must be approved by the dean. The student may apply to the same program from which they were disqualified, or to a different program or level (e.g. baccalaureate, associate or certificate). Readmission may be granted with a status of “probation” or with other conditions as specified by the dean. It is vitally important for academically disqualified students to work closely with their academic advisor in developing a realistic and timely educational plan.

Deleted: be readmitted on

Effective: Fall 2011

Rationale

Current catalog language is too vague to be helpful to faculty and staff in advising students who have been academically disqualified. It also provides no benchmarks to measure a student's suitability for readmission.

Registrar and advising staff discussed the possibility of a 12-credit requirement for baccalaureate readmission, and a 6-credit requirement for associate/certificate readmission. There was some concern, however, that having a two-tiered readmission plan might lead to large numbers of students seeking associate status temporarily as a way to obtain financial aid. The 9-credit requirement was settled on as a compromise between the two levels to keep the policy as simple as possible. *(Note that this brings the readmission policy into alignment with the reinstatement policy for financial aid.)*

As always, students with extenuating circumstances could request special consideration for readmission. Exceptions to the policy could be made per professional judgment of the Advisor, Dean, Registrar or Provost/Vice Provost.

UAA is also considering a change in their policy to allow readmission after 9 credits. UAS requires raising cumulative GPA to 2.0 for readmission. It would be helpful if policies were similar across MAU's, since we have quite a few students who move from one to another.

For reference, here is UAA's current catalog language

Academic Disqualification

Academic disqualification is the status assigned to those students who begin a semester on probation or continuing probation and fail to earn a semester GPA of 2.00. Those students' admission status will be changed to non-degree-seeking. Students who have lost certificate or undergraduate degree-seeking status may continue to attend UAA as non-degree-seeking students. However, those students do not qualify for financial aid and international students will lose their immigration status. Students must apply for reinstatement to UAA (see reinstatement policy below).

Reinstatement

Students who have lost certificate or undergraduate degree-seeking status may continue to attend UAA as non-degree-seeking students. After completing a minimum of 12 credits at UAA and/or another regionally accredited post-secondary institution in 100-level or higher courses with a GPA of 2.00 or higher, students may apply for reinstatement to UAA. If approved, reinstated students must then reapply for admission to a certificate or undergraduate degree program. A reinstated student whose UAA cumulative GPA is less than 2.00 (C) will begin the semester on probation. Application for Reinstatement Forms are available from University Center One-Stop.

And UAS:

Academic Program Removal:

Any student who remains on academic probation for two consecutive semesters of attendance will be removed from his or her degree program. An application fee for readmission will not be required. If a student's cumulative GPA is less than a 2.00, but he or she earns a semester GPA above a 2.00, the University will recognize the student's attempt to reach academic good standing and the student will continue on probation until both the semester and cumulative GPAs are above a 2.00.