



Financial Aid Eligibility

Eligibility for student financial aid awards is determined based on enrollment status, satisfactory academic progress, and cost of attendance. The Doctor of Pharmacy program defines full-time enrollment at 12 semester credits, and half-time enrollment at 6 semester credits. A student must complete a minimum of 12 semester credits each academic year to be eligible to advance to the next grade level for purposes of student financial aid eligibility.

- **Enrollment Status**

A student must be enrolled at least half-time each semester term to attain and/or maintain eligibility for student financial aid. A student enrolled less than half-time in a semester term will not be considered eligible for a student financial aid award in that term.

- **Satisfactory Academic Progression**

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements are used to ensure a student progresses through his/her program at a pace necessary to successfully complete the program with progression limits. A student must meet all SAP requirements to remain eligible for student financial aid. For details about SAP, please see below.

- **Cost of Attendance**

The cost of attendance is an estimate of expected educational expenses for a period of enrollment. California Northstate University utilizes the consumer expenditure survey data published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics to project the costs associated with other educationally related expenses (e.g. room and board, transportation, etc.).

The cost of attendance is the cornerstone of establishing a student's financial need, as it sets a limit on the total aid a student may receive for a given period of enrollment. For details about how the cost of attendance is used for CNU College of Pharmacy students, click [2016-2017](#) or [2017-2018](#)

Satisfactory Academic Progress

Standards

Satisfactory academic progress (SAP) is used to define academic standards required to maintain eligibility for student financial aid. Students are required to meet SAP standards to remain eligible for student financial aid. Students who do not meet all SAP criteria will not be eligible for student financial aid. Students who are not eligible for student financial aid due to violations of SAP standards will be placed on financial aid probation and notified of the change in eligibility status. See below for information regarding [Consequences of Not Meeting SAP Requirements](#).

If a student becomes ineligible for financial aid due to not meeting SAP standards, there is a chance he/she may still be able to receive financial aid. See below for information regarding [Reestablishing Eligibility](#).

Satisfactory academic progress standards are grouped into two main categories:

1. **Qualitative:**

Students must pass all classes with a grade of "C" or higher and maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0.

2. **Quantitative:**

Students must complete the Doctor of Pharmacy program within 125% of the normal completion time. This applies to both calendar time and semester credits. Normal calendar completion time is 4 consecutive years; therefore, 125% is 5 consecutive years. The maximum number of attempted semester credits is described below:

	Program	Program Requirements	Maximum Semester Credits
A	PharmD – effective for students who matriculated prior to and including August 2011	150 semester credits	$150 \times 125\% = 187.5$
B	PharmD – effective for students who matriculate after August 2011	149 semester credits	$149 \times 125\% = 186.3$

3. Once the maximum time frame is reached, a student is no longer considered eligible for student financial aid.

All periods of attendance while enrolled in the Doctor of Pharmacy degree program will be included in the quantitative calculation, including periods of academic amnesty and leave of absence.

Also part of the qualitative standard category is a student's cumulative completion percentage, or pace. Doctor of Pharmacy students must maintain a cumulative completion standard, or pace, of 80%. This percentage is calculated by dividing the student's cumulative number of semester credits successfully completed by the cumulative number of semester credits attempted.

SAP evaluations are completed at the conclusion of each academic year. Any courses taken while enrolled in the PharmD program that are not part of degree requirements will not be counted in a student's SAP evaluation, including courses taken after completion of all degree requirements and repeated courses that are not required for purposes of academic progression.

Consequences of Not Meeting SAP Requirements

A student who meets both the qualitative and quantitative SAP requirements, remains eligible for student financial aid and no further action will be taken by the Student Financial Aid Office.

A student who does not meet either the qualitative or the quantitative SAP requirement will be ineligible to receive student financial aid and will be placed on financial aid probation.

A student whose eligibility status for student financial aid, changes as a result of a SAP evaluation will be provided a written notification of such change, including the impact to future financial aid eligibility and his/her right to appeal.

Reestablishing Eligibility

A student, who becomes ineligible for student financial aid as a result of not meeting SAP requirements, must follow the Satisfactory Academic Progression policy as outlined in the General Catalog. [Click here for the General Catalog.](#)