

# Probation and Dismissal

To be in good standing, a student must maintain a 3.0 cumulative grade-point average and be making satisfactory progress toward the degree, as determined by Graduate Studies' Good Academic Standing policy and the department or program's internal guidelines. The Good Academic Standing policy may be found in the [Graduate Studies](#) section of the online catalog and the [KU Policy Library](#).

## GPA

In any semester, a student whose cumulative GPA has fallen below a 3.0 is automatically placed on academic probation for the following semester (Fall or Spring). Students are notified by the College of their probationary status. The student has one semester (not including the summer term) in which to raise the cumulative GPA to a 3.0 or the College will dismiss the student. Refer to the Graduate Studies' Academic Probation policy for more details. Departments may petition the College for the student to be granted a one-semester extension of the probation.

If a student's cumulative GPA falls below a 2.5 as a result of the second or a subsequent semester of enrollment, the College will dismiss the student without eligibility for probation. Students whose GPA falls below 2.5 in the first semester of enrollment are eligible for probation with department recommendation. In the absence of this recommendation, the College will dismiss the student.

## Satisfactory Progress

Upon recommendation of the department or program, a student may be placed on probation for failing to make satisfactory progress toward the degree. This may include, but is not limited to, failed exams or failure to make adequate and timely progress on the dissertation or thesis. See the Good Academic Standing policy in the [Graduate Studies](#) section of the online catalog and the [KU Policy Library](#) for more information on what constitutes satisfactory progress.

It is the academic unit's responsibility to ensure that students who are not demonstrating academic achievement sufficient to meet the requirements of a College graduate degree or who are failing to make timely progress to the degree are dismissed from their programs. This typically occurs when a student fails to meet the terms of the probationary period. Academic dismissal should occur immediately following a student's failure to meet the terms of the probationary period. If dismissal occurs during the semester, the dismissal is effective immediately and the student is administratively withdrawn from coursework. The department or program will notify the student in writing of the reasons for their dismissal. This will be followed by a letter from the College confirming the student's dismissal from graduate study at KU.

**A student who has been dismissed from a graduate department or program at KU is not eligible for readmission to graduate study in any department or program at the**

**University of Kansas. A student may petition for an exception. The petition must be approved by the department to which the student intends to apply, the graduate division of the College, and the Dean of Graduate Studies. Such petitions are rarely approved.**

## **Provisional Admission**

Graduate Studies' Admission to Graduate Study policy defines the eligibility and admission criteria for different categories of admission to graduate study at the University of Kansas. It may be found in the [Graduate Studies](#) section of the online catalog and the [KU Policy Library](#).

For all GPA-related provisional admissions in the College, the program is required to provide an explanation as to what evidence they considered in determining that the student is prepared to undertake graduate level coursework. This may include a marked improvement in advanced undergraduate coursework, a gap in study during which time the prospective student gained significant professional experience, or other mediating factors relevant to the particular graduate program.

Students in the College will remain on provisional status until they have completed their first nine hours of qualifying enrollment and achieved a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0. Qualifying enrollment includes regularly scheduled courses (e.g., seminars, lectures) that 1) fulfill degree requirements and 2) are graded using an A-D/F scale.

It is up to the graduate program to alert the College Office of Graduate Affairs when the terms of the provisional admission have been met, at which time the department may request a removal of the provisional status.

Students who fail to achieve at least a 3.0 GPA in their first 9 hours of qualifying enrollment or who do not otherwise meet any terms of their provisional admission set by the department shall be dismissed. However, departments may petition the College for the student to be placed on probation for one-semester in lieu of dismissal. Under no circumstances will probation beyond one semester be granted.

## OVERVIEW OF CHANGES

### Probation/Dismissal

- Less than 2.5 cumulative GPA triggers automatic dismissal. New text replaces this line from the previous version of policy: For the student's own benefit, in cases when the grade point average is so low that the ability to ever achieve the required 3.0 cumulative grade point average is in serious doubt, the department or program should move to dismiss.
- Last two paragraphs edited for clarity and to ensure consistency with current practice.

### Provisional Admission

Introduces for the first time College-specific requirements for provisional admission, including:

- On GPA-related provisional admission, departments asked to specify evidence they've used to determine that the student is prepared to undertake graduate work.
- Establishes more stringent criteria for removal of provisional status. Current Graduate Studies policy requires only a 3.0 (which may be in any graduate level course, with no minimum credit hours required).
- Explains what will happen if the student does not meet the requirements for the removal of provisional admission in the College