SOUTHWESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	STUDENT SERVICES **ACADEMIC PROGRESS**	Policy 6.02.04

I.   SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

To receive financial aid, the Federal Government requires students to make Satisfactory Academic Progress ("Progress") towards completing a degree or approved program. Progress will be monitored, at a minimum, at the end of each of the College's academic year. Results are measured cumulatively, so if a student has attended the College in the past, his/her transcript will be evaluated for Progress if s/he returns to the College and applies for financial aid, even if s/he has not received aid in the past.

Progress is measured in two ways.

1.   Students must earn a 2.0 cumulative Grade Point Average, which is consistent with the requirements for graduation or completion of a program.

2.   Students are limited to the number of credit hours they may attempt before finishing a program of study. That limit is measured as 150% of the credit hours required for the student's current program. Therefore, in order to be on track to complete a program before financial aid ends, the College requires students to complete 67% of the courses they have attempted on a cumulative basis.

If a student is not making Progress, s/he will be notified and placed on financial aid warning for the next semester s/he is in attendance so that s/he will have an opportunity to regain Progress. The student will receive any financial aid for which s/he is eligible during this one warning term.

Students have the right to file an appeal if it is determined that they are not making Progress. The appeal must be made in writing to the College's Financial Aid Committee within thirty (30) calendar days of being notified they are not making progress. Appeals should be based on mitigating circumstances such as severe illness of the student, death of an immediate family member or a change of academic program. Additional details of this Policy, incorporated herein, are available in a publication from the College's Financial Aid Office.

II.   ACADEMIC PROBATION AND SUSPENSION

This Policy applies only to students enrolled in curriculum programs.

A.   Academic Probation

1.   Level 1 Probation (Warning) - Degree, diploma and certificate seeking students performing below a 2.0 grade point average in the previous semester will be placed on academic probation. A student on academic probation will work with his/her advisor to develop an academic plan and/or will be directed into specialized coursework. (A "warning" does not appear on the student's transcript.)

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2. Level 2 Probation - Degree, diploma and certificate seeking students who have not attained a 2.0 grade point average for the two most recently enrolled terms within the past three years will be required to review and modify their academic plans with their advisor. Additionally, they may be required to limit their semester course load per advisor recommendation. (A "Probation" notation appears on the student's transcript.)

B. Academic Suspension

Probationary students who have not attained a 2.0 grade point average for the three most recently enrolled semesters within the past three years and have a cumulative G.P.A. of below 2.0 will be suspended for one semester. (A "suspension" notation appears on the student's transcript.)

Students have the right to file an Academic Suspension appeal. The appeal must be made in writing to the Dean of Students prior to the start of the semester in which the suspension is scheduled to begin. Appeals must be based on mitigating circumstances such as severe illness of the student, death of an immediate family member, or a change in academic program. Students may appeal the decision of the Dean of Students within two business days to the Executive Vice President for Instruction and Student Services. The decision of the Executive Vice President is final.

Adopted: April 2011

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