

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Appeal FAQs

How will I be notified if I don't meet SAP?

You will receive an email notification with information about your SAP status and appeal options.

What will happen to my summer aid if I do not meet SAP requirements?

Any summer aid that already disbursed will be cancelled and only reinstated if your SAP Appeal is approved. Additional summer financial aid will not disburse unless your SAP appeal is approved.

What is considered a complete SAP Appeal?

A complete SAP Appeal includes the appeal webform, where the student explains what happened that affected their ability to meet SAP requirements and describes their plan to improve their academic progress moving forward, along with supporting documentation.

What kind of supporting documentation can I submit?

Supporting documentation should support the timeline of the circumstance and your involvement. You may submit third-party letters signed by individuals or professionals who can attest to your extenuating circumstances. Additional examples of documentation may include, but are not limited to, dated medical appointment records, text message conversations, email correspondence with professors, or phone logs.

What do I do if I cannot obtain supportive documentation for my appeal?

Please contact our office and speak with a Financial Aid Advisor to discuss possible alternative documentation options.

How long does it take for the appeal to be reviewed for completeness?

Appeals and supporting documentation are typically reviewed for completeness within 1–2 weeks after submission to our office. If additional documentation is required, the review timeline will restart once the requested documents are submitted.

How long does it take for an appeal decision to be made?

Once an appeal is complete and ready for review, a decision is made within 3-4 weeks, typically sooner.

Do I need to do anything after my SAP Appeal is approved?

You must accept your Terms and Conditions through your student checklist before your financial aid can disburse. Be sure to also complete any additional conditions listed in your Terms and Conditions. Depending on your situation, you may be required to submit a new Academic Plan or meet with a Financial Wellness Coach.

What can I do if my SAP Appeal was denied?

If a student's SAP Appeal is denied, they may request a second review by a reviewer who was not involved in the initial decision. To request a second review, please contact our office. Students may also explore alternative funding options available for continuing students at UC Merced. Financial aid eligibility can only be reinstated once the student returns to good academic standing in accordance with the SAP Policy.

What happens if I withdraw before your SAP appeal is reviewed?

If a student withdraws before their SAP Appeal is reviewed and the appeal is later approved, the updated SAP status will carry forward to the next term in which the student enrolls. If the appeal is denied after the student withdraws, their SAP status will remain unchanged, and they will need to submit a new appeal upon returning.