



FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION CABINET
KENTUCKY HIGHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY

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Financial Aid Tip for Students, April 2021

Know your school's satisfactory academic progress standards

Kentucky students should learn an important phrase in the language of student aid, satisfactory academic progress, or SAP, according to the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA).

All colleges that award federal student aid must have SAP standards. Those standards are based on three key areas: GPA, pace and a maximum time frame.

“It’s critical that college-bound students meet their school’s SAP standards to receive the maximum amount of state or federal student aid for which they are eligible,” Gov. Andy Beshear said. “Kentuckians pursuing higher education will create a brighter future for themselves and their families, and they’ll also help us build a better Kentucky for all of our people.”

The GPA students are required to have may vary by school, major and whether a student is pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree.

A student’s pace, as a SAP standard, means that they have to pass a stated percentage of the classes they take in a given period of time. This may also vary by college.

The maximum time frame SAP standard means a student may have to finish his or her degree within a given number of attempted credit hours. For example, a school might require a student to pass 120 credit hours to earn a bachelor’s degree, but the student must earn those 120 hours without taking more than 150 hours.

KHEAA is the state agency that administers Kentucky’s student financial aid programs, including the Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES). Its sister agency, the Kentucky Higher Education Student Loan Corporation (KHESLC), offers low-cost Advantage

Loans to help students and parents pay for college or refinance student loans. For more information about Advantage Loans, visit advantageeducationloan.com.

Many of KHEAA's student aid programs are funded by Kentucky Lottery revenue.

For more information about Kentucky scholarships and grants, visit kheaa.com; write KHEAA, P.O. Box 798, Frankfort, KY 40602; or call 800-928-8926.