University of South Carolina
Office of the University Registrar

Academic Standards Resources for Advisors
2008-2009

Updated November 19, 2008
The Office of the University Registrar has developed this document to assist undergraduate academic advisors in understanding and communicating the new academic standards (effective Fall 2008). Resources for the campus community are available at http://registrar.sc.edu/academicstandards.stm.

The Policy

For the next two years, students at the Columbia, Beaufort, Lancaster, Salkehatchie, Sumter, and Union campuses will be following two academic standards policies, depending on when they were admitted. Students who are admitted to one of these campuses for the first time in Fall 2008 will be subject to the new academic standards (p. 6). The old academic standards (p. 20) will apply to degree-seeking students who attended prior to Fall 2008 until the fall semester of 2010, at which time they will be subject to the new rules.

The Office of the University Registrar has developed an FAQ (p. 09) to assist students, faculty, and staff to better understand the policy. Additionally, the office is developing a GPA and Academic Standards Calculator for the new academic standards, which will be available by the end of the Fall 2008 semester at http://registrar.sc.edu/academicstandards.stm. The GPA and GPD Calculator for the old academic standards will continue to be available at http://registrar.sc.edu/html/gpa_calc/gpa.htm.

The Academic Standards Indicator

To identify whether a student is subject to the old or new academic standards you will need to refer to the Academic Standards Indicator on the IMS grade totals screen, TOTALOOK (p. 5)

Academic Recovery Program (New Academic Standards)

The new academic standards policy requires first-year freshmen who are placed on probation to participate in an academic coaching session, which will proactively assist them toward academic recovery. These sessions will provide students with assistance in developing academic skills and learning strategies and will identify other resources they need to meet their academic goals. Contact information for academic recovery programs on the Columbia, Beaufort and regional campuses is available on page 20. For more information about the academic recovery program on the Columbia campus, visit the Academic Centers for Excellence (ACE) Web site at http://sc.edu/ace/.

Communication to Students

Changes in the academic standards policy will affect the way in which we communicate to students who find themselves in poor academic standing.
For Columbia students who have been placed on probation or suspension under the new policy, will receive both a grade mailer and letter from the Office of the University Registrar informing them of their status.

- First‐semester freshmen who are placed on probation will receive both a grade mailer message (see “ON PROBATION “p. 13) and a letter (p.14), which will inform them of the requirement to participate in an academic coaching session.

- Transfer students also will receive a grade mailer message (see “ON PROBATION “p. 13) and a letter (p. 16) informing them of their status and inviting them to participate in a non-required academic coaching session.

- Students who are placed on suspension for the first time will receive a grade mailer message (see FIRST SUSPENSION p. 13) and a letter (p. 18) informing them of the suspension policy.

- Students who are subject to the old academic standards will continue to receive grade mailers and possible correspondence from the dean’s office of their college or school.

**Support and Feedback**

We encourage you to contact our office at 803 777-1006 or marterer@sc.edu with any questions about the policy or suggestions on how to improve these resources.
Office of the University Registrar
University of South Carolina
Academic Standards Resources for Advisors
2008-2009

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Academic Standards Indicator on TOTALOOK

1. Enter student ID.
2. Do not enter term.
3. Press Enter.
4. Check to see that the student’s school code is an undergraduate school code for Columbia, Beaufort, Lancaster, Salkehatchie, Sumter, or Union.

   Columbia = Any school code that ends in “0”
   Fort Jackson = 744
   Beaufort = 621
   Lancaster = 641
   Salkehatchie = 651
   Sumter = 671
   Union = 681

5. Check to see if there is an “O” or a blank space next to STDSI (Standards Indicator).

   “O” = Old Academic Standards
   Blank Space = New Academic Standards

   Indicates suspension term.
   Indicates probation term.

TOTALOOK 00000000 200831 7 LASTNAME Firstname MIDDLENAME
TERM INFO: SCH 410 MAJ 100 DEG 80 CLS 3 BT HB SYS 1 NXSCRN ___ 11/17/08
SUSI PAS SAS RGS
SUSP INFO: SUSP TERM, PREV SUSP TERM, SYSTEM 1 IND RAS
PROB INFO: PROB TERM, SPAR IND PROB IND STDSI O
DATE LAST ALTERED 08/13/2008 LAST TERM 200831 NEXT TERM

HRS CARRIED HRS EARNED, GRADE HRS GRADE PTS, GPA GPD GRAD SUSP
SEMESTER 003.00 003.00 003.00 010.50 3.500 00.0
YEARLY, 034.00 034.00 034.00 119.50 3.515 00.0
USC SYSTEM 073.00 073.00 073.00 266.50 3.651
GPD TOTALS SINCE FALL 1980 073.00 266.50 3.651 00.0
TRANSFER NON-TRAD 000.00 000.00 000.00 000.00 0.000
COLLEGIATE SUMMARY, 073.00 073.00 073.00 266.50 3.651
EARLIEST TERM UGRAD = 200631 GRAD = 000000 LAW = 000000 MED = 00000
LAST TERM CALC = 200831 UGRAD = 200831 GRAD = 000000 LAW = 000000 MED = 00000
New Academic Standards Effective Fall 2008

Academic Standards

The following standards for continuing at the Columbia and regional campuses of the University of South Carolina apply to all undergraduate students who first enroll at the Columbia and regional campuses of the University in the fall 2008 semester or thereafter, are admitted to the Columbia and regional campuses of the University in an undergraduate degree program in the fall 2008 or thereafter, or are enrolled in the fall 2010 semester or thereafter, regardless of when first enrolled at the University. Administration of these regulations is the responsibility of the academic deans, who are not empowered to waive any of the provisions.

Academic Review

The record of every undergraduate student will be reviewed at the end of each fall and spring semester. Many of the individual colleges of the University have higher academic requirements for students to continue in their degree programs. However, no student will be suspended academically from the University unless he/she fails to meet the standards specified here.

Academic Probation--USC Grade Point Average less than 2.00

When a student's cumulative University of South Carolina GPA at the end of any semester is less than a 2.00, he or she is placed on academic probation.

First-Year Freshmen Academic Recovery Program

First-year freshmen on the Columbia campus who have less than a 2.00 cumulative grade point average at the end of their first semester of collegiate enrollment are considered at risk. During the first six weeks of their second semester, these students must participate in an academic coaching session coordinated through the Student Success Center before being eligible to register for courses for the third semester. These sessions will provide students with assistance in developing academic skills and learning strategies and will identify other resources they need to meet their academic goals. This requirement is in addition to any made by the student's college, school, or academic program.

Removal from Academic Probation

When a student's cumulative GPA at the end of any semester is a 2.00 or above, he or she is not on academic probation.
**Continuing on Academic Probation**

Any student who is on probation at the beginning of a fall or spring semester must achieve a certain cumulative University of South Carolina grade point average at the end of that semester in order to avoid suspension. A student may also continue on probation and avoid suspension if the semester grade point average is 2.50 or greater. Standards for continuing on probation are based on the cumulative grade hours the student has attempted at USC. The chart below shows the grade point averages required in order to avoid suspension.

**Probation Chart**

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**SEMESTER REPRIEVE:** Regardless of the USC GPA, a student may continue on probation and avoid suspension if the semester grade point average is 2.50 or greater.

**First Suspension**

Students unable to meet the standards shown above are suspended from the University of South Carolina for one fall or spring semester and the contiguous summer (approximately eight months). Students have the right to appeal their suspension to the petitions committee of the college or school in which they were enrolled when suspended.

**Returning after First Suspension**

After the suspension has been served, a student will be considered for readmission by the college or school to which the student is seeking admission. A student readmitted following suspension continues on probation and is reviewed for suspension at the end of each fall and spring semester. A semester grade point average of 2.50 or higher must be achieved each
semester until the cumulative University of South Carolina GPA reaches the level above which suspension would occur (see chart).

During the first six weeks after returning from a first suspension, students on the Columbia campus must participate in an academic coaching session coordinated through the Student Success Center before being eligible to register for courses for the following semester. These sessions will provide students with the resources they need to meet their academic goals.

**Returning after a Subsequent Suspension**

The duration of the second suspension is indefinite, and the student can be considered for readmission only after being approved for reinstatement by action of the petitions committee of the college or school to which the student is seeking admission. A favorable decision by the committee is unlikely within two years of the suspension.

**Earning Academic Credit While on Suspension**

A student on suspension is given an opportunity to reorder priorities and reassess his or her situation before returning. While serving suspension, a student may not be admitted to, or continue in, any academic program of the University. Credit earned at any other institution while a student is on suspension from the University may not be applied toward a degree from USC, unless approved by the Standards and Petitions Committee of the college to which the student is readmitted. Prior approvals for transient study will be revoked for suspended students.

**Retention in Degree Programs**

Students are reminded that the above regulations are for all undergraduate students in the University. Many colleges and schools offer degree programs that have more stringent requirements for retention in those programs. Failure to meet the academic requirements of those degree programs may result in the student being asked to leave that program. Students should consult the colleges and schools section of the Academic Bulletin to review the specific degree retention requirements.

**Petition Procedures**

In addition to previously specified provisions by which a student may petition to waive the application of this suspension policy, a student suspended by this policy has the right to petition to the appropriate college scholastic standards and petitions committee to waive the application of the suspension rule at any time. Students placed on first suspension who wish to petition for a waiver of the suspension rule may petition only the committee of the college in which they were enrolled at the time of suspension.
New Academic Standards FAQ’s

1. To whom do the new rules apply? When do they go into effect?
The rules apply to new students enrolling on the Columbia or regional campuses Fall 2008 or thereafter and to all other students Fall 2010 and thereafter, regardless of when first enrolled at the University.

2. I entered USC in the Fall of 2007 as a freshman. When will I be under the new rules?
The new academic standards will apply to all undergraduate students who are enrolled in the Fall 2010 semester or thereafter, regardless of when first enrolled at the University. Until then, you will follow the old scholastic deficiency system found in the 2007-2008 academic bulletin.

3. What does "academic probation" mean subject to the new policy?
A student is placed on academic probation whenever the student’s cumulative University of South Carolina GPA at the end of any semester is less than a 2.00. Academic probation means a student is at risk for suspension from the University.

4. Does the University provide support services for student who are placed on academic probation?
Yes. Each campus provides academic coaching sessions. Academic support services for your campus can be found at: http://registrar.sc.edu/academicrecovery.stm.

5. Is it required that I get academic coaching from my campus support center?
Yes, if you are a first-year freshmen, the policy states that an academic recovery program is REQUIRED. First-year freshmen who have less than a 2.00 cumulative GPA at the end of their first semester of collegiate enrollment are considered at risk. During the first six weeks of their second semester, these students must participate in an academic coaching session before being eligible to register for courses for the third semester. These sessions will provide students with assistance in developing academic skills and learning strategies and will identify other resources they need to meet their academic goals. This requirement is in addition to any made by the student's college, school, or academic program.

Each campus provides academic coaching session. Academic support services for your campus can be found at http://registrar.sc.edu/academicrecovery.stm.

6. If I attend an academic coaching session, will I be able to continue at USC?
Attending a coaching session will help you identify actions to take to improve your grades. By attending the session, you can be advised and pre-registered for courses for the next semester. But the academic coaching session itself will not prevent you from being suspended from USC. You are accountable for your own improvement.

7. I am a new transfer student*. Must I make an appointment for an academic coaching session?
All students on probation are encouraged to see academic support services, but only freshmen are required to do so. Each campus provides academic coaching session. Academic support services for your campus can be found at: http://registrar.sc.edu/academicrecovery.stm

*A student who has graduated from high school, has attended another regionally accredited post-secondary institution, and has attempted one or more courses, is a transfer student, regardless of credit earned. Note: High-school graduates who take summer school courses in between graduation and the fall semester that immediately follows or while in high school are not considered transfer students for this purpose.

8. **Once I have been placed on academic probation, how do I avoid being academically suspended?**  
   To avoid being suspended, a student on probation must improve his or her GPA. Standards for continuing on probation are based on the cumulative grade hours the student has attempted at USC. Any student who is on probation at the beginning of a fall or spring semester must achieve a certain cumulative USC GPA at the end of that semester to avoid suspension (see probation chart below).

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**SEMESTER REPRIEVE:** Regardless of the cumulative USC GPA, a student may continue on probation and avoid suspension if the semester GPA is 2.50 or greater.
9. **How do I know which GPA I need? What range of cumulative grade hours attempted applies to me?**

Log on to VIP using your student ID and PIN. From the Academics page, retrieve your final grade report for the most recent term. In your "grade totals" table, find the cell in the Cumulative row and the GH column. The number there is the cumulative grade hours that were attempted at the end of that term.

To figure what your cumulative grade hours will be at the end of the next term, simply add to this number the credit hours you are now attempting for a grade.

Here is an example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cumulative hours attempted (GH) from VIP Fall final grades</th>
<th>20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current hours attempted (GH) Spring semester</td>
<td>+ 16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cumulative hours attempted (GH) end of Spring semester = 36 (the 36-71 range on the chart)

To remain enrolled in this example, at the end of Spring semester the student would need one of the following:

- a cumulative GPA of 1.800 or higher (see probation chart)

or

- a semester GPA of 2.50 (see semester reprieve)

10. **In the example above, what if the student only attempted 15 hours in the Spring?**

That student would then have 35 grade hours attempted (GH) after Spring semester and would only need a 1.5 cumulative to remain enrolled on probation.

11. **Will the USC grade forgiveness policy help me avoid suspension?**

The grade forgiveness policy may potentially affect your cumulative GPA to the extent that you can remain enrolled. Information about the grade forgiveness policy can be found at [http://registrar.sc.edu/html/grade_forgiv.stm](http://registrar.sc.edu/html/grade_forgiv.stm).

12. **What if I bring my cumulative GPA above a 2.00**

When a student's cumulative GPA at the end of any semester is a 2.00 or above, he or she is no longer on academic probation.

13. **I am a part-time student and have only attempted 6 grade hours. When will I be reviewed for probation/suspension?**

A student is not reviewed until at least 12 hours have been attempted for a grade.
14. **Where can I verify my probation or suspension status?**  
   Your mailed grade report and your record on VIP will display your. Information about  
   the policy is in the academic bulletin or at  

15. **What happens if I do not achieve the cumulative or semester GPA to remain enrolled?**  
   You will be suspended, which means you cannot attend USC. A first suspension is for  
   one Fall or Spring semester and the contiguous summer (approximately eight months).  
   You must then reapply to USC.

16. **If I get suspended for the first time, when can I return?** First suspension is for one fall  
   or spring semester and the contiguous summer (approximately eight months). After  
   your first suspension has been served, you may complete an application for readmission  
   and will be reviewed by the college or school to which you are seeking readmission.  
   Following suspension, a student continues on probation and is reviewed for suspension  
   at the end of each fall and spring semester. A semester GPA of 2.500 or higher must be  
   achieved each semester until the cumulative USC GPA reaches the level above which  
   suspension would occur (see probation chart).

17. **I have special circumstances that led to my poor grades. May I appeal my suspension?**  
   Students have the right to appeal their suspension to the petitions committee of the  
   college or school in which they were enrolled when suspended.
New Academic Standards Probation and Suspension Messages on VIP

Students can view probation and suspension messages on VIP (https://vip.sc.edu).

1. Click on ACADEMICS located in the blue sidebar.
2. Scroll Down to the “Grades and Transcripts” subheading.
3. Identify the “Grade Report” feature under “Grades and Transcripts”
4. Click on the “Show Me” button next to “Grade Report” after selecting the appropriate semester.

Probation and Suspension messages:

ON PROBATION (E0782 – 15I and 15J)

**YOU HAVE BEEN PLACED ON ACADEMIC PROBATION**

Your cumulative USC GPA is less than a 2.00. Visit http://registrar.sc.edu/academicrecovery.stm to find out more about the academic recovery program on your campus. First semester freshmen on the Columbia, Beaufort, and Regional campuses must participate in an academic coaching session coordinated through their campus before being eligible to register for courses for the third semester. Please refer to the latest University Bulletin for more information.

FIRST SUSPENSION (E0782 – 15A and 15B)

**YOU HAVE BEEN PLACED ON ACADEMIC SUSPENSION**

You have not met the minimum cumulative USC GPA to remain at the University. You are suspended from the University for one major semester (Fall, Spring) and the contiguous summer semester (approximately 8 months). If you have registered for the next term, your registration will be canceled and any monies due to you will be refunded. Please refer to the latest University Bulletin for more information about the USC suspension policy.

SUBSEQUENT SUSPENSION (E0782 – 15C and 15D)

**YOU HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED INDEFINITELY**

If you have registered for the next term, your registration will be canceled and any monies due to you will be refunded. You can be considered for readmission only after being approved for reinstatement by action of the petition committee of the campus, college or school to which you seek re-admission. A favorable decision by the committee is unlikely within two years of the suspension. Refer to the latest University Bulletin for more information about the USC suspension policy.
May 11, 2009

«F_Name» «M_Name» «L_Name»
«P_Addresss_1»
«P_Address_2»
«P_City» «LST» «P_Zip»

Dear «F_Name»,

At the conclusion of the Spring 2009 semester, your cumulative USC GPA is below a 2.00. First year freshmen who earn less than a 2.00 cumulative USC GPA at the end of their first major semester are placed on probation and are at risk for suspension from the University.

While your college, school, or academic program may have additional requirements for you, University policy requires that all first-year probationary freshmen participate in an academic coaching session during the first six weeks of their second semester. This session will assist you with identifying individual obstacles to success, help you improve academic skills and strategies, and direct you to other campus or community resources that may be beneficial to you. If you do not participate in an academic coaching session by Friday, September 24, 2009, a registration hold will be placed on your record prior to advising and enrollment for Spring 2010. To schedule your academic coaching session, please visit the Academic Centers for Excellence online: http://www.sc.edu/ACE. Click on “appointments.” If you encounter difficulty in using the Website, please call the ACE office at 803.777.5430.

Please see the reverse of this letter for additional information about the academic standards policy.

Financial aid eligibility also requires responsible academic progress. For more information regarding the University’s financial aid satisfactory academic progress policy, visit www.sc.edu/financialaid and choose “Award Terms and Conditions”, or contact the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships.

The University is committed to supporting you in your path to degree completion and personal success. Please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the University Registrar with any questions about the policy, the ACE office with questions about academic coaching, or contact your academic advisor for guidance regarding academic progress and requirements for your degree. We look forward to working with you!

Sincerely,

Barbara Rogers Blaney
University Registrar

cc: Student’s academic advisor/college
    Academic Centers for Excellence
    Student Success Center
In order to avoid suspension at the end of your next semester, you must achieve a certain cumulative University of South Carolina GPA. You may also continue on probation and avoid suspension if your Fall semester GPA is 2.50 or greater. Standards for continuing on probation are based on the cumulative grade hours you have attempted at USC. The chart below shows the grade point averages you must achieve in order to avoid suspension.

### Probation Chart

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**SEMESTER REPRIEVE:** Regardless of the USC GPA, a student may continue on probation and avoid suspension if the semester grade point average is 2.50 or greater.

The complete academic standards policy can be accessed in the USC bulletin for 2008-2009 or at this website (http://registrar.sc.edu/academicstandards.stm).
May 11, 2009
«AddressBlock»
«GreetingLine»

At the conclusion of the Spring 2009 semester, your cumulative University of South Carolina GPA is below a 2.00, which places you on academic probation.

In order to avoid suspension at the end of the Fall 2009 semester, you must achieve a certain cumulative University of South Carolina GPA. You may also continue on probation and avoid suspension if your fall semester 2009 GPA is 2.50 or greater. Standards for continuing on probation are based on the cumulative grade hours you have attempted at USC. Please refer to the Probation Chart located on the back of this letter for grade point averages you must achieve in order to avoid suspension. The complete academic standards policy can be accessed in the USC bulletin for 2008-2009 or at this website http://registrar.sc.edu/academicstandards.stm.

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The University is committed to supporting you in your path to degree completion and personal success. Please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the University Registrar with any questions about the policy or contact your academic advisor for guidance regarding academic progress and requirements for your degree. It is also suggested that you seek assistance from the Academic Centers for Excellence online: http://www.sc.edu/ACE. Click on “appointments.” If you have any difficulty using the Web site please call the ACE office at 803-777-5430.

Sincerely,

Barbara Rogers Blaney
University Registrar

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**SEMESTER REPRIEVE:** Regardless of the USC GPA, a student may continue on probation and avoid suspension if the semester grade point average is 2.50 or greater.
Letters to Students who are Suspended for the First Time

May 11, 2009

<Address Block>

<Greeting>

At the conclusion of Spring 2009, you were placed on suspension by the University of South Carolina. This letter is intended to provide you with important information about the University’s suspension policy.

At the end of Spring 2009, you did not meet the minimum academic standards (see chart) to remain enrolled at the University of South Carolina. Standards for continuing on probation are based on the cumulative grade hours that you have attempted at USC. The highlighted sections of the chart below show the grade point averages required to avoid suspension.

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SEMESTER REPRIEVE: Regardless of the USC GPA, a student may continue on probation and avoid suspension if the semester grade point average is 2.50 or greater.

You will remain suspended from the University of South Carolina for Summer 2009 and Fall 2009 (approximately eight months). If you choose to re-apply to the University of South Carolina for Spring 2010, you will be considered for readmission by the University, as well as the college or school to which you are seeking readmission.

Upon return to the University you will be required to achieve a semester grade point average of 2.50 or higher each semester until your cumulative GPA reaches the level above which suspension would occur (see chart). You will also be required to participate in an academic coaching session coordinated through the Student Success Center before being eligible to register for courses for the following semester.

You also have the right to appeal your suspension to the petitions committee of the college or school in which you were enrolled when you were suspended.

The complete academic standards policy can be accessed in the USC bulletin for 2008-2009 or at this website http://registrar.sc.edu/academicstandards.stm.

The University is committed to supporting you in your path to degree completion and personal success. Please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the University Registrar with any questions about the policy.
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Barbara Rogers Blaney
University Registrar

cc: Student’s academic advisor/college
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    Student Success Center
Campus Contacts for Academic Recovery Programs (New Academic Standards)

First-Year Freshmen Academic Recovery Program

First-year freshmen on the Beaufort, Columbia, Lancaster, Salkehatchie, Sumter and Union campuses who have less than a 2.00 cumulative GPA at the end of their first semester must participate in an academic coaching session coordinated through their campus before being eligible to register for courses for the third semester. These sessions will provide students with assistance in developing academic skills and learning strategies and will identify other resources they need to meet their academic goals. This requirement is in addition to any made by the student’s college, school, or academic program.

Returning After Suspension

During the first six weeks after returning from a suspension, students on the Beaufort, Columbia, Lancaster, Salkehatchie, Sumter and Union campuses must participate in an academic coaching session coordinated through their campus before being eligible to register for courses for the following semester. These sessions will provide students with the resources they need to meet their academic goals.

Campus Contacts for Academic Recovery Program

**USC Beaufort**

Brandi Laval or Keila Jarmer  
Office: Office of the Registrar  
Office Location: Hargray 161  
Tel. (843) 208-8050 (to schedule an appointment)

**USC Columbia**

Claire Robinson  
Office Location: Academic Centers for Excellence (ACE)  
Office Locations (4): Student Success Center (in the Thomas Cooper Library), Sims Hall, Columbia Hall, Bates House  
Tel. (803) 777-5430  
E-mail: [ACE@sc.edu](mailto:ACE@sc.edu)  
Website: [www.sc.edu/ACE/](http://www.sc.edu/ACE/)  
Appointments: Students can schedule appointments online via the ACE Web site
**USC Lancaster**
Contact: Dr. M. Ron Cox, Jr.
Office: Academic Affairs
Office Location: Hubbard Hall, Room 118
Telephone: 803-313-7000
Email: RonCox@mailbox.sc.edu

**USC Salkehatchie**

USC Salkehatchie - **West Campus**
Contact: Dr. Carolyn Banner, Director
Office: Opportunity Scholars Program
Office Location: OCB Building, First Floor
Tel.: (803) 584-3446, extension 178
E-mail: cmbanner@mailbox.sc.edu

USC Salkehatchie - **East Campus**
Contact: Sandra Payne or Bonnie Knight
Office: Opportunity Scholars Program
Office Location: Main Building, Room 105
Tel. (843) 549-6314, extension 317.
Email: PayneSG@gwm.sc.edu or KnightBP@gwm.sc.edu

**USC Sumter**
Contact: Rebecca Shrader
Office: Advisement and Counseling Center
Office Location: Administration Building, Room 105 B
Tel. (803) 938-3732
Email: sanderrd@uscsumter.edu

**USC Union**
Students enrolled at USC Union should contact their academic advisor. Students who qualify for the Opportunity Scholars Program (OSP) should contact the OSP Office. For general assistance, students may contact Carlyne Puckett in the Office of Academic Affairs at (864) 429-8728.
Old Academic Standards (Effective Through Summer 2010)

Academic Standing

It is the expectation of the University that students will maintain at least a C average on all work attempted. On the grading scale employed by the University, this means that a student must maintain a semester, yearly, and cumulative GPA of at least 2.00 in order to remain in good academic standing in the institution.

The following standards regarding scholastic eligibility are applicable to all undergraduate students. In addition, the individual colleges of the University may have retention standards for the students majoring in academic programs of those colleges. However, students will not be suspended from the University unless they fail to meet the standards specified here. Administration of these regulations is the responsibility of the academic deans, who are not empowered to waive any of the provisions. A student may be granted relief from these regulations by the petitions committees of the individual colleges only in extraordinary circumstances.

Scholastic Deficiency

Any student whose semester, yearly, or cumulative GPA falls below 2.00 is considered to be scholastically deficient.

The dean of each college will review all deficiency situations and determine the appropriate action to be taken. Scholastically deficient students who have failed to make satisfactory progress toward completion of the degree may be placed on scholastic probation on such terms as the dean may designate or may be advised to withdraw from the major or from the University. Students who fail to meet the conditions of the probation may be required to leave that degree program.

Students are reminded that progression standards may vary from one major to another.

Academic Suspension

A scholastically deficient student's eligibility to continue in the University is determined by the grade point deficit (GPD). The GPD is the number of grade points a student lacks of having a 2.00 GPA. This can easily be calculated by subtracting the number of grade points earned from twice the number of grade point hours attempted:

\[ \text{GPD} = (2 \times \text{grade point hours}) - (\text{grade points earned}) \]

A student's cumulative GPD will be based only on work at USC taken in fall semester 1980 or later.
The record of every scholastically deficient student will be reviewed at the end of each fall and spring semester. The following standards will then be applied:

First suspension: Any student who is scholastically deficient at the beginning of a fall or spring semester will be suspended at the end of that semester if either the yearly or the cumulative GPD is 24 or more. Suspended students will not be considered for readmission to the University until they have served at least one major term and the summer on suspension (approximately eight months).

Subsequent suspension: A student reinstated or readmitted from suspension will be reviewed at the end of the first semester after returning. A grade point average of 2.00 or higher must be obtained each semester to avoid a subsequent suspension.

The duration of a second or subsequent suspension is indefinite, and the student can be considered for readmission only after being approved for reinstatement by action of the petitions committee of the college or school to which the student is seeking admission. A favorable decision by the committee is unlikely within two years of the suspension.

A student on suspension may not be admitted to, or continue in, any program of the University for credit or for grade point average purposes. Credit earned at other institutions or by correspondence of any origin while a student is on suspension from the University may not be applied toward a degree from USC or used for improving the grade point average.

Students are reminded that these rules are for suspension from the University. Some colleges or schools in the University may impose more stringent requirements for retention in degree programs.

Petition Procedures

In addition to previously specified provisions by which a student may petition to waive the application of this suspension policy, a student suspended by this policy has the right to petition to the appropriate college scholastic standards and petitions committee to waive the application of the suspension rule at any time. Students placed on first suspension who wish to petition for a waiver of the suspension rule may petition only the committee of the college in which they were enrolled at the time of suspension.