

Financial Stafford Loans

Per the Federal Default Management Guidelines, the following procedures apply:

1. A student must have 6 credit hours earned at PSC with at least a 2.0 GPA before a loan will be approved. Subsequent loans and disbursements will be approved only if the student has maintained a 2.0 GPA.
2. Loans will not be approved for any student who is on financial aid termination.
3. Students who do not pass at least 6 credit hours in the first term and go on probation will not be eligible to receive the second half of their loan.
4. Entrance counseling is required for all loan applicants.
5. Exit counseling is required for all loan recipients.
6. First time borrowers checks will be held until at least 30 days after the first day of classes. Do not plan on your loan check to buy books and supplies because it will not be available at the start of the semester.

If you wish to apply for a student loan and believe you meet all the criteria, please call and schedule an appointment at (708) 709-3520.

Financial Aid and Veterans Affairs Office



Financial Aid Office Phone Numbers

General Information
(708) 709-3735

Financial Aid Advisors
(708) 709-3523

Loan Information
(708) 709-3520

Guidelines for satisfactory academic progress

 **Prairie State College**

202 South Halsted Street
Chicago Heights, IL 60411
prairiestate.edu

 **Prairie State College**

The Prairie State College (PSC) Financial Aid Office is required by federal regulation to monitor academic progress toward a degree or certificate for all degree seeking aid applicants. The Financial Aid Office reviews the grades and attempted coursework of all applicants prior to awarding aid for the summer sessions and the fall and spring semesters. All financial aid students are required to meet the standards listed below.

Students who do not meet these standards will be placed on probation or termination status. This policy has no effect on your financial aid eligibility at any other institution.

Maximum Hours Attempted

The maximum number of credit hours a student may attempt and still be eligible for financial aid is 90. This includes credits transferred to PSC from other institutions and periods in which financial aid was not received.

Satisfactory Academic Progress:

Satisfactory academic progress toward a degree or certificate includes the following:

- Maintaining a 2.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA)
- Completing 67% of the total attempted credit hours

Financial Aid Probation

Students who do not maintain a 2.0 GPA will be placed on probation for the next term of enrollment.

If you receive a grade of I, F, W, or Audit, you have not completed the course. Students who do not complete 67% of the total attempted credit hours will be placed on probation for the next term of enrollment.

While on financial aid probation, you must complete at least 67% of your total attempted credit hours in order to maintain your future financial aid eligibility. A 2.0 GPA must be maintained while on financial aid probation.

A student placed on financial aid probation will be eligible to receive grants, scholarships, and work study assistance during the probation period.

Financial Aid Termination

Students on financial aid probation who do not meet the guidelines for Satisfactory Academic Progress, in any subsequent term, will be placed on financial aid termination. Students on termination status are not allowed to receive further financial aid until they meet reinstatement of aid eligibility conditions.

Reinstatement of Aid Eligibility

A student whose aid eligibility has been terminated must meet the following conditions in order to have it reinstated:

- Complete at least 6 credit hours within a semester at PSC using your own financial resources.
- Earn a cumulative 2.0 GPA.
- Complete at least 67% of your total attempted credit hours.

If you feel there were circumstances beyond your control that affected your academic performance, you may submit an appeal.

Financial Aid Appeal Procedures

Any student whose financial aid is terminated may submit an appeal. You will need to explain and document why you did not complete 67% of attempted credit hours and/or did not maintain the required minimum 2.0 GPA. Your appeal must be accompanied by an explanation and documentation from one of the following:

- A physician, who can document that you had an illness or accident that prevented you from successfully completing your studies, and that you are now able to successfully resume your studies
- A physician, who can verify that the death or life-threatening illness of an immediate family member prevented you from successfully completing your coursework
- An academic advisor/counselor who knows about circumstances beyond your control that prevented you from completing your coursework, and will document that knowledge with a letter on your behalf

If your financial aid eligibility is terminated due to exceeding the maximum 90 hours attempted, you may submit a student appeal form. The appeal must be accompanied by the following documentation:

- A personal letter in your defense
- An Academic Advising Plan including total credit hours and semesters needed to complete. This plan should be prepared with your advisor. Call (708) 709-3506 for information.

The decision of the financial aid appeal committee is final.