

South Dakota Board of Regents
2007-08 Minimum Progression Standard Report
Executive Summary

Board Policy 2:10 establishes standards for student minimum progression based on students' cumulative grade point average (GPA) and system term GPA. Students who maintain a GPA of 2.0 or better are considered to be in "good academic standing" with their institution. Students who are in academic difficulty can be considered to be high-risk students from a retention standpoint including: 1) Freshmen; 2) Non-traditional age freshmen; 3) Students admitted as exceptions; 4) Associate degree-seeking students; and 5) Non-high school graduates. The *Minimum Progression Standards Report* (Attachment II) provides system data for students who fall above and below minimum progression standards.

Unduplicated System Level Results

Duplicated enrollments are used since a student may be enrolled for one, two or three terms and their academic standing may have changed from one term to the next. In 2007-08, 90.3% of the duplicated enrollment for degree-seeking undergraduate students had academic standings of Good Standing or Returned to Good Standing. The percentages of students with academic standings of Placed on Probation/Continued on Probation and Suspended have remained relatively consistent at approximately 5.9% for the past three years (see Attachment II, Table 2). Freshmen students (15.2%) were more likely to be placed on probation or suspended than sophomores (4.0%), juniors (1.9%) or seniors (.4%) (see Attachment II, Table 3).

Non-Traditional Age Freshmen

Non-traditional age freshmen include those students who were more than 21 years of age upon admission to the system on the basis of admission code (ACN) or actual age calculation using date of birth and last registration term. Non-traditional age freshmen students were twice as likely to be placed on suspension when compared to traditional age freshmen (6% vs. 11%) (see Attachment II, Figure 2).

Basis of Admissions

Entering undergraduate degree-seeking students are assigned to one of nine basis of admission codes that reflect which category of admissions requirements they meet in order to enroll (see Attachment II, Table 5). The majority of the students in this report were admitted under the regular baccalaureate admissions requirements (69%). The second largest group was transfer students with 24 or more credit hours who met institutional admissions requirements (17%).

Approximately one out of three (29%) students who were given exceptions from meeting associate degree admissions requirements (ACX) were placed on probation, suspended, or withdrew during 2007-08. Twenty-two percent or more of the students in the following basis of admissions cohort categories were also placed on probation, suspended, or withdrew during 2007-08:

- ACJ – met associate degree admissions requirements (29%)

- AC3 – given an exception from meeting baccalaureate admissions requirements (22%)
- ACG – met admissions requirements for non-high school graduates (35%)

Of the students with basis of admissions codes, those who transferred with 24 or more credit hours and met institutional requirements (ACM) had the highest percentage of students in good standing (94%) (see Table 6).

Freshman Students

Freshmen students represent approximately 30% of the students depicted in the Minimum Progression Standards Report. They also accounted for 48% to 76% of students placed on probation, suspended, or withdrawn from their institution.

- 48% of all students withdrawing from Regental Institutions were Freshmen.
- Freshmen accounted for 76% of those placed on probation, and 75% of those suspended.
- Freshmen classified as ACG (GED/Home-schooled students) represented 66% of non-high school graduates, and more than 46% of these freshmen students were placed on probation, suspended, or withdrew.
- 46% of freshmen admitted as ACX (not meeting associate degree requirements, admitted as part of 10% exception) and ACJ (met associate degree requirements, but not baccalaureate degree requirements) were placed on probation, suspended or withdrew.

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At the end of a term, students with cumulative grade point averages (GPAs) below the GPA standard for their class are placed on academic probation. Students on academic probation earning a term GPA below the standard or not raising their cumulative GPA to the level of the minimum progression standard within two additional academic terms are suspended contingent upon student appeals process outcomes and administrative action by the university. For the purpose of the *Minimum Progression Standards Report*, the number of enrolled undergraduate degree seeking students in each of the following categories of academic standing are reported: Good Standing/Returned to Good Standing, Admitted on Probation/Readmitted on Probation, Placed on Probation/Continued on Probation, and Suspended (Table 1 outlines the minimum progression as established by Board Policy 2:10). It should be noted that a student's academic standing in any given term is based on his/her cumulative GPA at the end of the previous term¹.

Table 1
South Dakota Regental Institution Minimum Progression Standards

<i>Class</i>	<i>Credit Hour Range</i>	<i>GPA Standard</i>
Freshmen	0 – 31.99	2.0
Sophomore	32 – 63.99	2.0
Junior	64 – 95.99	2.0
Senior	96 +	2.0

System Level Results

There were a total of 22,936 degree-seeking undergraduate students enrolled in Fall 2007, a total of 21,585 in Spring 2008 and a total of 5,513 in Summer 2008. The duplicated enrollment for 2007-08 was 50,034 students and the unduplicated enrollment was 24,938 students. Overall, 90.3% of the undergraduates were in good standing or returned to good standing, 5.9% were on probation, and 3.8% were suspended/withdraw during 2007-08. These percentages have changed slightly over the past three years (Table 2). Due to the small number of students that were admitted/readmitted on probation, this category of academic standing will be left out of the remainder of this report.

Table 2
Percentage of Students in Each Academic Standing Category

<i>Student Classification</i>	<i>2003-04</i>	<i>2004-05</i>	<i>2005-06</i>	<i>2006-07</i>	<i>2007-08</i>
<i>Good Standing/Returned to Good Standing</i>	90.4%	91.3%	90.3%	90.3%	90.3%
<i>Placed on Probation/Continued on Probation</i>	7.3%	6.6%	6.2%	6.1%	5.9%
<i>Suspended/Withdrawn</i>	2.3%	2.1%	3.5%	3.6%	3.8%

Minimum Progression: Freshmen Students

Freshmen accounted for the majority of the duplicated enrollment by degree-seeking undergraduates, followed by seniors, sophomores and juniors. On a percentage basis, freshmen were more likely to have been placed on probation and to have been suspended than sophomores, juniors and seniors (see Table 3).

Table 3
Percentage of Students that Remained/Returned to Good Standing, Placed/Continued on Probation, and Suspended According to Student Grade Level 2007-08

<i>Student Classification</i>	<i>Freshman</i>	<i>Sophomore</i>	<i>Junior</i>	<i>Senior</i>
<i>Remained/Returned to Good Standing</i>	77.1%	92.6%	96.1%	98.3%
<i>Placed/Continued on Probation</i>	15.2%	4.0%	1.9%	0.4%
<i>Suspended Status</i>	4.5%	1.5%	0.5%	0.1%
<i>Withdrawn</i>	3.2%	1.8%	1.6%	1.1%

Minimum Progression Standards Results: Institutional Level

When compared across institutions, SDSMT (94.1%) had the highest percentage of students that remained/returned to good standing. Additionally, SDSMT had the smallest percentage of students placed on probation (4.0%), suspension (.9%), and students who withdrew (.9%) from the institution. Overall percentages of students in good standing, probation, suspended, and withdrawal, by university are summarized in Table 4.

Table 4
Percentage of Students that Remained/Returned to Good Standing, Placed/Continued on Probation, and Suspended 2007-08

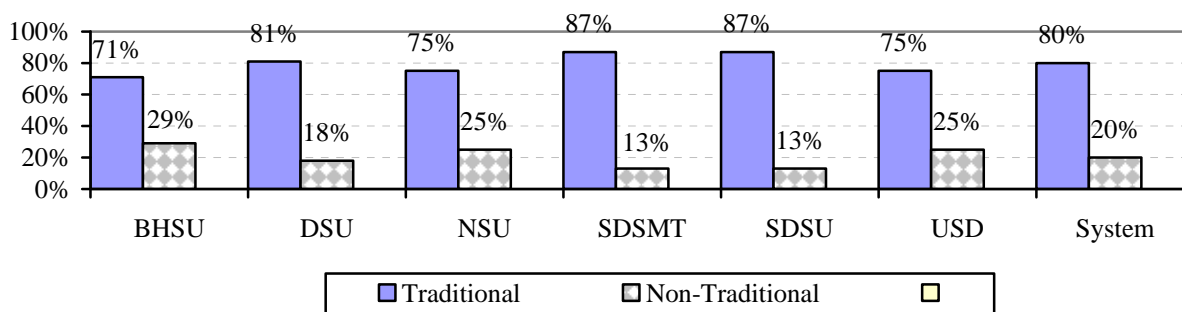
<i>Student Classification</i>	<i>BHSU</i>	<i>DSU</i>	<i>NSU</i>	<i>SDSMT</i>	<i>SDSU</i>	<i>USD</i>	<i>System</i>
<i>Remained/Returned Good Standing</i>	85.8%	91.2%	87.9%	94.1%	90.3%	92.2%	90.3%
<i>Placed/Continued on Probation</i>	7.3%	4.9%	7.7%	4.0%	6.5%	4.3%	5.9%
<i>Suspended Status</i>	4.4%	1.5%	2.1%	.9%	1.5%	1.3%	1.8%
<i>Withdrawn</i>	2.5%	2.4%	2.4%	0.9%	1.7%	2.2%	2.0%

Non-Traditional Age Freshmen

Non-traditional age students are identified through two different methods in the Minimum Progression Standard report. First, the basis for admission code, ACN, is used to identify students who were more than 21 years of age upon admission to the system. Since this code is most likely used only for those non-traditional age students who do not meet the baccalaureate degree admission requirements for high school students, the number of non-traditional students may be under-reported. The second method used to identify non-traditional age students in the report relies on an actual age calculation using date of birth and last registered term. Figures included in this section of the report pertain only to those students with the classification of freshmen. Students with an ACN basis of admissions code will be discussed in the following section of the report.

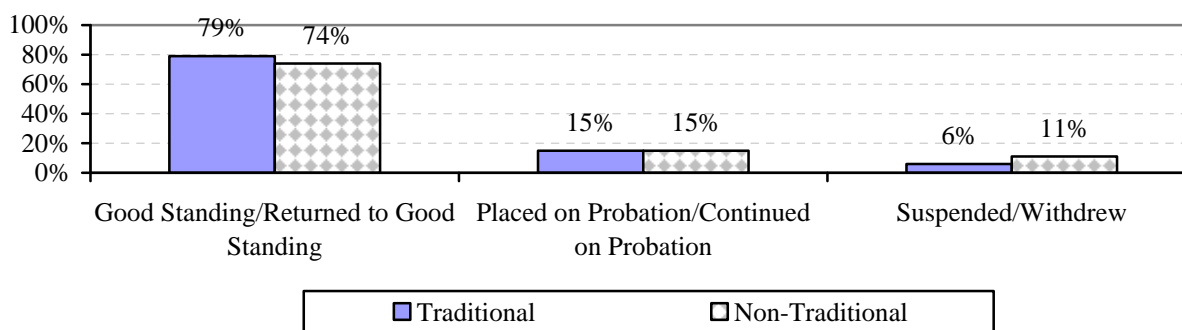
The percentage of non-traditional age freshmen has decreased over the past eight years from 22.4% in 1999-00 to 19.7% in 2007-08. For the sixth straight year BHSU had the largest percentage of non-traditional age freshmen (29%) in 2007-08 while SDSU and SDSM&T had the smallest percentage (13%) (see Figure 1).

Figure 1
Percentage Comparison of Traditional and Non-Traditional Age Freshmen by University



A visual comparison of academic standing (see Figure 2) revealed that during 2007-08, non-traditional age freshmen students were slightly more likely to be placed on probation and suspended than traditional age freshmen.

Figure 2
Comparison of Percentage of Traditional and Non-Traditional Age Freshmen in Each Academic Standing Category



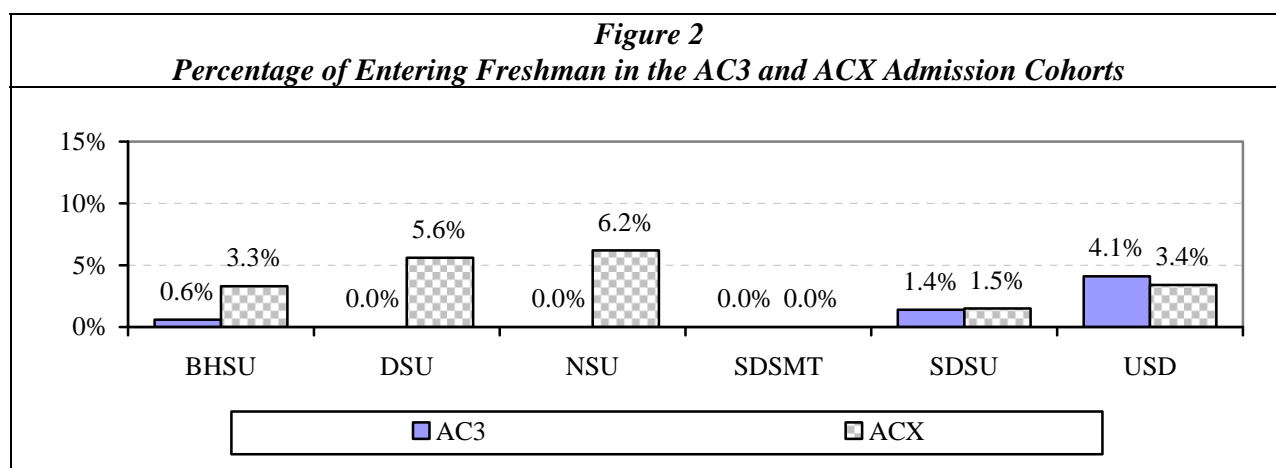
Minimum Progression Standards and Basis of Admissions

Entering undergraduate degree-seeking students are assigned admissions codes that reflect which category of admissions requirements they met in order to enroll. Categories are differentiated based on BOR policy 2:3 Undergraduate Admissions (see Table 5). The majority of the duplicated enrollments were associated with students who had met baccalaureate admissions requirements (69%) which represented a 1% decrease from the 2006-07 academic year (70.0%). The second largest group of students consisted of those who had transferred 24 or more credit hours and met institutional admissions requirements. As indicated in Table 5, a relatively small percentage of students were admitted while the former student information system, ISIS, was in operation and basis of admissions codes were not used.

Table 5
Percentage of Students Based on Admissions Cohort that Remained/Returned to Good Standing, Placed/Continued on Probation, were Suspended, and/or Withdrew in 2007-08

<i>Student Classification</i>	<i>Cohort</i>	<i>Good Standing</i>	<i>Probation</i>	<i>Suspended</i>	<i>Withdrawn</i>
<i>ACC - Met baccalaureate degree admissions requirements for high school graduates</i>	69.0%	90.6%	6.0%	1.8%	1.5%
<i>AC3 - Did not meet baccalaureate degree admissions requirements for high school graduates, admitted as part of the 3% exception group</i>	1.2%	78.2%	12.8%	5.7%	3.3%
<i>ACG - Met admissions requirements for non-high school graduates (GED/home-schooled students)</i>	0.2%	65.0%	21.2%	4.4%	9.5%
<i>ACN - Met requirements for non-traditional (more than 24 years of age at time of admission) students as required by the enrolling institution</i>	1.8%	85.5%	6.9%	2.2%	5.4%
<i>ACJ - Met associate degree admissions requirements for high school graduates, did not meet all of the baccalaureate degree admissions requirements</i>	0.9%	71.3%	19.0%	4.4%	5.3%
<i>ACX - Did not meet regular admissions requirements for associate degree students; admitted as part of 10% exception group</i>	0.8%	66.5%	21.9%	6.1%	5.5%
<i>ACL - Transferred less than 24 hours and met baccalaureate degree admissions requirements for high school graduates</i>	7.7%	89.1%	6.2%	2.1%	2.7%
<i>ACM - Transferred 24 or more hours and met institutional requirements</i>	16.6%	94.2%	2.6%	0.9%	2.3%
<i>ISISA - Admitted under ISIS before standard basis of admission cohort tracking was initiated</i>	1.9%	93.1%	5.9%	1.8%	2.0%
<i>Total</i>		90.3%	5.9%	1.8%	2.0%

Board policy 2.3 *System Undergraduate Admissions* indicates that each university may admit a group of students to associate programs, limited in size to 10% of the previous year's freshman class, at the discretion of the university. Students in this discretionary pool are assigned the ACX admission code, and in 2007-08 less than 3% of freshmen students in the system entered with this admission classification. Additionally, each university may admit a group of students to baccalaureate programs, limited in size to 3% of the previous year's freshman class, at the discretion of the university. Students in this discretionary pool are assigned the AC3 admission code, and 1.7% of freshmen students entered the system with this admission classification. Institutional comparisons for the ACX and AC3 admission codes are depicted in Figure 2.



A summary of academic standings associated with students in each basis of admissions cohort is also presented in Table 6. Data indicate that students in some of the basis of admissions categories appeared to be more likely to have been placed on probation, continued on probation or placed on suspension. Students in the ACX (10% exception group for associate degree admissions), the AC3 (3% exception group for baccalaureate admissions), ACG (met admissions requirements for non-high school graduates) (GED/home-schooled students) and ACJ (met associate degree admissions requirements) basis of admissions cohorts had higher than expected probation and suspension rates. Students in the ACM (transferred 24 or more hours and met institutional requirements) basis of admissions cohort had lower than expected probation and suspension rates.

Table 6
Percentage of Students within each Basis of Admissions Cohort that Remained/Returned to Good Standing, Placed/Continued on Probation, were Suspended, and/or Withdrew in 2007-08

<i>Student Classification</i>	<i>Good</i>			
	<i>Standing</i>	<i>Probation</i>	<i>Suspended</i>	<i>Withdrawn</i>
<i>AC3 - Did not meet bacc. degree admissions requirements for high school grads, admitted as part of the 3% exception group</i>	78.2%	12.8%	5.7%	3.3%
<i>ACG - Met admissions requirements for non-high school graduates (GED/home-schooled students)</i>	65.0%	21.2%	4.4%	9.5%
<i>ACJ - Met associate degree adm. requirements for high school gradss, did not meet all of the bacc. degree adm. requirements</i>	71.3%	19.0%	4.4%	5.3%
<i>ACX - Did not meet regular adm. requirements for associate degree students; admitted as part of 10% exception group</i>	66.5%	21.9%	6.1%	5.5%
<i>ACM - Transferred 24 or more hours and met inst. requirements</i>	94.2%	2.6%	0.9%	2.3%

Freshman Students

Freshmen students represent approximately 30% of the students depicted in the Minimum Progression Standards Report. Freshmen accounted for 76% of those placed on probation, and 75% of those suspended. Additionally, 48% percent of all students withdrawing from Regental Institutions were Freshmen. Freshmen classified as ACG (GED/Home-schooled students) represented 66% of non-high school graduates, and more than 46% of these freshmen students were placed on probation, suspended, or withdrew. Forty-six percent of freshmen admitted as ACX (not meeting associate degree requirements, admitted as part of 10% exception) and 49% of freshmen classified as ACJ (met associate degree requirements, but not baccalaureate degree requirements) were placed on probation, suspended or withdrew (see Table 7).

Table 7
Percentage of Freshman Based on Admissions Cohort that Remained/Returned to Good Standing, Placed/Continued on Probation, were Suspended, or Withdrew in 2007-08

<i>Student Classification</i>	<i>Good Standing</i>	<i>Probation</i>	<i>Suspended</i>	<i>Withdrawn</i>	<i>% of Freshman in These Student Populations</i>
<i>ACC - Met baccalaureate degree admissions requirements for high school graduates</i>	78.7%	14.7%	4.2%	2.4%	32.8%
<i>AC3 - Did not meet baccalaureate degree admissions requirements for high school graduates, admitted as part of the 3% exception group</i>	58.9%	24.3%	10.3%	6.5%	22.8%
<i>ACG - Met admissions requirements for non-high school graduates (GED/home-schooled)</i>	54.4%	26.7%	5.6%	13.3%	65.7%
<i>ACN - Met requirements for non-traditional (more than 24 years of age at time of admission) students as required by the enrolling institution</i>	76.6%	11.7%	3.8%	7.9%	52.5%
<i>ACJ - Met associate degree admissions requirements for high school graduates, did not meet all of the baccalaureate degree admissions requirements</i>	51.5%	33.3%	7.4%	7.8%	45.8%
<i>ACX - Did not meet regular admissions requirements for associate degree students; admitted as part of 10% exception group</i>	53.3%	31.1%	8.1%	7.2%	63.1%
<i>ACL - Transferred less than 24 hours and met baccalaureate degree admissions requirements for high school graduates</i>	75.3%	13.8%	5.2%	4.7%	33.5%
<i>ACM - Transferred 24 or more hours and met institutional requirements</i>	85.2%	9.0%	3.0%	2.8%	8.8%
<i>ISISA - Admitted under ISIS before standard basis of admission cohort tracking initiated</i>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total	77.1%	15.2%	4.5%	3.2%	30.1%

