

**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS**

**Academic and Student Affairs**

**AGENDA ITEM: 6 – L**

**DATE: March 30 – April 1, 2016**

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**SUBJECT: AY2015 Minimum Progression Standards Report**

Board policy establishes “minimum progression” standards with respect to student grade point averages. Degree-seeking undergraduate students maintaining a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better are considered to be in good standing with their institutions. Students failing to meet this benchmark are subject to academic probation and/or academic suspension. The *Minimum Progression Standards Report* analyzes the extent to which students met minimum progression benchmarks during the 2014-2015 academic year.

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Information only.

# Minimum Progression Standards Report

## Policy Background and Data Notes

This report summarizes minimum progression outcomes for all degree-seeking undergraduate students who enrolled at a regental university in Fall 2014, Spring 2015, or Summer 2015. Because academic standing may vary within a single academic year for any given student, students are included in the analyzed dataset once for every enrolled term. For purposes of this report, detailed minimum progression status codes are reduced to two simple categories: *In Good Standing* and *Not in Good Standing*.<sup>1</sup>

## Analysis

### Overall Results

A total of 55,103 degree-seeking undergraduate students enrolled in the university system during the 2014-2015 academic year.<sup>2</sup> Overall, 92.0 percent of these students were in good standing, while the remaining 8.0 percent were not.<sup>3</sup> By university, USD (94.1 percent) had the highest percentage of students in good standing (see Table 1). Table 2 indicates that system-level figures tend to fluctuate only slightly from year to year.

**Table 1**

Academic Standing by Institution, AY2015

	BHSU	DSU	NSU	SDSMT	SDSU	USD	System
Analyzed Records (n)	6,269	4,046	3,764	4,800	22,385	13,839	55,103
In Good Standing	89.8%	90.5%	89.7%	92.5%	91.7%	94.1%	92.0%
Not in Good Standing	10.2%	9.5%	10.3%	7.5%	8.3%	5.9%	8.0%

**Table 2**

Academic Standing by Year

	AY2011	AY2012	AY2013	AY2014	AY2015
Analyzed Records (n)	54,815	55,660	55,213	55,599	55,103
In Good Standing	90.6%	91.2%	91.8%	91.6%	92.0%
Not in Good Standing	9.4%	8.8%	8.2%	8.4%	8.0%

<sup>1</sup> Board policy 2:10:3 specifies that, at the end of each term, students maintaining a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher are considered to be in *good standing*, while students with lesser cumulative GPAs are placed on *academic probation*. Once on probation, students who are unable to raise their system term GPAs or cumulative GPAs (within one term) to the mandated level are placed on *academic suspension* for a minimum period of two academic terms, contingent on appeals process outcomes, or may *withdraw* entirely from the university system. In this report, these detailed status codes are reduced to two summative labels (i.e., *in good standing* and *not in good standing*).

<sup>2</sup> This figure represents the sum of enrollments from fall term (24,836), spring term (22,972), and summer term (7,295).

<sup>3</sup> Specifically, 92.0 percent were in good standing, 4.9 percent were on academic probation, 1.5 percent had been academically suspended, and 1.7 percent had withdrawn from the university system. Detailed outcomes by university are shown in Appendix A.

### Admission Code Groups

All degree-seeking undergraduates are assigned an admission code upon entry to the university system; this code reflects the category of admission requirements that was met in order to enroll. As shown in Table 3, minimum progression outcomes vary considerably by admission code group. For example, students in the ACX group (70.1 percent) and ACJ group (73.6 percent) recorded “good standing” rates that were substantially lower than the overall proportion of 92.0 percent. By contrast, students in the ACM group (94.8 percent), ISIS group (93.1 percent), and ACC group (92.4 percent) recorded rates that exceeded the system total.

**Table 3**  
Academic Standing by Admission Code: AY2015

	Analyzed Records	In Good Standing	Not In Good Standing
ACC - Met baccalaureate admission requirements for high school graduates	39,052	92.4%	7.6%
ACM - Transferred 24 or more hours and met all institutional requirements	8,825	94.8%	5.2%
ACL - Transferred less than 24 hours and met baccalaureate admission requirements for high school graduates	4,360	90.2%	9.8%
ACN - Met admission requirements for non-traditional students (25+ years of age at time of admission) as required by the enrolling institution	715	84.3%	15.7%
AC3 - Did not meet baccalaureate admission requirements for high school graduates; admitted as part of the 3% exception group	616	80.0%	20.0%
ACJ – Met associate admission requirements for high school graduates, did not meet all baccalaureate admission requirements	519	73.6%	26.4%
ACX - Did not meet associate admission requirements for high school graduates; admitted as part of the 10% exception group	418	70.1%	29.9%
ISIS - Admitted under ISIS before standardized basis of admission cohort tracking was initiated	361	93.1%	6.9%
ACG - Met admission requirements for non-high school graduates (GED/home-schooled students)	237	81.0%	19.0%
Total	55,103	92.0%	8.0%

## Freshmen

Of all class groups, freshmen were least likely to be in good academic standing in AY2015. Only 78.7 percent of freshmen were in good standing, compared with 93.5 percent of sophomores, 96.8 percent of juniors, and 98.2 percent of seniors (see Table 4). Though not shown below, a comparison of traditional-age freshmen (those who are under 21) and non-traditional-age freshmen (those who are 21 or older) reveals that traditional-age freshmen were somewhat more likely to be good academic standing (80.0 percent) than were non-traditional-age freshmen (71.1 percent).

**Table 4**  
Academic Standing by Class, AY2015

Student Classification	Fresh.	Soph.	Junior	Senior	Pharm.	Total
Analyzed Records	13,845	12,021	11,653	17,105	479	55,103
In Good Standing	78.7%	93.5%	96.8%	98.2%	99.8%	92.0%
Not in Good Standing	21.3%	6.5%	3.3%	1.8%	0.2%	8.0%

## Appendix A Detailed Outcomes

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Elsewhere in this report, all academic standing status codes are condensed into two summative categories: *In Good Standing* and *Not in Good Standing*. Table A1 below provides a tabulation of detailed status codes by university in AY2015. Here, the *Not in Good Standing* category is split into its three major components: *probation*, *suspended*, and *withdrawn*.

**Table A1**  
Detailed Outcomes by University, AY2015

Standing	BHSU	DSU	NSU	SDSMT	SDSU	USD	Total
Good Standing	5,631 89.82	3,663 90.53	3,378 89.74	4,442 92.54	20,536 91.74	13,028 94.14	50,678 91.97
Probation	330 5.26	179 4.42	235 6.24	255 5.31	1,274 5.69	428 3.09	2,701 4.90
Suspended	132 2.11	86 2.13	64 1.70	53 1.10	342 1.53	133 0.96	810 1.47
Withdrawn	176 2.81	118 2.92	87 2.31	50 1.04	233 1.04	250 1.81	914 1.66
Total	6,269 100.00	4,046 100.00	3,764 100.00	4,800 100.00	22,385 100.00	13,839 100.00	55,103 100.00