

# Summary of Academic Standards Changes

## Ouachita Baptist University

March 2024

At a faculty meeting on March 12, 2024, the faculty **approved** the following academic standards change.

Respectfully submitted,

The Curriculum and Academic Standards Committee

<p><b>ACADEMIC AFFAIRS</b> Academic Probation Policy</p>	<p><b>Change</b></p> <p>The academic probation and suspension policy will move from four tiers (Regular Academic Status, Probation I, Probation II, and Academic Suspension) to three tiers (Regular Academic Status, Academic Probation, and Academic Suspension).</p> <p>Instead of a sliding GPA scale to determine when a student is placed on Academic Probation, the standard of a semester GPA below 2.0 or a cumulative GPA between 1.7-2.0 will define this placement.</p> <p>Students placed on Academic Probation must enroll in ASKL 2001 Success Seminar and satisfy all requirements established by the Academic Success Center for every semester the student is on Academic Probation. A student on Academic Probation must not register for more than 16 hours in a semester, except by permission of the Associate Vice President for Student Success and Retention.</p> <p>Students will remain on academic probation with a semester GPA of at least 2.0 but cumulative GPA that remains below 2.0.</p> <p>Students will be placed on Academic Suspension any time the cumulative GPA falls below 1.700 or if a student already on Academic Probation earns a semester GPA below 2.0.</p> <p><b>Rationale</b></p> <p>These changes allow for a more streamlined process which is easier to follow than the current policy. It aligns with Financial Aid and helps with ethical stewardship by not allowing students to continue borrowing money to enroll in subsequent semesters when it is clear that requirements to attain Regular Academic Status cannot or will not be met. The updated policy will catch students in academic stress earlier and allow the Academic Success Center to step in and provide support resources needed to improve and succeed. Once implemented, the policy should help increase retention and graduation rates.</p>
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## Catalog Entry

### Academic Probation and Suspension

The Probation and Suspension policy described in this section applies to full-time, degree-seeking students.

A student with Regular Academic status will be **placed** on Academic Probation under these circumstances:

- The student earns a semester GPA below 2.000, *or*
- The student's cumulative GPA is at least 1.700 but less than 2.000.

A student on Academic Probation will **remain** on Academic Probation under these circumstances:

- The student's semester GPA is at least 2.000, *but*
- The student's cumulative GPA is still below 2.000.

A student will be placed on Academic Suspension under these circumstances:

- The student's cumulative GPA falls below 1.700, *or*
- The student is on Academic Probation and their semester GPA is below 2.000.

### Regaining Regular Academic Status

#### ***For students on Academic Probation:***

After being placed on Academic Probation, the student must, as a condition of registration, enroll in ASKL 2001 Success Seminar for every semester the student is on Academic Probation. The student must also satisfy all requirements established by the Academic Success Center (ASC), which includes participating in probation orientation to develop, implement, and complete an individualized academic success plan. A student on Academic Probation must not register for more than 16 hours in a semester, except by permission of the Associate Vice President for Student Success and Retention.

A student on Academic Probation may attain regular academic status by meeting all the following conditions:

1. Attain a semester and cumulative GPA of at least 2.000, to be calculated at the end of the relevant fall or spring semester.
2. Satisfy all requirements established by the Academic Success Center.
3. Maintain a minimum course load of 12 semester hours during the fall or spring semester under review.

Note: The number of hours required for graduation is increased by the number of hours taken in ASKL courses. In addition, a student on Academic Probation must repeat any courses with a D or F that are necessary for the student's degree program (see the section on "Repeating a Course" for more detail).

	<p><b><i>For students on Academic Suspension:</i></b></p> <p>After being placed on Academic Suspension, a student may apply for readmission following a lapse of at least one semester. At the discretion of the Deans' Council, however, a student whose semester work would result in Academic Suspension may be considered for immediate readmission. In all cases, written application to the Deans' Council for readmission must state reasons for desiring reinstatement and plans for remedying academic deficiencies. A student who has been suspended for academic reasons and readmitted to the University will be placed on Academic Probation.</p>
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