

## **Proposal to Change the Academic Probation Policy for Graduate Students**

### ***Current Policies:***

If a graduate student has less than a 2.85 cumulative grade-point average on 12 or more semester hours of graded course work taken in residence for graduate credit, the student will be placed on academic probation. The student will subsequently be dismissed from the Graduate School if the cumulative GPA is not raised to 2.85 or above on the next nine hours of graded graduate course work. [Note: A student could actually accumulate enough course hours to graduate before being dismissed.]

Graduate assistants must maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.85 on all course work taken for graduate credit. If a student's cumulative GPA falls below 2.85 on 12 or more hours of graduate work, notification will be sent to the student and his/her department. If the CGPA is below 2.85 at the end of the next semester, the department will not be allowed to appoint the student to an assistantship until such time as his/her CGPA has been raised to the required level.

### ***Policies Approved by the Graduate Council on 10/25/01:***

Whenever a regularly-admitted graduate student earns a cumulative grade point average below 2.85 on graded course work taken in residence for graduate credit, he/she will be warned of the possibility of academic dismissal. When a graduate student has accumulated a minimum of 15 hours of graded course work taken in residence for graduate credit with a cumulative grade point average below 2.85, and has received at least one warning, he/she will be academically dismissed from the Graduate School.

Graduate teaching and research assistants and students on Lever, Doctoral, or Chancellor fellowships must maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.85 on all course work taken for graduate credit. If a student's cumulative GPA falls below 2.85 on 6 or more hours of graduate work (one full-time semester), notification will be sent to the student and his/her department. If the CGPA is below 2.85 at the end of the next major semester (fall or spring), the department will not be allowed to appoint the student to an assistantship until such time as his/her CGPA has been raised to the required level.

### ***Related Policies:***

Eligibility for Financial Aid offered by the Office of Financial Aid (approved by the Graduate Council, 10/25/01): Students must complete, with grades of C or better, 67% of graduate courses attempted during the previous academic year to be eligible for continuing financial aid.

Course Grades: Course for which students have received a grade of "D" or "F" will not be accepted as meeting degree requirements.

Conditional Admissions: Students who have been conditionally admitted must maintain a minimum 2.85 grade point average on the first 12 hours of graded graduate course work taken in residence.

Grade Forgiveness and Repeated Courses: There is no grade forgiveness policy at the graduate level. If a student repeats a course, both the original and repeated course grade will be computed in the cumulative grade point average.

Additional Courses Above Requirements: Students in master's programs may take only 6 hours in addition to degree requirements in an effort to raise the grade point average necessary to graduate.

GPA Requirement to Receive a Doctoral Degree. Students must obtain a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average on all graded graduate course work taken in residence to receive a doctoral degree from the University of Arkansas.

Program Requirements: Individual degree programs may impose more stringent requirements than the Graduate School.

### Graduate Student Eligibility for Financial Aid through the Office of Financial Aid

Graduate students are eligible for continuing financial aid if:

- 1) they complete, with grades of C or better, 67% of graduate courses attempted during the previous academic year;
- 2) they have not yet completed more than 150% of the graduate credits required for their degree.

Students wishing to continue receiving financial aid who do not meet these requirements will petition an appeals committee of the Office of Financial Aid. This committee will make a recommendation to the Graduate Dean, who will have the final decision about whether financial aid will be extended.