**Minimum Standards**

**POLICY/PROCEDURE**

The faculty assumes that every student admitted to Dickinson will be able to qualify for graduation. However, the opportunity to continue at Dickinson is a privilege that a student must earn by academic achievement.

**QUALITATIVE STANDARDS**

All students must meet the minimum cumulative grade point average. First-year students must earn at least a 1.75 cumulative grade point average (gpa) in order to be in good academic standing. All other students must earn at least a 2.00 cumulative gpa to be in good academic standing. In order to graduate, a senior must have a minimum cumulative gpa of 2.00.

At the end of every grading period (fall, spring, summer), the Subcommittee on Academic Standards reviews student records and applies these standards on a case-by-case basis. Students with a cumulative gpa which falls below the applicable minimum will be required to withdraw. Students may petition the Subcommittee on Academic Standards for immediate return on academic probation (see Appeal of Required Withdrawal for Academic Reasons).

Any students with a semester gpa of 0.00 will be required to withdraw even if their cumulative grade point average remains above a 1.75 (first-year students) or above a 2.00 (upperclass students). When upper class students have a semester gpa below 2.00 for three consecutive semesters, they will be required to withdraw from the college, even if their cumulative grade point average remains above a 2.00.

First-year students with a semester average below 1.75, and a cumulative gpa of 1.75 or above will receive a letter of warning. Upper class students with a semester average below 2.00 and a cumulative gpa of 2.00 or above will receive a letter of warning.

**QUANTITATIVE STANDARDS**

Students must make satisfactory quantitative progress toward the completion of degree requirements. Quantitative progress is calculated by dividing the number of courses creditable toward graduation by the number of courses attempted. While not creditable toward graduation, courses with grades of W (withdrawal), I (Incomplete) and F or FA (failure) are calculated in the number of courses attempted. At the end of the spring grading period, the Subcommittee on Academic Standards reviews student records and applies these standards on a case-by-case basis.
Full-time students are normally expected to complete at least 4 courses each semester creditable towards graduation and to progress one grade level each year. A first-year student is anyone who has completed less than seven courses. A sophomore is anyone who has completed between seven and fourteen such courses. A junior is anyone who has completed between fifteen and twenty-two such courses. A senior is anyone who has completed more than twenty-three courses.

To meet the standard of satisfactory quantitative progress, students must have credit toward graduation for the following percentage of courses attempted:

First-year students - 60 percent  
Sophomores - 70 percent  
Juniors - 80 percent  
Seniors - 80 percent

Students who do not make satisfactory quantitative progress are placed on quantitative academic probation. If a student must withdraw from all courses attempted in a semester for health-related reasons, the Subcommittee on Academic Standards will waive academic probation status. A student on quantitative academic probation is required to develop and maintain an academic plan that will achieve satisfactory quantitative progress.

Students on quantitative academic probation are at risk of being required to withdraw from the college. Normally, while on quantitative academic probation, earning a grade of F, or withdrawing from a course or courses, will result in required withdrawal from the college. This remains true even if the cumulative GPA is above the college minimum (1.75 for first-year students; 2.00 for all other students).

Related Information

History/Revision Information

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