

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Ken Struckmeyer, Executive Secretary
Faculty Senate

FROM: Becky Bitter, Registrar's Office

DATE: 2 March 2012

SUBJECT: Proposal to Revise Academic Regulations 35, 38, 39, and 40

At its meeting on February 29, 2012, AAC approved the attached revisions to the academic deficiency regulations – numbers 35, 38, 39, and 40.

Members discussed the proposal with Susan Poch, Associate Dean of the University College, who reported that the changes to the rules are both for clarification and to make rule 39 less restrictive.

At this time, Faculty Senate review and approval is recommended, to be effective fall 2012.

MEMO

TO: Becky Bitter, Academic Affairs Committee
FROM: Susan Poch, Associate Dean, University College
Acting Director, Center for Advising and Career Development
DATE: February 17, 2012
SUBJECT: Changes to Academic Deficiency Rules

In January 2007 the Academic Advising and Reinstatement Sub-Committee of the Faculty Senate proposed rule changes to Academic Regulations 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, and 43. Prior to that time the academic regulations had not been updated for many years.

As the Center for Advising and Career Development (CACD) has been working with the academic deficiency rules, it has become clear that additional revisions need to be made. More specifically, we have found a need to be more explicit and less restrictive with the academic regulations.

Attached are proposed revisions to Academic Regulations 35, 38, 39 and 40. The primary reason for revision to Academic Regulation 35 is to clarify current practice. Students who are academically deficient and who have been reinstated have been considered to be in good academic standing, yet Regulation 35 does not specifically state that. We're simply making things clear.

Academic Regulation 38 revisions primarily are editorial and explanatory. There is no functional change to the current rule, which aims to make a positive connection with students *the first time* they are deficient (semester or cumulative gpa below 2.0). Additionally, the revision clarifies that students who are reinstated and allowed to continue enrollment are on academic probation.

The proposed revision to Academic Regulation 39 allows more students to continue enrollment in most circumstances without having to participate in the reinstatement process. CACD sees a number of students who may have a couple of difficult semesters but whose cumulative gpa is still above 2.0. With the current rule, those students would be considered academically deficient and dismissed from the University. The proposed revision would not dismiss those students but allow them to persist toward graduation. Finally, Academic Regulation 40 simply explains what actions need to be taken to return to WSU after being dismissed.

We feel that these regulation revisions will aid in student persistence toward graduation.

Academic Deficiency Regulations – Rules 38, 39, 40
Draft Revisions/Proposed Additions

Current Rule 35

Washington State University expects students to maintain academic standards of excellence and make satisfactory academic progress toward their degree objectives. Undergraduate students are in good academic standing if both their current WSU semester and cumulative grade point averages are 2.00 or above. Students not meeting the criteria above are considered academically deficient.

Proposed Rule 35 – Revision

Washington State University expects students to maintain academic standards of excellence and make satisfactory academic progress toward their degree objectives. Undergraduate students are in good academic standing if both their current WSU semester and cumulative grade point averages are 2.00 or above, and/or they are eligible to be enrolled. Students not meeting the criteria above are considered academically deficient.

Current Rule 38

An undergraduate (undeclared or certified major) who at the end of any one semester has failed to maintain a 2.00 semester and/or cumulative grade point average is considered academically deficient. The student must complete an application and an interview through the Center for Advising and Career development, on the Pullman campus, WSU Online, or designated office on other campuses. Reinstatement will be considered based on the application and interview. A certified major who has been interviewed and reinstated may be decertified by the department.

Proposed Rule 38 – Revision

Undergraduate students whose semester (excluding summer session) or cumulative grade point average drops below a 2.0 for the first time must apply for reinstatement to continue their enrollment at Washington State University. Students are placed on academic probation after reinstatement. Certified majors on academic probation may be decertified by the academic department.

Current Rule 39

An undergraduate student who, at the end of any two semesters at WSU, has failed to maintain a 2.00 semester or cumulative grade point average will be dismissed from the university. For process see Rule 40.

Proposed Rule 39 – Revision

Undergraduate students are dismissed from the University after the third semester (excluding summer session) in which the cumulative grade point average is below 2.0. Individuals who are dismissed from the University may not enroll in courses at WSU, including on-line and branch campus courses, for two full academic semesters. Dismissed individuals will also not be able to seek status as a 'non-degree seeking student.'

Current Rule 40

Students who are dismissed from the University are required to remain out of WSU for at least one academic year. All students seeking reinstatement must provide, as part of the application for readmission, documentation that demonstrates improved academic performance at the college level and/or a readiness for academic success at WSU. All academic coursework during the time away from WSU is required to be documented and transcripts submitted. Dismissed students who apply for reinstatement after one semester will be granted reinstatement only when unusual extenuating circumstances are present. In all cases, written documentation to support the application is required.

Proposed Rule 40 – Revision

Former students may seek reinstatement after two semesters by completing the academic reinstatement petition process. Former students petitioning for academic reinstatement must, as part of the reinstatement petition process, provide documentation that demonstrates potential for academic success at WSU. If seeking reinstatement after more than two semesters, former students must also apply for readmission to the University

through the Office of Admissions. All academic coursework from other institutions completed during dismissed status must be documented and official transcripts submitted to the Office of Admissions.