

Las Positas College
Office of Veterans Affairs

Academic Standards of Progress

The academic standards of progress appearing in this bulletin apply only to veterans, reservists and other eligible persons attending Las Positas College while claiming educational assistance from the Department of Veterans Affairs. (DVA) These academic standards are in addition to those stated in the college catalog.

POLICY

The primary purpose of educational benefits is to assist students in achieving an educational objective. Therefore, academic status is an index of a student's academic eligibility for continued enrollment and certification for educational benefits. A minimum of twelve units or a pro-rata number of units for less than full-time enrollment must be satisfactorily completed each term. There are three conditions of academic progress:

1. Good Standing
2. Warning Status
3. Unsatisfactory Progress Status

EVALUATION SYSTEM

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Value</u>
A	Excellent	4 grade points per unit
B	Above Average	3 grade points per unit
C	Average	2 grade points per unit
D	Barely Passing	1 grade point per unit
F	Failure	0 grade point per unit (<i>subject to 'Withdrawal determination'</i>)
CR	Credit	2 grade points per unit
NC	No Credit	0 grade points per unit (<i>subject to 'Withdrawal determination'</i>)
I	Incomplete	0 grade points per unit
IP	In Progress	0 grade points per unit

PUNITIVE VS. NONPUNITIVE GRADES

A “**nonpunitive**” grade is any grade assigned for a course resulting in a withdrawal during the *No Grade of Record* period; such grades do not appear on a student's transcript. The law prohibits payment of benefits for a course from which a student earns a nonpunitive grade, and V.A. will require a repayment of such funds received for courses assigned non-punitive grades. Payments may be allowed, however, if the student submits evidence of acceptable mitigating circumstances which documents why course(s) could not be completed and/or creditable grade(s) assigned.

All other grades which appear on the student's transcript are considered by the VA as **PUNITIVE**, including **NC, I, or IP**. ‘**Punitive grades**’ are defined for VA purposes as any grade assigned for a course which has the effect of including the course for consideration 1) in determining progress toward fulfillment of graduation requirements or 2) for determining progress probation or dismissal.

The VA Certifying Office must report a change in status for students who stopped attending; withdrawal "W" grade would be considered non-punitive unless mitigating circumstance documentation is provided (see Veterans Specialist on mitigating circumstances). The student would only be eligible for payment through the last day of attendance.

GOOD STANDING

A student in good standing is eligible to continue enrollment and is free from academic disqualification. Eligibility shall be determined by the quality of performance and progress toward the student's academic objective. Such eligibility shall be determined by means of a grade point scale based on the grades and grade point values earned.

WARNING STATUS

Students will be placed on "Warning Status" for the following reasons:

1. Failure to earn twice as many satisfactory grade points as all units certified for educational benefits during a term.
2. Continuous failure to progress toward an objective, when such failure appears to be within the students control.

UNSATISFACTORY PROGRESS STATUS

Students will be placed on "Unsatisfactory Progress Status" and certification of enrollment will be terminated effective the end of the term for the following reasons:

1. While on "Warning Status", the student fails to earn twice as many satisfactory grade points as units certified for educational benefits during a term.
2. Academic Dismissal or Poor Progress Dismissal from college.

Please note that students lose their certification for Veterans benefits after two consecutive semesters of failure to make satisfactory academic progress.

REINSTATEMENT

Students may regain eligibility for Veterans benefits after dismissal by doing one or more of the following, based on the reason for dismissal:

1. Completing not less than six units with a 2.0 GPA or higher during one semester;
2. Raising their cumulative GPA to a 2.0 or higher

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Las Positas College Veterans Information brochure and the College Catalog provides information on basic eligibility requirements, student responsibilities, evaluation of prior credit, declaring academic objectives, variable-unit courses, withdrawal from classes and repetition of courses.