Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is Probation Status?

Academic Probation
A student who has attempted at least 12 semester units, as recorded on their official college transcript, is placed on academic probation if the student has earned below a cumulative 2.0 (C) grade point average.

OR

Progress Probation
A student who has enrolled in a total of at least 12 semester units, as recorded on their official college transcript is placed on progress probation when the percentage of all units recorded as W, I, NP and NC reaches or exceeds 50 percent. (See calendar for deadline dates for withdrawal).

What is Probation 2?

Academic Probation 2
A student who has attempted at least 12 semester units, as recorded on their official college transcript, is placed on academic probation if the student has earned below a cumulative 2.0 (C) grade point average for 2 consecutive semesters.

OR

Progress Probation 2
A student who has enrolled in a total of at least 12 semester units, as recorded on their official college transcript, is placed on progress probation when the percentage of all units recorded as W, I, NP and NC reaches or exceeds 50 percent for 2 consecutive semesters.

What is Dismissal Status?

A student in probationary status shall be subject to dismissal if in any two subsequent semesters either or both of the following criteria are applicable: GPA below 1.75 and/or satisfactory progress reaches or exceeds 50%.

I’ve been placed on dismissal for the first time, now what?

Students placed on dismissal status are required complete the reinstatement process. 1) Meet with a counselor at the beginning of the semester, 2) Attend the Student Success Conference 3) Submit a Mid Semester Progress Report (MSPR) to their counselor between weeks 9-13 of the semester.

Why are dismissal students limited to 3-6 units?

It takes 3 semesters of substandard progress to be dismissed. Many students reach this point by taking on more courses than they can reasonably be expected to handle, and have done so for several semesters. Limiting units allows them to focus on necessary coursework and increase the likelihood of success.
NOTE: After 2 semesters on dismissal standing with no progress, the student may be asked to sit out for one full semester (not including summer).

**If I’m limited to 6 units, can I take more units through COOP?**

You will not be permitted to add COOP to raise your unit level above 6 units. COOP is treated as another regular course.

**What if I need 12 units for health insurance, Financial Aid, or other programs/services? Can I be exempt from the unit limitations?**

Students should contact the Student Success Coordinator, Alberto Santellan.

**What if a student disagrees with our assessment?**

Our current practice is that the student’s case is brought to the attention to the Student Success Program Coordinator, Alberto Santellan. If the Student Success Program Coordinator agrees with the counselor’s assessment and the student is still not satisfied, their case then goes to the Dean of Counseling.

**If I’m dismissed from the San Mateo County Community College district, can I attend other colleges such as City College of San Francisco?**

Yes

**Does dismissal mean that I can’t come back?**

No. You may be required to sit out one full semester (not including summer) when you are on dismissal for 2 semesters. Thereafter, you can come back to Skyline College. However, you are required follow the dismissal reinstatement process to be reinstated.

**If I’m on dismissal, why do I have to meet with a counselor every semester twice to be able to register for classes?**

Students on dismissal must meet with a counselor twice every semester until they get back into good academic standing. One of these meetings will be at the beginning of the semester and the other between week 9-13 to submit your Mid Semester Progress Report (MSPR). The purpose of the counselor appointments and MSPR is to 1) monitor your semester’s progress and 2) provide you with any necessary services and resources that can assist you in your classes.
If I earn an F or D, do I have to repeat the same class or can I take another class to replace that grade?

In order to replace a substandard grade (D or F), you must repeat the same class. (i.e. HIST 201 will not replace a grade from HIST 202 even though it is a US History requirement). However, you can take the same course with a different instructor.

What is the repeat policy?

A student may attempt a course designated as non-repeatable for a maximum of three times. As a result of this enrollment limitation, students’ decision to repeat or withdraw from courses may have serious implications and affect their educational planning. If you exceed the maximum attempts for repeats, Websmart will not let you register for the class. For more information of the repeat policy, please refer to the College Catalog or consult with a counselor.

My counselor told me that I was a “recalled” student and some of my classes were dropped. What does it mean to be a “recalled” student?

“Recalled” students are defined as those students who have registered for more than the allowable units based on their academic standing. “Recalled” students are notified to meet with a Student Success Program counselor to modify and revise their schedule to provide the most effective educational plan to succeed. “Recalled” students who do not make the mandatory appointment may be dropped from all of their classes.

As a probation or dismissal student, do I receive priority registration?

To receive a priority registration date, students must be in “good standing”. The state defines “good standing” as students who are not on academic/progress probation (for two consecutive semesters) or on dismissal. If you are on probation for two consecutive semesters or on dismissal, you will not receive a priority registration date. You will be able to register after the priority registration process is completed (which is about two weeks long).

For more information regarding the Student Success Program, please email Alberto Santellan, Student Success Program Coordinator, at SantellanA@smccd.edu.