Academic Standing for Undergraduate Students

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The rules on this page apply for All Students Except UNSW Canberra Students. See this page on Rules for UNSW Canberra students.

Academic standing indicates your current progress toward completion of your program. UNSW has defined 8 categories of academic standing for undergraduate students. Each category has an impact on progression (enrolment) in a program.

This page describes what each level of academic standing means for undergraduate students. In all cases your standing at the end of the current semester/term is determined using your academic standing at the end of the previous semester/term, together with your academic achievement for the current semester/term. Any results obtained in the Summer Term will be included in the calculation of your academic standing for Term 1.

This page also tells you how your achievements in the following term will affect your standing.
Please be aware that grades of PW (Permitted Withdrawal) and AW (Academic Withdrawal) are treated as fail grades when calculating academic standing.

Poor academic performance following a Suspension period will result in your academic standing moving to Exclusion.

Quick reference guide

Here you can find guides to rules for undergraduate academic standing.

If you have difficulty using the tables, please refer to the below 'Guide to your academic standing' or see the PDF version of this page.

Rules for UNSW Sydney

NOTE: Below is a quick reference guide to the rules for academic standing. For a more detailed explanation of the rules please refer to this 2019 Guide to Academic Standing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic standing in previous semester</th>
<th>Nil progress (more than 6 UOC attempted &amp; 0 UOC passed)</th>
<th>Poor progress (more than 0 UOC attempted &amp; up to 50% passed)</th>
<th>Satisfactory progress (more than 0 UOC attempted &amp; more than 50% passed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Probation</td>
<td>Referral</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referral</td>
<td>Probation</td>
<td>Probation</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probation</td>
<td>Suspension</td>
<td>Suspension</td>
<td>Referral</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suspension</td>
<td>Exclusion</td>
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<td>Probation</td>
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<td>Exclusion</td>
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<td>Probation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provisional Suspension</td>
<td>Suspension</td>
<td>Suspension</td>
<td>Referral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisional Exclusion</td>
<td>Exclusion</td>
<td>Exclusion</td>
<td>Referral</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Guide to your academic standing

Here you can find out what needs to happen if your academic standing level is:

GOOD
You are making good progress. UNSW has no concerns.

What happens next term?

- If you enrol in the next term and pass more than 50% of your attempted load, your academic standing at the end of that term will remain GOOD.
- If you enrol in the next term and pass up to 50% of your attempted load, your academic standing at the end of that term will become REFERRAL.
- If you enrol in more than 6 units of credit in the next term and pass none of the attempted load, your academic standing at the end of that term will become PROBATION.

REFERRAL

UNSW is concerned about your progress.

What happens now?

You must consult your Academic Advisor. We also strongly encourage you to contact these support services for advice on ways to improve your academic performance.

What happens next term?

- Your enrolment next term is subject to the approval of your Academic Advisor, and you must not finalise your enrolment without contacting them. The courses you are currently enrolled in for the next term may not be appropriate and you may not be permitted to remain enrolled in some courses.
- If you enrol in the next term and pass more than 50% of your attempted load, your academic standing at the end of that term will become GOOD.
- If you enrol in the next term and pass up to 50% of your attempted load, your academic standing at the end of that term will become PROBATION.
- If you enrol in more than 6 units of credit in the next term and pass none of the attempted load, your academic standing at the end of that term will become PROBATION.

PROBATION

UNSW is very concerned about your progress.

What happens now?

You must consult your Academic Advisor. We also strongly encourage you to contact these support services for advice on ways to improve your academic performance.

What happens next term?

- Your enrolment next term is subject to the approval of your Academic Advisor and you must not finalise your enrolment without contacting them. The courses you are currently enrolled in for the next term may not be appropriate and you may not be permitted to remain enrolled in some courses.
- If you enrol in the next term and pass more than 50% of your attempted load, your academic standing at the end of that term will become REFERRAL.
- If you enrol in the next term and pass up to 50% of your attempted load, your academic standing at the end of that term will become SUSPENSION.
- If you enrol in more than 6 units of credit in the next term and pass none of the attempted load, your academic standing at the end of that term will become SUSPENSION.

PROVISIONAL SUSPENSION

UNSW is extremely concerned about your progress and believes that unless you address the issues that are affecting
your academic progress, you will be suspended next term.

After the official release of results, students whose late or withheld marks would have placed them on an academic standing level of Suspension, will instead be assigned a standing level of Provisional Suspension. Provisional Suspension is treated similarly to Probation when calculating standing for future terms.

What happens now?

You are permitted to continue with your studies but must consult your Academic Advisor. We also strongly encourage you to contact these support services for advice on ways to improve your academic performance.

What happens next term?

- Your enrolment next term is subject to the approval of your Academic Advisor and you must not finalise your enrolment without contacting them. The courses you are currently enrolled in for the next term may not be appropriate and you may not be permitted to remain enrolled in some courses.
- If you enrol in the next term and pass more than 50% of your attempted load, your academic standing at the end of that term will become REFERRAL.
- If you enrol in the next term and pass up to 50% of your attempted load, your academic standing at the end of that term will become SUSPENSION.
- If you enrol in more than 6 units of credit in the next term and pass none of the attempted load, your academic standing at the end of that term will become SUSPENSION.

PROVISIONAL EXCLUSION

UNSW is extremely concerned about your progress and believes that unless you address the issues that are affecting your academic progress you will be excluded next term.

After the official release of results, students whose late or withheld marks would have placed them on an academic standing level of Exclusion, will instead be assigned a standing level of Provisional Exclusion. Provisional Exclusion is treated similarly to Probation when calculating standing for future terms.

What happens now?

You are permitted to continue with your studies but must consult your Academic Advisor. We also strongly encourage you to contact these support services for advice on ways to improve your academic performance.

What happens next term?

- Your enrolment next term is subject to the approval of your Academic Advisor and you must not finalise your enrolment without contacting them. The courses you are currently enrolled in for the next term may not be appropriate and you may not be permitted to remain enrolled in some courses.
- If you enrol in the next term and pass more than 50% of your attempted load, your academic standing at the end of that term will become REFERRAL.
- If you enrol in the next term and pass up to 50% of your attempted load, your academic standing at the end of that term will become EXCLUSION.
- If you enrol in more than 6 units of credit in the next term and pass none of the attempted load, your academic standing at the end of that term will become EXCLUSION.

SUSPENSION

UNSW is extremely concerned about your progress and believes that a break in your studies is required in order to deal with the issues and problems that are affecting your academic progress.

What happens next?

Following your return from SUSPENSION:
If you enrol in the next term and pass **more than 50%** of your attempted load, your academic standing at the end of that term will become **PROBATION**.

If you enrol in the next term and pass **up to 50%** of your attempted load, your academic standing at the end of that term will become **EXCLUSION**.

If you enrol in **more than 6** units of credit in the next term and pass **none** of the attempted load, your academic standing at the end of that term will become **EXCLUSION**.

Please be aware that poor academic performance following a Suspension period will result in your academic standing moving to Exclusion.

**Can I study a different program if suspended?**

No. Academic standing is determined at the career level (i.e. undergraduate or postgraduate), rather than at the program level. As a result, if you are suspended from one program you cannot apply to study another program during the period of suspension.

**Do you want to appeal?**

- How to appeal suspension or exclusion

**Re-admission**

Suspension means that you are not permitted to re-enrol for a period of not less than one academic year, but you have automatic right of re-admission to the same program. However, if after the period of suspension you wish to undertake a program other than the one you were enrolled in, you will have to re-apply for admission in the usual manner. See Admissions information.

**EXCLUSION**

UNSW has serious concerns about your ability to complete your program. You have previously been assigned an academic standing level of **SUSPENSION**, which is why your academic standing level is now **EXCLUSION**.

**What happens next?**

You are excluded from the University for not less than 2 academic years and you must re-apply for re-admission at the end of the exclusion period. See Admissions information.

**Can I study a different program if excluded?**

Academic standing is determined at the career level (i.e. undergraduate or postgraduate), rather than at the program level. As a result, if you are excluded from one program you cannot apply to study another program during the period of exclusion.

**Do you want to appeal?**

- How to appeal suspension or exclusion

**Re-admission**

If you are re-admitted to UNSW following your period of exclusion:

- If you enrol in the next term and pass **more than 50%** of your attempted load, your academic standing at the end of that term will become **PROBATION**.
- If you enrol in the next term and pass **up to 50%** of your attempted load, your academic standing at the end of that term will become **EXCLUSION**.
- If you enrol in **more than 6** units of credit in the next term and pass **none** of the attempted load, your academic
standing at the end of that term will become EXCLUSION.

**PENDING**

- A standing of PENDING means that your academic standing cannot be calculated because of late or withheld results. Academic standing is re-calculated on a regular basis - shortly after your results are finalised, your academic standing will be adjusted accordingly.
- If you still have unfinalised grades (WD, WC and LE) on the date when academic standing is finalised, these grades will be converted to NC (Not Completed) and treated as failures when your academic standing is finalised for the term.

**How to improve your academic performance**

These support services can help you improve your academic standing.

- **For issues with academic and educational performance**
  - Student Support and Success

- **For all your referencing, writing and academic skills support**
  - Learning Centre