Please note: The rules on this page apply from 2021 onwards (including Summer Term of 2021).

The rules for 2020 are available on the pre-2021 rules page.

This page explains academic standing for undergraduate students. Academic standing is the key mechanism by which a student’s progress in their program is monitored at the conclusion of each term or semester. There are 9 categories of academic standing for undergraduate students. Each category has an impact on progression (enrolment) in a program.

Your academic standing is determined using your academic standing at the end of the previous term/semester in which you were enrolled, together with your academic achievement for the current term/semester. Any results obtained in the Summer Term/Semester are included in the calculation of your academic standing for Term/Semester 1.

Please be aware that grades of AW (Academic Withdrawal) are treated as fail grades when calculating academic standing. You can see how grades of PW (Permitted Withdrawal) are treated here.

Term 2, 2021 – Rule change due to Greater Sydney Lockdown and COVID-19
For Term 2 2021, failed courses will appear on your official UNSW transcript and will be included in the calculation of both your WAM and academic standing, in line with standard practice.

However, given the continuing uncertainty, students will not be academically Suspended, Excluded or Terminated at the end of Term 2 2021. Students whose Term 2 results would normally have placed them on academic Suspension or Exclusion will instead be given an academic standing level of Provisional Suspension or Provisional Exclusion.

If you have an academic standing level of Provisional Suspension or Provisional Exclusion, you are permitted to continue studying in Term 3 2021, however you must seek academic advice as further fails in Term 3 2021 may result in you being Suspended or Excluded.

Quick reference guide

Below is a quick reference guide to the rules for undergraduate academic standing.

For more explanation of your academic standing level, as well as the implications involved, see this Guide to understanding your academic standing.

How is progress defined

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nil Progress</th>
<th>more than 6 units of credit attempted, and no units of credit passed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poor Progress</td>
<td>more than 0 units of credit attempted, and less than 50% passed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfactory Progress</td>
<td>more than 0 units of credit attempted and 50% or more passed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Academic Standing Rules effective from 2021 onwards (including Summer Term of 2021)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic standing in previous term</th>
<th>Satisfactory progress</th>
<th>Poor progress</th>
<th>Nil progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Academic Risk Level 1</td>
<td>Academic Risk Level 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Risk Level 1 (was Referral)</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Academic Risk Level 2</td>
<td>Academic Risk Level 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Risk Level 2 (was Probation)</td>
<td>Academic Risk Level 1</td>
<td>Academic Risk Level 3</td>
<td>Academic Risk Level 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Risk Level 3</td>
<td>Academic Risk Level 2</td>
<td>Suspension</td>
<td>Suspension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suspension*</td>
<td>Academic Risk Level 3</td>
<td>Academic Risk Level 4</td>
<td>Academic Risk Level 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Risk Level 4</td>
<td>Academic Risk Level 3</td>
<td>Exclusion*</td>
<td>Exclusion*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exclusion</td>
<td>Academic Risk Level 3</td>
<td>Academic Risk Level 4</td>
<td>Academic Risk Level 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisional Suspension</td>
<td>Academic Risk Level 2</td>
<td>Suspension</td>
<td>Suspension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisional Exclusion</td>
<td>Academic Risk Level 3</td>
<td>Exclusion*</td>
<td>Exclusion*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Once you have served a period of suspension, further poor performance will lead to Exclusion. You cannot be suspended twice
For a more detailed description of your academic standing level, as well as the implications involved, see this Guide to understanding your academic standing.