

William Paterson University Policy Academic Policy

SUBJECT:	Adjustment of Low GPA for Returning Students	TITLE:	Academic Forgiveness		
CATEGORY: Check One	Board of Trustees <input type="checkbox"/>	University <input type="checkbox"/>	Functional <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	School/Unit <input type="checkbox"/>	
Responsible Executive:	Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs		Responsible Office:	Office of the Provost	
CODING:	02-20-01	ADOPTED:		AMENDED: [date amended]	4/15/2024
			LAST REVIEWED: 4/15/2024		

PURPOSE

This policy describes criteria and procedures for the exclusion of grades from the cumulative GPA for readmitted undergraduate students who did not meet satisfactory academic standards when previously enrolled at the university.

ACCOUNTABILITY

The Office of the Provost is responsible for enforcement of this policy

POLICY

The Academic Forgiveness policy is applicable to former William Paterson students who left the university two or more years ago with a cumulative GPA of less than 2.0 and who meet one of the following criteria: a) subsequently completed twenty-four credits at an accredited institution of higher learning with a GPA of at least 2.0 and/or earned ACE-affirmed Credit for Prior Learning equivalency for professional training totaling at least 24 credits; or, b) subsequently graduated from a county or community college or other accredited two year institution (or four year institution if seeking a second degree); or, c) successfully petition for consideration of professional experience during time away from formal study (see below). Students for whom this policy is applied will be eligible to have prior William Paterson grades below C excluded from their cumulative grade point average following readmission. The Academic Forgiveness policy will be granted only once and will not apply if a student withdraws from all courses following readmission.

PROCEDURES

Following readmission, grades eligible for exclusion will be identified and removed from the cumulative University GPA calculation.

Students who wish to petition for consideration of professional experience during time away from formal study under criteria (c) above must petition the Dean of the College of Adult & Professional Studies detailing how they believe that their professional experiences during their time away from formal study have prepared them for academic success. The petition must detail specific skills and accomplishments they gained during their time away and speak to their planned educational pathway (major, etc.).

Grades excluded from the GPA remain on the transcript and credits for those courses count toward program completion.

The cumulative GPA calculated after exclusion of qualified grades is the GPA used for determination of academic honors, eligibility for university scholarships, and minimum GPA required for graduation.

Program specific minimum grade requirements may apply to excluded grades.

The Academic Forgiveness policy does not supersede financial aid regulations. Grades excluded from the academic transcript GPA may not be excluded in the calculation of Satisfactory Academic Progress for Financial Aid purposes. Students should consult with the Financial Aid Office on all questions regarding financial aid qualification.

By Direction of the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date: 04/15/2024