



FINANCIAL AID POLICIES — SECTION 800

NUMBER: **811**

SUBJECT: **Veteran Student Financial Aid Eligibility Policy**

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPROVAL: 7/5/2022

BOARD APPROVAL: 8/17/2022

1.1 VETERAN STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

Standards of Progress, Attendance and Probationary Policy

Veteran students receiving VA financial aid, and enrolled in a program at MTECH are also required to comply with all policies and rules of the school, as well as those of the Utah SAA (State Approving Agency) and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

1.1.1 Satisfactory Progress

Satisfactory progress toward completion of the program is required for all eligible students to continue receiving veterans' benefits. Satisfactory progress is the ongoing demonstration that training is being completed at a rate that will allow graduation within the approved length of the program. The satisfactory progress standard is at least 70% or a GPA of 2.0. **(Or the higher rate of the institution)**. If progress is not satisfactory in any measured portion of the program, approved term, semester or 1 month for clock hour courses, the student must be notified of such and placed on probation for the next term, at which time the progress must be reevaluated. If satisfactory improvement is not made by the end of this probationary period, VA educational benefits must be terminated.

1.1.2 Satisfactory Improvement

To determine satisfactory improvement, the student must bring their GPA or progress up to 70% or 2.0 by the end of the probationary period. However, in instances where it is mathematically impossible for the student to do so within one term or period, discretion may be made on the part of the Certifying Official. If significant progress has been made, then one more probationary period may be allowed before benefits are terminated. Significant progress would be an average of 90% (3.0) or higher. If the student does fit this criteria, and after two probationary terms it is still mathematically impossible to get to the 2.0 standard, contact the SAA for case by case review of a third probationary term.

1.1.3 Attendance

Good attendance is critical to successful completion of any program, for institutions that have an attendance policy and all clock hour programs, all students must maintain at least an 80% attendance rate **(or the higher rate set by the institution)** to continue receiving VA benefits. If more than 20% of the hours are missed in a period or term **(monthly for clock hour programs)**, the student must be placed on probation for the following period/term or month. If more than 20% of program hours during the probationary period are missed, VA benefits must be terminated.

1.1.4 Probation

When a student is placed on probation, the Certifying Official must be aware of this and have access to the written notice of probation that is sent to the student. If the institution does not automatically send a probationary notice to the student, it is the responsibility of the certifying official to send a letter to the student explaining the reason for probation, the probationary period and that benefits will be terminated if progress is not made. Progress and attendance (if applicable) must be reviewed by the Certifying Official at the end of every term, semester or 30-day period.

1.1.4.1 Recertification after Probation

Once a student achieves the standards and is removed from probationary status, they may be certified for the upcoming period or term. If they do not meet the standards and benefits are terminated but they continue into the next term and make progress, they may be certified for the next upcoming term. However, no certifying in arrears is authorized. In this case, the students did not meet the standard during that term and therefore will not be eligible for benefits for it. The student may only regain the benefit once they have met the approved standards.