



## Policy ACAD 02: Academic Standing

### 1.0 Purpose

This document sets out SKG's policies and processes for determining the academic standing of SKG's students.

A student's academic standing determines whether a student can remain enrolled in an SKG program, and whether there are any conditions that a student must meet in order to remain enrolled.

### 2.0 Definitions

"Academic session" means the Fall/Winter or Summer term of an academic year, or a term of a program if the program is organized in terms other than Fall/Winter or Summer.

"Cumulative average" means the average (mean) grade received in all courses for which a grade has been assigned, excluding lower grades of courses that have been repeated.

"Session average" means the average (mean) grade received in all courses in the current academic session for which a grade has been assigned.

"Director of Academics" means the President of SKG, or an individual designated by the President, who is responsible to administer SKG's academic mission, regardless of the title of that position.

"Student" means an individual registered in a course or program of study at SKG, whether full-time or part-time. "SKG student" means a student admitted to a program of study at SKG.

"SKG" means Shingwauk Kinooamaage Gamig.

**Commented [PG1]:** This means the policy would apply to AU students taking SKG courses as part of their AU programs.

### 3.0 Academic standing and supports for SKG students

SKG's policy concerning academic standing strives for a balance between protecting the academic value and integrity of SKG's programs and providing a learning environment in which SKG students are supported so that they can successfully complete their programs.

When SKG students are having difficulties in achieving learning outcomes (as shown by the grades they have received), SKG is committed to provide supports and/or help students find supports that may help them to succeed in their programs.

SKG's commitment to support its students is reflected in the requirement set out below for SKG's Director of Academics (or designate named by the Director of Academics) to interact with SKG students whose grade average is between 50 percent and 60 per cent to provide or refer them to academic supports, and the requirement for these students to enter an agreement with SKG to make use of these supports in order to continue in their programs.

#### **4.0 Explanation of the determination of academic standing**

A student's academic standing is determined by a session average and/or by a cumulative average.

- Please see the definitions of these averages in the definition section of this policy.
- Sections of this policy below explain how specific averages are used in determination of academic standing.

The cumulative average is also used for the purposes of determining a student's eligibility to graduate and for academic honours that SKG may award at graduation.

The initial assessment average is calculated at the end of the academic session in which students have completed a minimum of three full-course equivalents for which grades have been assigned. Thereafter, the cumulative and session averages are calculated at the end of each academic session.

##### *Use of transfer credits in determination of academic standing for SKG students*

Transfer credits from Algoma University are included in the cumulative average or assessment average of SKG students.

Transfer credits from other institutions are *not* included in the cumulative average or assessment average of SKG students.

##### *Determination of academic standing for transfer students*

Academic standing of transfer students (students enrolled in another postsecondary institution taking transfer credits at SKG) for the purposes of standing at SKG will be determined only by the transfer student's grades in SKG courses.

"Program" for the purposes of this section means the program to which an SKG student has been admitted, or courses for transfer credit for transfer students.

#### **5.0 Academic standing**

Students shall be in one of four categories of academic standing:

1. Good Standing;
2. Conditional Standing;
3. Academic Suspension; and
4. Suspension—Academic Misconduct.

##### **5.1 Good Standing**

A student is in Good Standing if their cumulative average is 60% or higher. A student in good standing is eligible to proceed in their program.

## **5.2 Conditional Standing**

A student is placed on Conditional Standing if their cumulative average is 50%–59.9% or if they are returning from Academic Suspension.

To be eligible to proceed in their program, an SKG student placed on Conditional Standing must agree to and fulfill the terms of an agreement reached between the student and the Director of Academics (or a designate named by the Director of Academics) concerning use of academic supports and/or services, or other measures to support the student's success such as a reduced course load.

The student's standing will be reviewed at the conclusion of each academic session in which they are enrolled.

Upon the next assessment of their cumulative average at the end of an academic session, the student will:

- Have their Conditional Standing lifted and return to Good Standing if their cumulative average is 60% or higher; or
- Continue on Conditional Standing if their cumulative average is 50–59.9% and their session average is above 49.9%; or
- Be placed on Academic Suspension if their cumulative average OR session average is less than 50%.

The student may continue on Conditional Standing for a maximum of two calendar years.

- This limit may be appealed; see the section of this policy concerning appeals.

## **5.3 Academic Suspension**

A student shall be suspended from SKG if:

- The student's cumulative average is less than 50%, or
- The student had been on Conditional Standing and the student's session average OR their cumulative average was less than 50% upon the assessment at the end of the academic session, or
- The student had been on Conditional Standing for two calendar years and their cumulative average is less than 60%.

First Academic Suspension: Students are suspended from SKG for one calendar year.

Second Academic Suspension: If a student is suspended a second time, the student will be suspended from SKG for one calendar year (a second time).

Third Academic Suspension: The student will be debarred from SKG.

For readmission to SKG after a second Academic Suspension or Debarment, students must provide persuasive evidence that they are ready and able to complete the program for which

they seek readmission. The Director of Academics will make a determination about whether to re-admit the student, and about any reasonable conditions on re-admission.

#### **5.4 Suspension—Academic Misconduct**

Students may be placed on suspension by the Director of Academics for repeated violations of SKG's Academic Integrity and Misconduct Policy.

#### **6.0 Continuing post-secondary studies during Suspension**

SKG students who are on suspension will not be awarded transfer credits for the duration of a suspension from SKG. Studies completed at another post-secondary institution during the term of suspension may be considered as a basis for readmission to SKG but will not be eligible for transfer credit consideration.

#### **7.0 Appeals of decisions concerning academic standing**

Students may appeal some decisions concerning academic standing.

Students may appeal:

- An Academic Suspension,
  - Including an appeal to remain in Conditional Standing for longer than two calendar years,
- Recognition of transfer credits earned while on Suspension, and
- A Suspension for Academic Misconduct.

Students shall use the process set out in SKG's policy ACAD 10 Student Appeals to launch an appeal, and the appeal shall be conducted according to that policy.

#### **8.0 Related Policies, Procedures & Documents**

ACAD 06 Academic Conduct and Integrity

ACAD 10 Student Appeals

SKG's policies and procedures may be found on its website.

#### **9.0 Responsible Officer**

Director of Academics

#### **10.0 Version history**

Board's approval pending recommendation of Academic Advisory Circle: December 2023

Recommended by Academic Advisory Circle:      ADD DATE when completed

Approved by Board:                      ADD DATE when approved

Original Approval Date:      ADD DATE of first approval

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SKG gratefully acknowledges that parts of this policy are patterned on those of Trent University and Lakehead University.