

Special Education Graduate Student Dismissal Policy

I. Purpose

The Department of Special Education (DSE) is committed to maintaining high academic and professional standards while providing structured advising, early intervention, and transparent due process for graduate students.

This policy establishes **program-specific academic progress and dismissal standards** for the Department's graduate programs and operates in **full compliance** with the FAU Office of the Provost's Academic Dismissal Policy.

II. Scope

This policy applies to all graduate students enrolled in:

- M.Ed. in Special Education
- Ph.D. in Special Education

III. Academic Progress

a. Minimum GPA Requirement

- i. Students are expected to maintain a graduate cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0.
- ii. Students whose cumulative GPA falls below 3.0 at the end of a semester will be designated as “not in good academic standing” by the University and will be placed on academic probation.

b. Academic Probation

- i. If a student on Academic Probation has a possibility of obtaining a 3.0 GPA based on their number of remaining credits in the program*, students will develop an Academic Progression Plan (APP) with their academic advisor. Graduate students on academic probation are expected to submit a signed and completed APP (Form 11) to the Graduate College to continue in their program of study.
- ii. If a student has no possibility of obtaining a 3.0 GPA based on their number of remaining credits in the program*, no APP will be developed, and the department will recommend dismissal. This includes students who are entering the second semester in the program and do not have an APP.

IV. Registration Holds

A hold will be placed on a student's registration for the following semester if an APP is not submitted to the Graduate School.

V. Revised Academic Progression Plan

- a. Academic Progression plans will be reviewed with the advisor.
 - i. Students who have raised their GPA above 3.0 will be removed from academic probation.
 - ii. A revised APP will be developed for students who have met the requirements established by their APP, but are still working on achieving an overall GPA of 3.0.
 - iii. A revised APP will be developed for students who did not meet the requirements established in their APP, but still have the potential to obtain a 3.0 GPA*, will develop a revised APP with their advisor.

VI. Academic Dismissal

- a. If, at the end of any semester, a student has no possibility of obtaining a 3.0 GPA based on their number of remaining credits in the program, the department will recommend dismissal. This includes students who are beginning the second semester in the program and do not have an APP.
- b. If a student does not meet the requirements of a revised APP, the graduate program will initiate an academic dismissal.
- c. If dismissed, any courses taken in the future as a graduate non-degree seeking student, or as a graduate student at another institution, will not count towards fulfilling degree requirements, should the student ever be readmitted into this graduate program in the future.

VII. Conditional Admission Dismissals

Students with conditional program admissions are required to obtain a grade of 'B' or better in their first 6 program credit hours. Students who do not meet this requirement will be dismissed from the program without the development of an APP.

VIII. Appeal Process

Students can appeal their dismissal. See College of Education Dismissal Procedures page for details. (link will be inserted when page is ready)

*GPA calculations used for advising and dismissal decisions will be based on the **official College of Education GPA Calculator**, which is the standardized tool used by all COE faculty when evaluating student academic standing.