



State University of New York
College of Environmental Science and Forestry

Academic Governance

Resolution No: _____

A RESOLUTION of the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry Faculty
Introduced by the Committee on Instructional Quality and Academic Standards

Requesting a change in the GPA requirement for automatic suspension

Whereas currently students with a GPA lower than a 2.000 after one semester are placed on academic probation but not suspended; and

Whereas the third semester retention rate of students with a GPA lower than 1.000 after one semester is less than 10%; and

Whereas the number of students with a GPA below 1.000 after one semester is generally small (~8-12); and

Whereas there is an increasing number of students on financial aid which require students to make satisfactory progress toward their degree; and

Whereas some departments have capacity issues in their classes or labs and students in good standing may be waitlisted;

Therefore be it resolved that the ESF Faculty request that the Associate Provost of Instruction change academic policies concerning academic progress such that students with GPA below 1.000 after one semester are automatically suspended pending appeal; and

Further be it resolved that the ESF Faculty recommends that faculty advisors encourage students to discuss their suspension and to ensure that they understand the appeals process.

Approved and adopted the _____ day of _____ 20____.

Vote:

Ayes: _____
Nos: _____
Absent: _____

Secretary for the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Faculty

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Background Information

Current language in the ESF Course Catalog – Undergraduate Academic Policies

Link to ESF Course Catalog: www.esf.edu/catalog/policies.htm

Academic Progress

Students who earn less than a 2.000 cumulative grade point average are placed on academic probation and may be subject to suspension from ESF. A student may be academically suspended only after having been placed on academic probation for at least one semester*. Students will be suspended if they have been on academic probation for two successive semesters without achieving a 2.000 grade point average, or when their cumulative grade point average falls below the minimum values in the following index:

Total Hours applied Toward Degree (credit earned while matriculated at ESF, including SU courses)	Minimum Cumulative Grade Point Average (includes credit hours accepted for transfer to ESF degree program and courses taken while matriculated at ESF)
0-30	1.700
31-60	1.850
61-120 or more	2.000

Each student suspended will be given the opportunity to appeal this action based on any extraordinary conditions that may have contributed to the unsatisfactory performance. This appeal must be made in writing and submitted within the stated time limit in accordance with guidelines provided by the Office of Instruction and Graduate Studies. Every appeal will be reviewed by the Faculty Subcommittee on Academic Standards, which will recommend to the dean of Instruction and Graduate Studies either to accept the appeal or sustain the suspension. The dean of Instruction and Graduate Studies will inform the student in writing of the Subcommittee action. There is no appeal beyond this process.

Students who have been suspended for unsatisfactory academic performance may not enroll in any courses at ESF or Syracuse University until at least one semester has elapsed. If suspension occurs following the spring semester, suspended students may not enroll in a summer program at ESF or SU. Suspended students who wish to be reinstated must apply for readmission through the Office of Student Affairs.

Students suspended a second time for unsatisfactory academic performance without successful appeal will be dismissed from the College and may not normally be considered again for readmission. If, however, after a period of not less than 10 years has elapsed, a previously dismissed student should desire to return to ESF, he or she may then apply for readmission. Candidates for readmission under these unusual conditions will be considered

34 on a limited, case-by-case basis, and may be required to provide substantial additional
35 justification for readmission.

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37 ESF students who receive Federal, State and/or ESF financial aid must be achieving
38 Satisfactory Academic Progress toward their degree completion. The standards review a
39 student's Grade Point Average as well as successful completion of credit hours attempted.
40 These standards can be found in the Financial Aid section of the College catalog.
41 Students who fall below these standards will be reviewed by the Associate Provost for
42 Instruction and the Financial Aid Director. Students who are in jeopardy of losing their
43 financial aid due to poor academic performance will be notified by the College.

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45 **Due to the unique accelerated nature of programs offered at The Ranger School in*
46 *Wanakena, students matriculated in these programs are not subject to these policies and*
47 *may be placed on probation or suspended at any time their Cum GPA falls below 2.000.*

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50 **Suggested new language:** The request is to replace lines 6-13 above with lines 54-58 below.

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52 **Academic Progress**

53 Students who earn less than a 1.000 cumulative grade point average after one semester will
54 be suspended from ESF. Students may appeal a suspension as described below. Students
55 who successfully appeal a suspension will be placed on academic probation. Further,
56 students will be suspended if they have been on academic probation for two successive
57 semesters without achieving a 2.000 grade point average.

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60 extraordinary conditions that may have contributed to the unsatisfactory performance. This
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