

General Policies

Academic Standing

The scholastic requirements below apply to each student enrolled in the Graduate College. Programs may have additional requirements. Refer to your program handbook for more information.

- A student must have a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of at least 3.0 to receive a graduate degree.
- All courses taken by a graduate student for which grades are given (not satisfactory/unsatisfactory) will be used in calculating the semester and CGPA.
- Grades of A, B, C or S may be used to fulfill graduation requirements.
- Earning more than two grades of C, D, F or U may be grounds for dismissal upon recommendation by the program coordinator.

Good Standing

Good standing is achieved when a student's cumulative GPA is at or above a 3.00.

Academic Warning

Academic warning is issued when a student who entered the grading period on good standing earns a cumulative GPA below the minimum 3.00.

- Any student admitted in conditional status is placed on academic warning starting their first semester.
- Students on academic warning remain eligible for graduate assistantships.
- An academic warning does not appear on the official academic transcript. Students are notified of their academic warning status via official NDSU email.
- Students on academic warning can take a leave of absence from their graduate studies; this will not change their academic standing.

Continued Warning

Continued academic warning is a formal extension of the academic warning status. It is issued when a student entering the grading period on academic warning achieves a minimum semester GPA of 3.00, demonstrating adequate progress, but their cumulative GPA remains below the 3.00 minimum.

- Students on continued warning remain eligible for graduate assistantships.
- Continued warning does not appear on the student's official academic transcript, but does appear on the unofficial transcript. Students are notified of their continued academic warning status via official NDSU email.

Academic Probation

If a student on continued warning fails to achieve a CGPA of at least 3.00, they will be placed on academic probation.

A student on academic probation is not eligible for a graduate assistantship or tuition waiver. An academic probation does not appear on the student's official academic transcript. Students are notified of their academic probation status via official NDSU email.

To continue the pursuit of a graduate degree program, a student on academic probation must develop a remediation plan in collaboration with the advisor and submit the **Academic Probation Remediation Plan** form. This plan must include:

- Specific Courses: The courses the student plans to take in the subsequent semester(s).
- Target Grades: The grades the student aims to achieve in those courses to raise their CGPA to 3.0 or higher.
- Improvement Strategies: An explanation of the specific steps the student will take to improve their academic performance (e.g., study groups, tutoring, improved time management).

The completed Remediation Plan must be received (with all signatures) by the Graduate College before the last day of online registration (<https://www.ndsu.edu/onestop/dates/>) in Campus Connection.

Students on academic probation can take a leave of absence from their graduate studies; this will not change their academic standing. Students on academic probation must submit their remediation plan before requesting a leave of absence.

Dismissal from the Graduate College

Dismissal results in the loss of active graduate student status with the Graduate College and participation in all graduate programs and course work.

Graduate students may be dismissed from the Graduate College as a result of:

- failure to meet our scholastic standards
- academic or professional misconduct
- insufficient progress toward a degree
- failure to meet professional expectations or standards
- failure to submit an acceptable remediation plan
- failure to meet the goals outlined in the approved remediation plan

Additional Information:

- Dismissal is confirmed following the completion of any appeal process (<https://catalog.ndsu.edu/past-bulletin-archive/2025-2026/graduate/graduate-school-policies/graduate-student-appeals/>).
- A dismissal is documented on the student's official academic transcript. Students are notified of their dismissal via official NDSU email.
- Students dismissed from the Graduate College may reapply for admission after at least one calendar year from the date of their dismissal.