



**Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy for
Institutional Aid**

Institutional aid is defined as Columbia International University (CIU) scholarships and grants awarded by the Office of Student Financial Services. Each scholarship and grant has a minimum GPA requirement.

In order for a CIU student to retain eligibility for institutional aid, the student must meet the criteria listed below:

GPA Requirement

Scholarship/Grant	Undergraduate	Graduate	Seminary
McQuilkin Scholarship	3.0	N/A	N/A
National Merit Scholarship	3.0	N/A	N/A
Board Scholarship	3.0	N/A	N/A
Presidential Scholarship	2.5	3.0	3.0
Dean Scholarship	2.5	3.0	3.0
Servant Leader Scholarship	2.5	3.0	3.0
Need-Based Grant	2.0	N/A	N/A
All Other CIU Grants	2.0	2.7	2.3

Character Requirement

Student must meet all CIU community standards and not be on character probation to receive CIU Scholarships and Grants.

Students Below Requirements

Students not meeting the criteria noted above will have their CIU scholarships and grants removed as applicable. When returning students are being reviewed for their financial aid packages for the upcoming academic year, those that fail to meet the GPA and character requirements will not be awarded CIU institutional aid.

GPA requirements are not reviewed in the middle of the academic year. However, students placed on character probation can have their aid removed at any point in the academic year.

Appeal Process

A student who has his/her CIU scholarships or grants removed can submit an appeal. The student must submit the appeal letter to the Director of Student Financial Services stating the reasons for reconsideration. This letter must include a detailed description of the extenuating circumstances that prevented the student from meeting the requirements of this policy. The appeal should also detail the student’s plans for ensuring satisfactory academic and/or character performance in the upcoming academic term.

Students seeking to re-establish financial aid eligibility will remain ineligible to receive financial aid until the appeal process is complete. Students should be prepared to pay tuition, fees, and other educational expenses until he/she has been approved to receive financial assistance.

Appeal Granted

If an appeal is granted, a student will continue to receive aid for the following semester. If the student does not meet either the GPA or character requirements at the end of the semester, he/she will no longer be eligible for CIU institutional aid.

Appeal Denied

If the Financial Aid Appeals Committee denies a student's appeal, the denied student will be sent a letter informing them that their financial aid has been suspended.

Re-establishing Eligibility after Denial or Suspension

A student whose appeal is denied may be reinstated by meeting both of the following criteria:

1. Minimum GPA requirements
2. Meet all community standards and not be on character probation

Please contact the Office of Student Financial Services at 803-807-5036 if you have questions or need more information.

Approved December 2011