

Resolution 2006-2. Revising the Standards for Continued Academic Eligibility for Undergraduate Enrollment

The Faculty Council endorses the recommendation of the Educational Policy Committee that the standard for continuing eligibility for undergraduate enrollment be changed to a cumulative GPA of 2.0 throughout a student's enrollment, and that this change be made effective beginning with the Fall Semester, 2007.

The Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences is requested to prepare the necessary amendments to the Academic Eligibility Regulations (*2005-006 Undergraduate Bulletin*, pp. 304-308) for formal approval by the Faculty Council.

Educational Policy Committee Comment: Eligibility standards are designed to specify minimum acceptable academic performance. It is expected that most students will exceed those standards and in fact most do. Current standards for continuing eligibility have been in place since the mid 1980s (see the Undergraduate Bulletin). These standards can be seen as attempting to place standards for cumulative GPA that get progressively higher over the course of a college career, presumably so as to allow a struggling student to adapt to the demands of academic work at Carolina. Based on analyses of student performance by the Student Retention Study Group and on discussions with student advisors, the current system creates two kinds of difficulties. First, the current rules requiring progressively higher levels of performance are very complicated and can be difficult to explain to students in some cases. Second, and more seriously, the current eligibility rules allow students to remain eligible while building a record that can make it very hard to meet the standard of a cumulative GPA of 2.0 that is needed in order to graduate. Based on these considerations, EPC recommends that the standard for continuing eligibility be changed to a cumulative GPA of 2.0 throughout a student's academic career. EPC proposes that this change go into effect for students entering the University during the fall semester of 2007.