

COE Policy SP10-01
Policy on Academic Standing in the Major
College of Engineering

Policy Adopted Spring 2010
Policy First Implementation Fall 2010
Wording updated Spring 2024

Engineering majors are academically challenging and require more units than other majors. Whereas SJSU cumulative GPA is the metric used for academic standing in the university, SJSU Major GPA is the appropriate metric for determining a students' progress in the College of Engineering. Major GPA refers to the GPA calculated for all courses required for the major, in preparation for the major, and technical electives. The SJSU Major GPA includes courses taken at other institutions after initial admission to SJSU.

This policy provides the conditions necessary for a student to be considered in good standing in the major. The policy deals with four areas:

1. Progress towards Degree for Entering First-Time Freshmen
2. Academic Notice in the Major
3. Disqualification from the Major
4. Reinstatement to the Major

1. Progress Towards Degree for Entering First-Time Freshmen

The policy described in this section applies to any entering first-time freshman in a College of Engineering major. All such students must complete specific SJSU units for their College of Engineering major within their first 70 units attempted, with grades of a "C-" or better, and have an overall cumulative SJSU GPA of at least 2.0. Students failing to complete this requirement may be disqualified from their College of Engineering major. Note that some majors may have degree requirements of C or better for some courses as well.

- a. The specific units required for College of Engineering majors are as follows:
For Engineering majors: Math 30 or 30x, Math 31 or 31x, Phys 50, and English 1A.
For Aviation and Technology majors: Math 71 or 71x or 30 or 30x, Phys 2A or 50, and Engl 1A.
- b. Students who fail to complete this requirement for progress to degree within the required 70 units of SJSU coursework will be required to change their major.

- c. Students may complete these courses at a community college as long as the community college course work articulates to the above SJSU course work or is approved by the student's College advisor as having equivalent course content. These community college units will be counted toward the maximum of 70 attempted units.
- d. In cases of error or extenuating circumstances, a student, upon receiving notice from the College that they failed to make required progress to degree, may petition immediately to an appropriate faculty committee at the department level to appeal such an action. In the case of a negative decision, the student may appeal to the Academic Disqualification and Reinstatement Review Committee (ADRRC). After review of the petition, the ADRRC will make their recommendation to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies to confirm or rescind action.

2. Academic Notice in the Major

Note: This policy is adapted from F96-11, Academic Standards; Probation; Disqualification.

- a. Any College of Engineering student will be considered to be on academic notice in the major if at any time the cumulative College of Engineering Major GPA falls below a "C" average (2.0).
- b. The Department and/or the College will make reasonable attempts to notify any undergraduate student who is subject to academic notice in the major; however, it is the student's responsibility to be aware of his or her Major GPA.
- c. College of Engineering students on academic notice in the major must meet with an advisor in the College of Engineering to design a study plan to bring their Major GPA to 2.0 or better.
- d. To be removed from academic notice and restored to good academic standing in the Major, students on academic notice in the major must continue to earn a term Major GPA of 2.0 or better, every term until their cumulative Major GPA is 2.0 or better.
- e. Special circumstances.
 - i. If a student repeats a course for Grade Forgiveness purposes (University Policy F08-2), the earned grade for Grade Forgiveness is the grade of record. As per F08-2, Section I.B.5, "students may repeat an individual course for Grade Forgiveness only once."

- ii. As stated in UP F08-2, Section I.C.1 when a course is repeated using "Grade Averaging," grade points and units for all attempts shall be calculated in the student's major GPA.
- iii. Withdrawal from the University while on academic notice in the major will not result in disqualification. However, the same major GPA requirement will apply upon re-admission to the university.

3. Disqualification from the Major

- a. Students are subject to disqualification from their College of Engineering major when:
 - i. They are on academic notice in the major, and
 - ii. They have been notified that they have been placed on College of Engineering academic notice in the major, and
 - iii. They fail to achieve the minimum term major grade point average of 2.0 or above during the following term.
- b. College of Engineering students disqualified under this policy will be notified by the College that they are no longer eligible to continue in their College of Engineering major. Their major will be changed to Undeclared unless another major for which they are qualified is selected and approved by the new major's academic advisor.
- c. In cases of error or extenuating circumstances, a student, upon receiving notice of probation or disqualification in the major, may petition immediately to an appropriate faculty committee at the department level to appeal such action. In the case of a negative decision, the student may appeal to the Academic Disqualification and Reinstatement Review Committee (ADRRC). After review of the petition, the Committee will make its recommendation to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies to confirm or rescind the action taken.

4. Reinstatement to the Major

- a. A College of Engineering student may be reinstated to the major by petition only at the discretion of the Major department. The student, along with a major advisor, will be required to design a study plan that addresses scholastic deficiencies in the major and demonstrates that she or he is ready to resume rigorous academic work. The study plan must be approved by the Advisor and Chair *before* the student enrolls in the courses. Students will be reinstated to the Major upon successful completion of the study plan only when their Major GPA returns them to good standing in the major.
- b. If the student is also disqualified from the university, he or she must follow university guidelines to petition for reinstatement as well as readmission or reactivation to the university, as well as these College guidelines for reinstatement to the major.

