

Freshman Accelerated Fresh Start

Details on policy - March 26, 2018

Please see full Freshman Accelerated Fresh Start (FAFS) policy for complete description of policy. Note that in March 2015, IR data looking at ten (10) years showed only four (4) of 914 students with a first-term below a 1.0GPA ever graduated from CSU.

FAFS Display and Terms

“Probation <1.0 Freshman Term 1” – Students who end their first fall/spring term below a 1.0 will have this as their end of term standing. The background code for this academic standing is **PX**; the policy may also be referred to as **FAFS**.

Taking FAFS Option and Application

Sub-1.0, first-term, new students (PX students) wishing to take 1-3 terms away, then return and use their Accelerated Fresh Start option will submit an Intent to Return form through the Admissions Office.

- The returning student Admissions website mentions the FAFS policy.
- Students will need to submit an Academic Action Plan for their admissions application to be complete. Advisors/ASCs will have access to the plan and will review with each student.
- When returning, all previous coursework will fall under Fresh Start, meaning no grades prior to the Fresh Start factor in to cumulative GPA.

Choosing to Return, No Time Away, and Second Term credits

Policy states students who choose not to take time away need above a 2.0 on 12 credits or more following sub 1.0 first term. The intent behind the policy requiring 12 credits is to have students taking a course load that is at or above minimum full-time credits.

- FAFS/PX students who return the next term (no time away) and who earn a 2.0 term GPA on 9-11 credits will be invited to return to CSU on 2nd Term Academic Probation (P2) status.
- Students with 8 or fewer credits do not have enough credits to illustrate academic ability and/or success. Students returning without time away and taking 8 or fewer credits will be dismissed from the University at the end of that term.

Approved Retroactive Withdrawal Appeal

When a fall start student has a Retroactive Withdrawal granted for their first term, this withdraws them from their first term.

- The student will no longer have an academic standing for first term.
- When this student returns, the next term is seen as their first term at CSU.
- Any student performing below a 1.0GPA will then go on to PX as per new policy.

How does Summer Session affect students on PX in spring?

When a PX student goes on to PX, then returns the very next semester (spring), but earns below a 2.0 term GPA for the next term (no time away), the student’s academic standing will be evaluated at the end of spring and the student will be dismissed.

- A student enrolled in summer coursework before the end of spring term will have their academic standing evaluated after summer coursework is completed (their standing will read “Overridden: Dismissed-Smr Reg, Fall pssble”).
 - The student would need to repair cumulative GPA to a 2.0 or better and return to Good Academic Standing in order to continue at CSU.
 - This is similar to a P2 student facing dismissal at the end of spring, where a P2 student enrolled in summer before the end of the spring term can use summer to return to Good Standing.

Spring Start student who goes on to PX

- Can take summer course(s) (they impact cumulative GPA but will not count as a probationary term).

- Time away relates to following fall term (in alignment with current Scholastic Standards policy that fall/spring are probationary terms). A PX student who wishes to use their FAFS will need to take off the following fall in order to meet the time away requirement.

Summer Start students

Summer start student academic standing at the end of fall will be based on their cumulative GPA, including summer coursework and grades.

Internal Note: Two (2) out of 222 from fall 2017 had sub 1.0 fall GPA, but over 1.0 cumulative including summer coursework and grades.

FAFS (PX) Scenarios (NOTE: The FAFS Flowchart provides a visual of the following scenarios)

- **Time away:** PX student takes time away (1-3 terms). Student completes Intent to Return application and Academic Action Plan for complete application. Student is choosing to use their one and only Fresh Start option and is eligible for readmission.
 - Fresh Start will be applied at census.
- **Return next term then UWD before census:** A PX student who returns the next term but processes University Withdrawal (UWD) before census will be seen as taking the term away and still have the option for an Accelerated Fresh Start (FAFS).
 - These students can return the following term by following steps for using FAFS option (see above).
- **Return next term UWD after census:** A PX student who returns the next term then processes a University Withdrawal after census has forfeited their option for an accelerated Fresh Start.
 - Student can still pursue a standard Fresh Start (by being away from CSU for 4 or more terms).
 - Student can choose to return the following semester, carrying forward their PX standing. This means they need a 2.0 term GPA or be dismissed.

FAFS Tips

Questions to consider

Once earning “Probation <1.0,” did the student have back-to-back spring/fall terms?

- If so, then the student remains as “Probation <1.0.”
- If not, if student took time away, then the student is likely eligible for Accelerated Fresh Start.

Working with PX Students

ASCs/Advisors are asked to take time and fully review a PX student’s record to fully figure out the student’s performance and situation.

Questions Advisors/ASCs can ask to understand a student’s PX status.

- When did the student earn the sub 1.0 GPA?
- Has the student had any time away from CSU?
 - Or, once earning the “Probation <1.0” term did the student have back-to-back terms?
- What does that mean for the student’s current term?