

ALPENA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**STANDARDS OF PROGRESS**

**VETERANS EDUCATION BENEFITS**

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs requires that ACC establish and enforce Standards of Progress for all students receiving educational benefits from the VA. These standards are reviewed by the Office of Higher Education Management Services of the Michigan Department of Education and must be approved by the VA.

The college is also required to report to the VA all changes in enrollment status for students receiving benefits. These changes include dropping a class, withdrawing from classes, or failing a class. Such changes may result in a reduction of benefits paid to the student and possible repayment of benefits to the VA. All students receiving education benefits are required to immediately report any such changes in enrollment to the Veterans Affairs counselor at ACC.

**All students receiving VA education benefits who receive a failing grade in a course are required to submit a written statement of their attendance in that course to the Veterans Affairs counselor at ACC. This statement must indicate whether or not the student attended that class for the entire semester, or their last date of attendance if they did not attend for the entire semester. If such a statement is not received from the student within five days of the receipt of his/her grade report, the college will notify the VA, and the VA may terminate the student's benefits for that class retroactive to the first day of classes in that semester.**

All students receiving education benefits from the VA must satisfy the following academic standards:

1. All students must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative grade point average. A student whose cumulative GPA falls below 2.0 at the end of any semester will be placed on VA probation for the following semester.
2. A student who is on VA probation must raise their cumulative GPA to a minimum 2.0 to be taken off probation. A student on VA probation who earns a minimum 2.0 GPA for any one semester, but whose cumulative GPA is still below 2.0, will continue on VA probation.
3. When a student is on VA probation for two consecutive semesters, the college is required to notify the VA, and the student is no longer eligible to be certified by the college to receive VA education benefits. The VA will discontinue education benefits effective on the last day of the second semester of probation.
4. Students whose benefits have been discontinued may appeal that action to the VA and may present any mitigating circumstances that may have contributed to the student's failure to satisfy the Standards of Progress.
5. A student will again be eligible to be certified by the college to receive VA education benefits when they raise their cumulative GPA to a minimum 2.0 and the college is able to determine that there is a reasonable likelihood that the student will be able to maintain satisfactory progress in the future. The student will be required to meet with an ACC counselor as part of this determination process.

The student will also be required to submit a request to the VA to have their education benefits resumed. The student's request along with the enrollment certification from the college will be reviewed by the VA who will make the final decision and notify the student accordingly.

6. Students whose benefits are reinstated must continue to maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA. At the end of any semester in which their cumulative GPA falls below 2.0, they again will no longer be eligible to be certified by the college to receive VA education benefits, and the college will again be required to notify the VA.

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Student's Signature

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Date