

Senate Action 1278 was resubmitted to Faculty Senate for a revote to correct its placement designation. The only revision was to the cover sheet, which originally & incorrectly requested placement in University Regulations (in addition to the University Catalog). The recommendations and comments from the Office of the Provost and General Counsel remained unchanged following the second review when the revised cover sheet was received.



UNIVERSITY OF
NORTHERN
COLORADO

SENATE ACTION FORM

Senate Action Number: 1278

Subject: Undergraduate Academic Standing Language

Reference to Senate Minutes Dated: 4/20/26

Senate Action

MOTION: Motion to adopt these changes to the undergraduate catalog

VOTE: Motion approved with one abstention

Response Requested:

- ☒ Approval for placement in University Catalog, Undergraduate and Graduate
- ☐ Approval for placement in University Regulations
- ☐ Recommendation to Board for placement in Board Policy Manual
- ☐ None (sent as information item)
- ☐ Other action requested/comments:

Harmony Newman

Digitally signed by Harmony Newman
Date: 2026.04.27 16:13:17 -06'00'

04/27/2026

Faculty Senate Chair

Date

Administrative Review of Senate Action (unnecessary for information items):

- ☒ Reviewed by VPAA/Provost. Check ☐ if comments are attached.
- ☒ Reviewed by General Counsel. Check ☐ if comments are attached.

Presidential Action:

- ☒ Approve
- ☐ Reject
- ☐ Return to Senate for discussion/modification (comments attached)

07/08/2026

President/Designated Administrative Officer

Date

Date of Board approval (if applicable): n/a

PLEASE RETURN SIGNED ORIGINAL AND ATTACHMENT TO THE FACULTY SENATE OFFICE:
CARTER HALL 2004, CAMPUS BOX 75.

Faculty.Senate@unco.edu

FACULTY SENATE POLICY PROPOSAL/MOTION

Subject: Undergraduate Academic Standing Language

Originator/Date: Division of Student Academic Success 9/9/25

Placement(s): Undergraduate catalog.

Division of Student Academic Success presented to APC 9/15/25

APC Motioned and approved 12/29/25

APC sent to Codification 10/7/25

Codification reviewed with recommendations 10/8/25

APC sent to Faculty Senate 2/2/26

Motion: Revise the undergraduate academic standing language to "*Academic Warning*," instead of "*Academic Probation*." Motion to adopt these changes to the undergraduate catalog.

Purpose/Rationale: The UNC Division of Student Academic Success is advocating on behalf of students and the professional academic advisor network to rename "*Academic Probation*" to a more student-friendly and accessible program name. After research, professional development, open discussion, and solicited student feedback, the Division of Student Academic Success identified "Academic Warning" as an alternative to probation. This also aligns the undergraduate catalog with the graduate catalog policy. Specifically, the UNC Division of Student Academic Success proposal shared the following:

Language plays a critical role in shaping students' perceptions and experiences, particularly when it comes to academic standing terminology. Labels used by institutions can unintentionally contribute to adverse outcomes for students from historically marginalized backgrounds, affecting their sense of inclusion and academic self-confidence (Boretz, Gunn, & La Pietra, 2021). While the academic expectations remain unchanged, California State University, Fullerton's shift to the term "academic notice" in 2020 has helped reduce students' feelings of stigma and judgment (Steele, 2022). These adverse student experiences can directly influence institutional outcomes such as retention and graduation rates. The proposed terminology intentionally avoids language that may evoke punitive or disciplinary connotations, which some students link to the criminal justice system. Discussions began in Fall 2023 within the Division of Student Academic Success and continued through Spring 2024 with input from advising networks, student success centers, the Office of the Registrar, and the Graduate School. The goal is to unify terminology across undergraduate and graduate programs.

Proposal to revise the undergraduate academic standing language to "*Academic Warning*."

Proposed Language

Academic Standing

A student's academic standing is determined by the cumulative grade point average. In order to graduate, the student must earn a minimum of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale at the University of Northern Colorado.

- Students are placed on academic ~~probation-warning~~, up to the next 24 credit hours, at UNC if the cumulative grade point average (GPA) falls below a 2.0. When the cumulative GPA is raised to 2.0 or higher within ~~the 24 probation~~ credit hours ~~window~~, the student will return to good academic standing.
- Grades that count toward the 24 ~~probation~~ credit hours include all letter grades of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, F, as well as all Incompletes that have been finished. Grades not counted towards the 24 ~~probation~~ credit hours are I, NC, NG, S, S-, U, W, UW, and CR.
- Students on academic ~~probation-warning~~ who do not raise their cumulative GPA to 2.0 or higher at the conclusion of the 24 ~~probation~~ credit hours at UNC will be suspended.
- While on ~~probation academic warning~~, if the student's cumulative GPA falls below a 1.0, the student will be automatically suspended.
- If a student has less than a 2.0 cumulative GPA as a result of taking UNC dual/concurrent enrollment courses while in high school, they will not be placed on academic ~~probation-warning~~ during their first fully admitted term to UNC.
- Please note that Academic Standing Policy is different from the Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy. Even though ~~your~~ academic status allows ~~you to~~ ~~for~~ continued enrollment at UNC, this does not guarantee continuation of Financial Aid assistance. Please refer to the Office of Financial Aid website at www.unco.edu/financial-aid/.

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- Grades that count toward the 24 credit hours include all letter grades of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, F, as well as all Incompletes that have been finished. Grades not counted towards the 24 credit hours are I, NC, NG, S, S-, U, W, UW, and CR.
- Students on academic warning who do not raise their cumulative GPA to 2.0 or higher at the conclusion of the 24 credit hours at UNC will be suspended.
- While on academic warning, if the student's cumulative GPA falls below a 1.0, the student will be automatically suspended.
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