Financial Aid
Advisees often have questions about how their GPA or course load will affect their financial aid. A detailed explanation is included in the Student section of the advising webpage, but for quick reference, here are answers to some commonly asked questions:

Q: What GPA do I need to keep my financial aid?

LSUS Scholarships (Blue and Gold, Louisiana, Red River, Shreveport) require a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0.

TOPS: The different levels of TOPS support have different GPA requirements:
- Opportunity
  - a cumulative GPA of 2.0 at the end of each Fall semester
  - a cumulative GPA of 2.3 at the end of the first Spring semester
  - a cumulative GPA of 2.5 at the end of the second Spring semester.
- Honors and Performance
  - a cumulative GPA of 2.0 at the end of each Fall semester
  - a cumulative GPA of 3.0 at the end of every Spring semester. If the student fails to maintain a 3.0 GPA, TOPS will be reduced irreversibly to the Opportunity level.

Federal Financial Aid requires a 1.5 cumulative GPA for Freshmen and Sophomores who are taking up to 12 credit hours per semester and a 1.75 cumulative GPA for Freshmen and Sophomores who are taking more than 12 credit hours per semester. Juniors and Seniors must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 irrespective of the number of credit hours being taken, and Junior and Senior Teacher Education majors and Teacher Certification must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5. If these minimum standards are not met, Federal Financial Aid will be withdrawn. NOTE: ALL hours are included in these calculations, even classes in which the student receives a W.

Q: I failed a class: does that mean I’ll lose my financial aid? Can I take classes over the summer to catch up?

LSUS Scholarships: Students must be registered for 12 hours in each semester (Fall and Spring) and must have passed 24 credit hours by the end of each Spring semester. If they fail or withdraw from a class, they may take classes during the Summer semester to complete the required 24 credit hours and have their scholarship reinstated, but these classes MUST be taken at LSUS.

TOPS requires the student to be registered for 12 credit hours in each semester (Fall and Spring) and to have passed 24 credit hours by the end of every Spring semester. Note: in this instance registration means still registered after the first 14 days of class; students who drop classes before then will lose their TOPS and have to refund their advance scholarship money.
Students who fail to pass 24 credit hours will have their TOPS suspended. They may take classes during the Summer semester to have their TOPS reinstated, but if these classes are taken at institutions other than LSUS it is the student’s responsibility to ensure that the institution reports grades directly to TOPS.

**Federal Financial Aid:** students receiving loans must remain in school at least half-time (6 hours per semester) and must complete at least 70% of the hours attempted each semester. A student may retain a Pell grant while taking fewer than 6 hours per semester (minimum of 1 hour).

Further questions about financial aid should be directed to the [Financial Aid office](#), phone number (318) 797-5363.