

# GUIDED PATHWAYS ACADEMY

## Program Policies

### About the Guided Pathways Academy

Guided Pathways Academy (“the GPA program”) is designed to support high-potential students with an overall high school GPA below 2.5, TASC score below 669, GED score below 620, or a HiSet score below 54.

Students are placed into the program through the general IU South Bend application process and are notified by email of their placement by the Office of Admissions.

### About the Guided Pathways Academy Team

The Guided Pathways Academy Team (“the GPA Team”) is comprised of the Director of the Guided Pathways Academy, Director of the Titan Success Center, and the Guided Pathways Academy Success Coach. The team will also include any directors or success coaches serving in an interim capacity.

The purpose of the GPA Team is to determine the status of each student on a semester basis, to review any appeals received, and to make other program-related decisions as necessary.

### Requirements to Transition Out Guided Pathways Academy

- Students must complete a minimum of 12 credit hours across two semesters with a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA to successfully transition out of the GPA program. These credits must include a First Year Seminar (FYS) course and EDUC-U 100.
- Students who meet these minimum requirements but have a second semester GPA below 2.0 or a credit completion rate of less than 50% will be retained in the program for one more semester and placed on GPA academic notice.
  - Fall start + spring semester
    - See the Academic Progress table below for guidance on how many credit hours a student may take in their spring semester.
  - Spring start + summer semester
    - Students earning a 2.5+ GPA and at least 12 credits in their first semester may take a maximum of one in-person or online course per summer session. A total of 6 credits must be completed in the summer to successfully transition out of the GPA program by the fall semester.
    - Students earning less than a 2.5 GPA and/or less than 12 credits in the spring semester will not be permitted to take summer classes and must wait until the fall semester to complete their second semester in the GPA program.
  - Spring start + fall semester

- See the Academic Progress table below for guidance on how many credit hours a Spring start student may take in their fall semester.

## Requirements for Making Academic Progress

For a fall start student who enrolls for spring or a spring start student enrolling for the fall, continuing students may enroll in the following number of course credits depending on their prior semester GPA:

- If the first semester GPA is a 3.0+, a student may take the following number of credits depending on their enrollment status:
  - Full-time students may increase from 12 to 15 credits
  - ¾-time students may increase from 9 to 12 credits
  - Part-time students may increase up to 12 credits
- If the first semester GPA is a 2.0+, a student may take the following number of credits depending on their enrollment status:
  - Full-time students may remain at 12 credits
  - ¾-time students may increase up to 12 credits
  - Part-time students may remain at 6 credits
- If the first semester GPA is below 2.0, all students regardless of their enrollment status must adhere to the following:
  - Enroll in no more than 6 credits.
  - Complete and submit an Academic Plan to the GPA Team.
  - The deadline to submit the Academic Plan for Success is one week before classes begin the following semester.
  - Meet with the GPA Success Coach at least once a month.

For a spring start into the summer, continuing students may enroll in the following number of course credits depending on their spring semester GPA:

- If the spring semester GPA is 2.5+, a student may enroll in a maximum of one in-person or online course per summer session for a total of 6 credits.
- If the spring semester GPA is below a 2.5, the student must wait until fall to complete the second semester of the GPA program.
  - In this case, please determine the number of fall credits using the information above for a spring start into fall.

A student may appeal to the GPA Team if they seek to enroll in more credits than would typically be permitted based on their prior semester academic performance.

- One factor that will be strongly considered is student eligibility for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholar or Frank O'Bannon state funding, since both require a student to be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits.
- On-campus housing is another important factor, since it is contingent on a student being enrolled full-time.

## Requirements for Taking Online Courses

- Fall start into spring
  - Students earning at least a 2.5 and at least 6 credits in the fall may take a maximum of one online course in the spring.
  - Students earning at least a 2.5 and at least 12 credits in the fall may take a maximum of two online courses in the spring.
  - Students earning less than a 2.5 GPA and/or less than 6 credits their first semester are not eligible to take online courses.
- Spring start into summer
  - Students earning a 2.5+ GPA and 12 credits in their first semester may take a maximum of one online course per summer session for a total of 6 credits in summer.
  - Students earning less than a 2.5 GPA and/or less than 12 credits in the spring semester will not be permitted to take summer classes and must wait until the fall semester to complete their second semester in the GPA program.
- Spring start into fall
  - Students earning a 2.5+ GPA and 6+ credits in the spring may take a maximum of one online course in the fall.
  - Students earning a 2.5+ GPA and 12 credits in the spring may take a maximum of two online courses in the fall.
  - Students earning less than a 2.5 GPA and/or less than 6 credits their first semester are not eligible to take online courses.

## Requirements for Students on Academic Notice

- Students who are on academic notice will be allowed to continue in the GPA program as long as they earn a 2.0 GPA in their subsequent semester(s). They will remain in the GPA program until they earn a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 in at least 12 credits.
- After two subsequent semesters with a semester GPA below 2.0 and/or withdrawing from all classes, a student on academic notice will be academically dismissed.

The following students may be retained in the GPA program on academic notice for a third semester on a case-by-case basis:

- Those who are in good academic standing at the end of their first semester, have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 at the end of their second semester, and have completed at least 12 credits, but have a second semester GPA below 2.0.

## Requirements for Academic Dismissal

The following students will be academically dismissed from the Guided Pathways Academy at the end of each semester:

- Those with a cumulative GPA below 2.0 after completing at least two semesters

- Those with two subsequent semesters with a semester GPA below 2.0
- Those students who have withdrawn from all courses two semesters in a row

An academically dismissed student may be eligible to return to IU South Bend to resume classes if the following conditions are met:

- The student may submit an official transcript showing academic success at another college, such as Ivy Tech. Evidence of academic success means earning GPA of 2.0 or above in at least six credits of college-level work.
- The student may stop out of college for at least one year and submit a statement explaining how previous logistical, financial, or personal barriers to academic success have been addressed and reduced or removed.