



# CAL STATE LA

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES

## MEMO

**Date:** April 20, 2022

**To:** Talia Bettcher, Chair, Academic Senate  
Executive Committee

**From:** Mauricio Castillo, Chair  
Educational Policy Committee

**Copies:** M. Garcia, M. Hawley, C. Pugh, K. Baaske, J. Lazo-Uy, R. Roquemoire, M. Oropeza-Fujimoto

**Subject:** **EPC Memo 21-07 Proposed Policy Modification: Probation, Disqualification, Special Probation, and Readmission Policy for Undergraduate Students, Faculty Handbook, Chapter V**

EPC received the attached memo and recommendation for a proposed policy modification from the Curriculum Subcommittee. EPC approved this at its meeting on April 20, 2022. The policy modifications were unanimously approved, as was the recommendation to advance it to the to Executive Committee of the Academic Senate immediately after its meeting.

FROM: Maria Oropeza Fujimoto, Chair Curriculum Sub-Committee  
TO: Mauricio Castillo, Chair of Educational Policy Committee  
CC: Margaret Garcia, Associate Dean, Office of Undergraduate Studies  
Michelle Hawley, Associate Vice President and Dean, Undergraduate Studies  
SUBJECT: Probation, Disqualification, Special Probation Policy Modification PROPOSAL

### Background

In 2008 Chancellor Reed signed [CSU Executive Order 1038](#) outlining the Minimum Requirements for Probation and Disqualification.

In 2020 California State University Los Angeles (and the rest of the nation) faced racial, economic and health crises. The COVID-19 pandemic forced Cal State LA (and the entire CSU System) to abruptly pivot to “online learning.” At the same time, some students lost their jobs; others became the breadwinners of their families working long hours. To help students Cal State LA provided computers, hotspots, and allowed “pass/ fail” grading options.

Also during 2020 the murder of George Floyd, an unarmed Black man by police, spurred a national outcry to address anti-racism, anti-Blackness and social justice. At Cal State LA, President Covino communicated (Email 6/26/20) “our community is raising a call for an end to practices and policies that have disempowered communities of color.” The statement recognized the need for Cal State LA to address some of the implicit ways it reinforces inequities.

Many institutions look for ways to show support for racial justice including California State University Fullerton. They published a White paper (2021) entitled *Toward a Racially and Culturally Sensitive Renaming of Academic Probation*. The paper noted the concept of “probation” connotes the aftermath of “criminal judgements and penalties” and connecting “probation” with a student academic standing can solicit stereotype threat. Stereotype threat (Steel & Aronson (1995) refers to the risk of being associated with negative racial, ethnic, gender stereotypes. On a personal level, stereotype threat creates high cognitive load and reduces academic focus and performance. In terms of the classroom environment, stereotype threat reduces trust and leaves students wondering if they belong. The *Renaming of Academic Probation* paper noted: 1) stereotypes and race are tied to diverse students experience’ academic and other college outcomes, 2) men of color face Academic Probation more than their White or female counterparts, and 3) Men of color in college have shown to carry heightened sensitivities to the presences of criminal justice system in general, which implies the language that harkens to it.

**Language matters. We are proposing an official racially and culturally sensitive renaming of “Academic Probation” to “Academic Notice.”** The adopting of “Academic Notice” for all student communications. For example, potential areas the areas for the name change could include: 1) GET under Academic Standing; 2) University Academic Advisement Center (e.g. [Understanding Academic Probation](#) and [Probation Information - STUDENTS](#)); 3) Faculty Handbook policies: [a\)the Probation, Disqualification, Special Probation, and Readmission Policy for Undergraduate Students](#); and b) the [Probation and Disqualification Policy for Graduate and Post baccalaureate Students](#), and 4) student transcripts.

1 **Probation Academic NOTICE, Disqualification, Special EXTENDED**  
2 **ACADEMIC NOTICE Probation, and Readmission Policy for Undergraduate**  
3 **Students**

4 (Senate: 7/15/03, 3/8/11; President: 8/10/03, 3/29/11; Editorial Amendment: 1/21/15, 5/27/15)

5 **Academic NOTICE Probation**

6 Students are placed on academic NOTICE probation at the end of a semester if either their grade  
7 point average at Cal State L.A. or their cumulative grade point average in all college work  
8 attempted falls below C (2.0). They are continued on academic NOTICE probation until their  
9 Cal State L.A. and cumulative grade point average is 2.0 or higher or until they are disqualified  
10 in accordance with the regulations for academic disqualification.

11 **Academic Disqualification**

12 Students already on ACADEMIC NOTICE probation whose Cal State L.A. or cumulative grade  
13 point average drops below the following levels are disqualified:

<b>Class Level</b>	<b>Grade Point Average</b>
Freshmen (0-29 units completed)	1.50
Sophomores (30-59 units completed)	1.70
Juniors (60-89 units completed)	1.85
Seniors (90+ units completed)	1.95

14 Disqualified students are required to arrange a disqualification interview with their academic  
15 advisor to review the reasons for disqualification, to explore the option of requesting special  
16 EXTENDED ACADEMIC NOTICE probation or readmission, and to establish the terms and  
17 conditions for recommending special EXTENDED ACADEMIC NOTICE probation or  
18 readmission. Undeclared majors will hold this interview with their advisor in the University  
19 Academic Advisement Center.

20 **Special EXTENDED ACADEMIC NOTICE Probation**

21 Continuing studentS who have been disqualified may petition to remain as matriculated students  
22 on special EXTENDED ACADEMIC NOTICE probation. To be eligible for special  
23 EXTENDED ACADEMIC NOTICE probation, disqualified students must complete the  
24 disqualification interview with their academic advisor and obtain the advisor's approval. The  
25 advisor must specify on the special EXTENDED ACADEMIC NOTICE probation petition the  
26 terms and conditions under which the student will be eligible to be returned to and to remain in  
27 matriculated status, such as courses to be repeated, courses to be completed, GPA requirements,  
28 and any required workshops and/or tutoring.

29 A student's initial petition for special EXTENDED ACADEMIC NOTICE probation must be  
30 approved by the appropriate department chair, division chair, school director or the director of  
31 the Academic Advisement Center. Subsequent petitions for special EXTENDED ACADEMIC  
32 NOTICE probation must be approved as well by the appropriate college or university dean for  
33 that student. Students' approved special EXTENDED ACADEMIC NOTICE probation petitions  
34 must be received in enrollment services by the deadline specified deadline.

35 All disqualified students who are placed on special EXTENDED ACADEMIC NOTICE  
36 probation are required to earn **better** than a C (2.0) grade point average each semester until their  
37 grade point average is increased to a level that is higher than that which would normally cause  
38 them to be disqualified according to their class level, at which time they would be switched from  
39 special EXTENDED ACADEMIC NOTICE probation to ACADEMIC NOTICE probation.

#### 40 **Readmission of Disqualified Students**

41 Students who are not eligible for or are denied special EXTENDED ACADEMIC NOTICE  
42 probation may petition for readmission. Readmission after disqualification is not  
43 automatic. Disqualified students will not be considered for readmission until at least two  
44 semesters have elapsed. Students will be eligible for readmission when they have satisfied the  
45 terms and conditions established during the disqualification interview as documented in the  
46 student's file by the academic advisor, provided that they meet or exceed the following minimum  
47 Cal State L.A. and cumulative grade point averages for their class level when they apply:

<b>Class Level</b>	<b>Grade Point Average</b>
Freshmen (0-29 units completed)	1.50
Sophomores (30-59 units completed)	1.70
Juniors (60-89 units completed)	1.85
Seniors (90+ units completed)	1.95

48 Units earned at an accredited higher education institution while under disqualification can be  
49 used to raise the cumulative grade point average above the minimum required for  
50 admission. However, any deficiency in the Cal State L.A. grade point average may only be  
51 corrected by completing Cal State L.A. courses through Open University or special sessions  
52 offered by the College of Professional and Global Education. Students who have not previously  
53 been placed on special EXTENDED ACADEMIC NOTICE probation and whose grade point  
54 averages do not meet these minimum criteria may be considered for readmission with special  
55 EXTENDED ACADEMIC NOTICE probation with the approval of their college dean.

56 Students who wish to request readmission must provide evidence to their advisor that they have  
57 met the terms and conditions specified in their disqualification interview, including official  
58 transcripts of all transfer work attempted since disqualification. Advisors who support the  
59 request for readmission must specify on the petition for readmission a plan for attaining good  
60 academic standing. Students requesting readmission must obtain approval for readmission from  
61 the department, division, or school and the college from which they were disqualified. The

- 62 University Academic Advisement Center and the Office of Undergraduate Studies will rule on  
63 petitions for readmission of disqualified students with undeclared majors.
- 64 Disqualified students must file their application for readmission to the University before the  
65 appropriate admissions deadline.



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