AN ADVISOR'S GUIDE TO CPOS

as of May 2023

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CPOS BASICS

- **C**ourse **P**rogram **o**f **S**tudy

- Enforcement process for the federal mandate that Title IV funds only be used for degree-applicable courses.

  - **Title IV funds** = federal loans, federal grants, federal work study

  - **Degree-applicable** = a course that fulfills a degree requirement
    - Degree applicability, in this context, is *not* a characteristic of the course itself but an assessment of how it fits into an individual student's degree plan.

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CPOS FAQ'S

- No longer just for advisors!

  - Student-facing content now included!

- Living document
  - Will continue to update as new information becomes available.

- tinyurl.com/CPoS-info

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KEY FACTS

- **Courses in Fallthrough are not degree-applicable for the purposes of CPoS.**
  - Advisors need to move things that should not be in Fallthrough ASAP.
    - *This will mean processing exceptions for In-Progress courses.*

- **CPoS does not look backwards in time.**
  - It doesn't matter what's in Fallthrough *from previous semesters*

- **12 degree-applicable credits is the threshold for Title IV aid to disburse at the full-time rate.**
  - Credits 13 and beyond do not have to be degree-applicable.

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HOW TO TAKE A NON-APPLICABLE CLASS

- **CPoS ==denies Title IV funding== for non-applicable courses.**

  - It does not forbid students from *taking* non-applicable courses…

- **Title IV students can take non-applicable courses if at least one of the following is true:**

  - They are *also* taking at least 12 credits of applicable courses.
  - They have a *non-Title IV* way of paying for the non-applicable course(s).

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NON-TITLE IV FUNDING

- LIFE Scholarship
- Palmetto Fellows Scholarship
- SC Need-Based Grant
  - *This is a change from our December presentation.*
- Departmental Scholarships
- General University Scholarships
- Private loans
- Private grants
- Any other non-federal funding

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IDENTIFYING TITLE IV STUDENTS

- **Financial Aid is not legally permitted to tell advisors who the Title IV students are.**

  - But students may choose to self-identify.

  - And advisors may ask.

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APPEALS AND ERRORS

- **There is no appeals process.**
  - Title IV will *not* pay for courses that are not degree-applicable.

- **If the CPoS info is incorrect…**
  - Process the appropriate exception in DegreeWorks.
  - Check the CPoS information in Self Service Carolina again tomorrow.

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FORESEEN ISSUES

- **Students pursuing multiple degrees**
  - CPoS only considers the first degree.
  - Courses that are *only* applicable to the second degree should occupy credits 13-18 if possible.
  - The order of the degrees matters.

- **Students with pre-existing credit (AP, IB, DE, etc.)**
  - These students may not have four years of Title IV aid eligibility.
    - When they have enough credits to graduate, they must either graduate or find non-Title IV funding.

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FORESEEN ISSUES

- **Pre-professional students**
  - Courses taken in preparation for grad school are not degree-applicable if they don't also fulfill a graduation requirement for the current degree.

- **Students studying abroad**
  - INTL placeholder courses are scribed as applicable for all degrees.

- **UNIV 101, ROTC, etc.**
  - These are also scribed as applicable for all degrees.

FORESEEN ISSUES

- **Students taking pre-requisites to required courses.**

  - The pre-req is only applicable if it is listed as a degree requirement.

  - Units may want to edit Bulletin entries to list hidden pre-reqs in degree requirements. (e.g. MATH 111)

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FORESEEN ISSUES

- **<u>Students repeating courses</u>**

  - A student may repeat a course as many times as necessary as long as no grade of D or higher exists.

  - After a grade of D or higher exists, the student may repeat the course once.

  - A student who needs to repeat a course they have AP credit for may do so once.

Attempt	Title IV Eligible	Grade Received
1	Yes	F
2	Yes	F
3	Yes	F
4	Yes	D
5	Yes	D
6	No	C

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UNFORESEEN ISSUES

- Please refer students with one-off issues to Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships:
  - **uscfaid@sc.edu**
  - **803-777-8134**

- If you see the same issue repeatedly, please loop in the Advising Tech Co-Chairs, so that we can help spread the word:
  - boydrr@mailbox.sc.edu
  - amathwig@mailbox.sc.edu

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QUESTIONS?

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