

Learning Support Program Policy
Passed by Admissions and Standards, April 23, 2009

Motion:

The wording of entire policy has been reworked for clarity. Changes in policy are noted as follows:

Additions ~~Deletions~~

The Learning Support Program (LSP) is for undergraduate students admitted on an exceptions basis who need remedial assistance in the areas of math, reading, and/or writing in order to be ready to take cores in the Core Curriculum.

Entering LSP

Students are placed into the Learning Support (LS) program if they meet any of the following conditions:

- an SAT-Verbal score below 430 or an ACT-Verbal score below 17.
- an SAT-Mathematics below 400 or an ACT-Mathematics below 17.
- failure to meet the College Preparatory Curriculum requirements in English or mathematics.

However, students who have exited an area of Learning Support at any institution in the University System of Georgia are not required to re-enter that area upon transfer to Georgia State.

While In LSP

It is very important that LSP students meet each term with an academic advisor for advice regarding course selection. For this reason, an advisement hold is placed on each LSP student's record each term. The hold is lifted after the student has seen an advisor.

Here are the LSP courses and their placement criteria:

Academic Reading	EdRd 0071	COMPASS reading < 74
Academic Writing	Engl 0081	COMPASS writing < 60
Elementary Algebra	Math 0098	COMPASS math < 19
Intermediate Algebra	Math 0099	COMPASS math < 37

LSP courses do not count towards degree requirements or a student's GPA at Georgia State University. They are, however, used to calculate a GPA for HOPE, Pell and other financial aid awards, and the courses and grades earned appear on a university transcript. LSP courses are graded using the same system as other Georgia State courses ~~except that a grade of In Progress (IP) may be awarded if a student makes progress insufficient for completion of the course.~~

Students must register for required LSP courses before registering for other courses. Until LS requirements have been satisfied, students may not take credit courses which require the content

or the skills of the LS courses.

--Students who have not completed their LS requirements in reading may not take courses in Area A1, ~~Area C1 Area D~~, or Area E.

--Students who have not completed their LS requirements in writing may not take courses in Area A1 or Area C1.

--Students who have not completed their LS requirements in mathematics may not take courses in Area A2 or ~~in math, physics or chemistry~~ Area D.

Students who have accumulated 20 semester hours of college-level credit at Georgia State and have not successfully completed required Learning Support courses may enroll only in Learning Support courses until all LS requirements are successfully completed.

Students with LS requirements who are enrolled in both LSP courses and other courses may not *drop or* withdraw from the required LSP courses unless they also *drop or* withdraw from all other courses. Any student experiencing difficulty and/or considering *dropping or* withdrawing from an LSP course must first meet with an advisor. The advisor will inform the student of the program's *drop and* withdrawal policies, including the right to apply for hardship withdrawal if an emergency situation exists.

Students are allowed a maximum of three attempts per academic area (reading, writing, and mathematics) to pass all required courses and pass the exit exam. Any grade other than a W counts as an attempt. If a student does not complete an academic area within 12 semester hours or 3 semesters, whichever occurs first, the student will be suspended from the university for three years. This rule applies cumulatively across institutions in the University System of Georgia. For example, a student who took 4 hours and one semester of LSP courses in an area and then transferred to Georgia State would only have 8 hours and 2 semesters to complete the LSP requirements.

A student who has not exited one Learning Support area within the twelve-semester hour or three semester limit but has exited or exempted the other areas, may appeal for two additional courses. For each additional attempt, the student must:

--be individually evaluated and determined to have a reasonable chance of success.

--be in an exit level course.

--have reached the limit in only one Learning Support area.

Students whose appeals are granted may take only LSP courses.

Exiting LSP

Students exit an LSP area by

~~–earning a grade of “C” or better in passing the~~ exit level Learning Support course in the area and

--earning a passing score on the COMPASS test for the area. The passing COMPASS scores are:

Reading, 74

Writing, 60

Math, 37 (on the COMPASS Algebra test)

Students who fail the exit test but have earned a grade of “C” or better in the relevant course, may retake the test one time.

Students who have passed an LSP course but not passed the COMPASS must re-enroll in the relevant LSP course. Students who have passed the COMPASS but not earned a grade of “C” in the relevant course must re-enroll in the relevant course.

Requests for waivers to any of the above regulations should be submitted to the Director of the Student Advisement Center.

Rationale:

The LSP policy has not been reviewed in 10 years. The subcommittee reviewed the policy and found that it was mostly sound. Some minor changes are suggested.

The use of IP grading in LSP courses is dropped to simplify matters. While the BOR allows the use of a special IP grade (different from the IP used in other courses because it is a permanent grade), this complication seems unnecessary.

The restrictions on enrollment in core courses is updated to better reflect the content of the core courses.

The requirement to exist a course is raised from a D (passing) to a C. This reflects wide-spread practice across the University.