

Academic Expectations

Advising

The University College (UC) is important to your student because every first-year student is assigned to a professional advisor in the University College. Most often, students are assigned to their UC advisor based upon their major. Your student will work with their UC advisor for their first two semesters at ISU and continue to work with the same advisor, even if they change their major. After completing two semesters with at least 24 earned credits, students who are in good academic standing are then assigned to an advisor within their academic college.

Almost all of the University College advisors' offices are housed in Normal Hall. Our goal is for every student to meet with their advisor a minimum of three times throughout the semester. Advising in University College is developmental, proactive and holistic. Your student is certainly not expected to understand how to navigate the system the minute they start classes. Their advisor will work with them to help them learn where to find information, familiarize them with university policies and procedures, and teach them how to communicate professionally with ISU faculty and staff. Advisors will reach out to students to let them know of upcoming events and deadlines. We want students to feel comfortable reaching out to their advisor with any concern they have. We understand that it is difficult for students to focus on academics if they are distracted by other issues – roommate concerns, the illness of a friend or family member, financial challenges – and hope that students will reach out to their advisor so that we can assist.

During the semester, academic interventions will take place. **Three-week attendance reporting** identifies whether a student has attended each of their classes at least one time or has never attended a class. In the event your student is reported as having never attended one or more classes, their advisor will contact them via e-mail.

The **interim grade report** will be received after the sixth week of classes. This gives students an opportunity to see how they are doing – whether they should continue their good work or make adjustments in the remaining weeks of the semester to ensure they achieve the grades they wish to earn. An interim GPA is calculated that lets students know what their academic standing would be if the semester ended at that point in time. Your student, regardless of their interim GPA, will be contacted by Dr. Maule and their academic advisor. University College policy requires that students have a minimum interim GPA of 2.00 in order to be eligible to participate in priority registration for the spring semester.

Academic Standing

At the end of the semester, your student's academic standing will be determined by their final grades. ISU uses a 4.00 grading scale, meaning that an A is worth 4 points, B is worth 3, C is worth 2, and D is worth 1. Students who are enrolled in at least 12 credits and earn a 3.50 GPA are on the Dean's List. In order to be in good academic standing, a minimum GPA of 2.00 is required. First semester students who earn between 0.85 and 1.99 will be placed on academic probation. Academic probation has several consequences, the most serious being that if the student fails to meet the minimum semester GPA in the following semester, they will be academically dismissed. First semester students who earn below a 0.85 GPA will be dismissed at the end of the first semester. There is no probation period. We want to make sure that students work closely with their UC advisor and contact them if they have any concerns right away. We also want to make sure that students take advantage of the resources available! If your student is receiving financial aid, it is critical to know that their aid is tied to Satisfactory Academic Progress, including their GPA and credits hours earned.

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