

Categories of Academic Difficulty – Thresholds for Classifications of Academic Difficulty

READING THE CHART: A student falls into a classification if s/he meets any of the criteria bulleted in the appropriate box but has not reached the threshold of the next boxed classification. The threshold applies to grades from that term only, unless otherwise stated.

	Academic Concern Letter of Concern	Academic Alert Letter of Alert	Academic Review APC Review
REQUIRED CURRICULUM			
Term 1 Total 15 Credits: Five courses	▶ Cat. III in 2 courses	▶ Cat. III in 3 courses	No APC review at the end of Term 1 See box below for overall RC Review criteria.
Term 2 Total 18 Credits: Seven courses	▶ Cat. III in 2 courses	▶ Cat. III in 3 courses	Terms 1 & 2 combined: ▶ Cat. III in five courses; or ▶ Cat. IV in any course; or ▶ "No Credit" in any course
ELECTIVE CURRICULUM			
Term 3 15 credits required; see notes below	▶ Cat. III/LP in 6 of 12 HBS credits; or ▶ Cat. III/LP in 4.5 of 10.5 HBS credits; or ▶ Cat. III/LP in 3 of 9 HBS credits	▶ Cat. III/LP in 9 HBS credits taken	▶ Cat. I/II/Pass in only 3 HBS credits; or ▶ Cat. IV or Fail in 1.5 credits; or ▶ Review or Alert after Term 2 and Alert in Term 3; or ▶ "No Credit" in any HBS or cross-registered course needed to meet MBA requirements
Term 4 15 credits required; see notes below	▶ Not applicable	▶ Not applicable	▶ Cat. I/II/Pass in only 3 HBS credits; or ▶ Cat. IV or Fail in 1.5 credits; or ▶ Cat. III/LP in 50% or more of HBS credits in Terms 3 & 4 combined; or ▶ "No Credit" in any HBS or cross-registered course needed to meet MBA requirements

JOINT DEGREES: Students in joint degree programs with the Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard Law School, or Harvard Medical or Dental School may have alternate academic performance standards. Please contact MBA Registrar Services for details.

Notes:

- ▶ HBS EC courses carry either 3 or 1.5 credits. Credit values are considered when evaluating EC academic honors and difficulty.
- ▶ HBS EC Independent Projects factor into degree requirement totals and the Low Pass (LP) and Fail (F) credits impact academic honors and difficulty.
- ▶ Grades from cross-registered courses are not tallied with HBS grades, but are considered by the APC if a student is in academic difficulty based on HBS grades.
- ▶ HBS EC January term grades are most often considered during the Spring term cycle.