

**DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL AND AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING**  
**BLOCK/DISMISSAL & SCHOLASTIC PROBATION POLICY**  
**June 2017**

### **BLOCK/DISMISSAL**

A student will receive a **Block/Dismissal** letter and a hold will be placed on the student's account (i.e., be blocked from continued enrollment in the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering) when his/her **cumulative GPR** falls significantly below a 2.0 (10+ grade points) overall or the **semester GPR** is 10+ grade points below a 2.0, or if they fail to meet previous probation terms. Students may also be blocked if they repeatedly fail to meet satisfactory academic progress.

Depending on the circumstances of the block, students may be allowed to appeal the block/dismissal; however, there is NO guarantee that the appeal will be accepted. If a student has previously appealed a block/dismissal, then he/she is not allowed to appeal this decision again, resulting in a **Permanent Block**. Appeals are carefully considered taking into account such circumstances as, but not limited to:

- How great the deficiency is.
- A student's lengthy illness.
- A death or major illness of an immediate family member. Immediate family members are defined in the Texas A&M University Student Rules 7.1.2. <http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07>
- Absences due to legal proceedings.
- Learning disabilities.

For an appeal to be considered, the student must provide an emailed or type-written letter stating the adverse circumstance(s) contributing to his or her poor academic performance. This must be sent to the appropriate program coordinator in the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering.

Should the appeal be accepted, the student will be sent a "Scholastic Probation" letter (see the Scholastic Probation portion of this document).

### **SCHOLASTIC PROBATION**

A student will receive a **Scholastic Probation** letter when his/her **overall or semester GPR** falls below a 2.0 and the grade deficit is not greater than ten (10). Grade deficiencies of greater than ten (10) overall or during any given semester will result in a Block/Dismissal letter (see the Block/Dismissal portion of this document).

Students receiving a Scholastic Probation letter must meet each of the following requirements:

- Make up the grade point deficiency that is required in their Scholastic Probation letter.
- Receive no grade below a "C"; I, W, and Q's can be counted as an "F" in terms of probation
- Enroll in appropriate courses for their major that will allow the student to make up his/her grade points.
- Utilize the Academic Success Center, as outlined in their probation letter.

### **NOTES:**

1. **Students who fail to meet ALL the requirements stipulated above will be blocked from further enrollment in the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering.**
2. **Students are not allowed to continue on probation (nor will they be admitted to the program) if they have 2 or more consecutive semesters below a 2.0.**
3. **Students are allowed to appeal a Block/Dismissal ONE TIME; we believe in second chances, but not third, fourth, etc.**
4. To be able to graduate from Texas A&M University (TAMU), a student must have at least a 2.0 GPR overall, in major, and in CBK courses.
5. TAMU Student Rules Sections 12.1 through 12.1.4 defines scholastic deficiency, and 12.2 through 12.2.4 provide University rules regarding students who are scholastically deficient. <http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule12>
6. For information concerning changing majors at TAMU, contact an advisor in the department you are interested in **transferring to**. Contact information can be found on the individual department's website.