

**Cal State University San Marcos**  
**Probation Questionnaire**  
**Strategies for Academic Success**

**The following questions are designed to help you identify some specific factors that may be affecting your academic success at CSUSM. Take a few moments to answer the questions.**

1. Were you placed on probation during your first semester at CSUSM?    \_yes    \_no  
If yes, what factors contributed to your academic difficulties?

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2. Do you understand what being on academic probation means?

3. Which of the following factors do you think have contributed to your academic difficulty?

\_\_\_ trouble with the same classes you had trouble with in high school

\_\_\_ didn't know University rules about dropping/adding classes, course prerequisites

\_\_\_ believe that you did not receive the correct grade

\_\_\_ unsure of academic goals

\_\_\_ unsure of career goals

\_\_\_ discouraged by your chosen major

\_\_\_ financial difficulties

\_\_\_ lacking family support or encouragement

\_\_\_ increased work hours

\_\_\_ trouble juggling family vs. school responsibilities

\_\_\_ permanent or temporary physical disabilities

\_\_\_ medical or health related problems

\_\_\_ trouble with writing papers

\_\_\_ trouble with oral presentations

\_\_\_ work slowly and/or inefficiently

\_\_\_ have a short attention span, easily distracted

4. Rate your proficiency in the following academic skills as either “Strong (S),” “Adequate (A),” or “Weak (W):”

\_\_\_ taking complete and useful notes from lectures

\_\_\_ studying material from a textbook, by underlining, outlining, or summarizing important content

\_\_\_ answering essay questions or writing short essays

\_\_\_ preparing and presenting a research paper

\_\_\_ working out mathematical computations correctly

\_\_\_ working out word problems in math or logic

5. How many hours a week do you work during the academic year? \_\_\_\_\_  
Do you feel that work has affected your grades? \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no

6. When and where do you study most often? \_\_\_\_\_  
When and where do you study most effectively? \_\_\_\_\_

7. Do you feel that you know more than your grades indicate? \_\_\_yes \_\_\_ no  
If yes, please check all factors that apply to you:

\_\_\_ put in more time and effort than classmates, but get similar/poorer grades

\_\_\_ have particular trouble with (circle one) essay/objective test formats

\_\_\_ know material but have difficulty showing it on tests

\_\_\_ become anxious when facing an exam

\_\_\_ have been led to question or doubt potential for success in college work

\_\_\_ could do better on test if allowed more time

8. Did you have personal problems adversely affected your studies? \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no