	Howard University College of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences Department of Physician Assistant	Policy Number	PHAS - 006
	Remediation Policy (A2.05f, A3.15c)	Effective Date	08/01/2022
		Last Reviewed	10/26/2022
	Approved by: Gina S. Brown, Ph.D., MSA, RN, FAAN, FNAP, FADLN Dean, College of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences	Revision Date	04/14/2025
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I. PURPOSE

To establish the process to promptly identify physician assistant students who display academic (medical knowledge or clinical skill or reasoning) deficiencies and assist through an action plan to attain the requisite knowledge, skills, or behavior for academic success to meet program standards, competencies, and expectations.

II. POLICY

It is the stipulation and procedure of the Howard University Physician Assistant Department to identify promptly and implement intervention to students who display academic deficiencies to assist with mastery of knowledge, skills, or behavior in identified areas. This policy is not intended to allow a student to remediate all graded activities or multiple assessment activities in multiple courses.


To maintain good standing in the program, students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or greater and semester GPA of 3.0 or greater.

III. DEFINITIONS

Remediation: a process intended to correct a student's academic deficiencies and includes activities to reinforce the student learning and retention such as development of study skills, extra assignments or essays, practice assessments, review sessions, additional reading or case assignments, or tutoring.

Content remediation: process to correct a student's academic deficiencies in the acquisition of knowledge or skill or both for a course-level examination or skill practicum.

Deceleration: the loss of a student from the entering cohort, who continues matriculation in the physician assistant program. The Howard University Physician Assistant Program does not offer an option for deceleration or the option to complete the curriculum on a part-time basis.

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IV. PROCEDURES

A. DIDACTIC PHASE REMEDIATION

Remediation is allowed during the didactic phase of the program. Students are identified for content remediation by meeting one or more of the following criteria:

1. Receiving a grade below 75% on written examinations (quizzes will not be remediated) or a grade below 80% on clinical/technical skill activities (OSCEs, clinical skills training, lab/clinical practical assessment, oral case presentations, or other assessment activities).


B. REMEDATION PROCESS

1. Identification of weakness area

- a. The course director (CD) or Didactic Education Coordinator (DEC) monitors student performance.
- b. DEC will notify the course director once the item analysis is completed. The course director will notify the student and review the failed assessment to identify deficiencies.
- c. Students will receive a verbal or written summary of exam results from the CD and follow up with CD/DEC.
- d. Students who require remediation may be referred to their faculty advisor. The course director will complete a Student Advisement Encounter and Remediation Plan to document the session and provide guidance on time management, study skills, and review learning methods and styles.


2. Development of remediation study plan based on the identified area(s) of weakness

- a. The remediation plan may include any of the following:
 - i. **Study skills**: Topics including study tips, study skills, time management, note taking, stress management, lifestyle modifications and others, as identified
 - ii. **Learning interventions**: Topics for applied student learning or mastery-based learning through frequent knowledge-based assessment using assessment platform (Exam Master, PA

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Excel, or Blueprint) and reflective learning integrated with course content

- b. **Content**: Includes reinforcement of course content and subject matter through reinforcement with the course instructor(s) or advisor
 - i. If the course format/structure allows for reassessment, any of the following methods of reassessment may be used:
 - a. proctored written or oral exam using the same questions from the failed exam
 - b. new written exam format with questions covering the area of deficiency
 - ii. **Category I courses**:
 - a. Students who score between 70% and 74% on an examination will be given a knowledge-based written assignment to reinforce the course content. b. Students who score less than 70% on a written examination will be given a knowledge-based assessment to remediate the course content using Blueprint, Exam Master, PA Excel, and/or other question bank resources. The student may be required to complete a written assignment addressing knowledge-gap content for remediation. A rubric will be used to assess remediation written assignments.
 - iii. **Category II courses**:
 - a. Students who score between 70% and 74% on an examination will be given a knowledge-based assessment to reinforce the course content using Blueprint, Exam Master, PA Excel, and/or other question bank resources.
 - b. Students who score less than 70% on a written examination will be given a knowledge-based

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assessment to remediate the course content using Blueprint, Exam Master, PA Excel and/or other question bank resources. Additionally, the student will be required to complete a written assignment addressing knowledge-gap content for remediation. A rubric will be used to assess remediation written assignments.

iv. **Category III courses:**

- a. For clinical or technical skills, students will be reassessed by observation of the competency of the skill.

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3. **Evidence of proficiency of failed material**

- a. Students must achieve a grade of:
 - 90% or higher for written examinations/assignments
 - 80% or higher for clinical/technical skill activities
- b. Students who fail remediation will be referred to SPC (Student Progress Committee) for further recommendations.

C. **CLINICAL PHASE REMEDIATION**

1. **End Rotation Examinations (EORs) can be remediated as follows:**

- a. Students are permitted to remake up to 3 (three) End of the Rotation Examination (EOR).
- b. Students will be notified by the Clinical Education Coordinator (CEC) of failure within 48 hours of examination.
- c. CEC will review the failed assessment with the student to identify deficiencies. Students will receive a summary of exam results from the CEC.

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- d. Due to the unique nature and pace of the clinical year, the failed exam must be retaken within ten (10) calendar days of notification of the failed exam and no earlier.

2. Remediation of Clinical Student Preceptor Evaluation

- a. The CEC reviews all mid-evaluations submitted by the clinical preceptor of the student (the Preceptor Evaluation of Student Performance). If any component is less than satisfactory the CEC will communicate directly with the preceptor and student independently. The CEC will make recommendations to the student for remediation, which may include student-centered success strategies prior to the final evaluation.
- b. The mid-evaluation is formative and is not for a grade. The final evaluation is summative and for a grade.
- c. Students receiving less than 80% on the final preceptor evaluation portion of the rotation grade will be considered to have not achieved mastery on that rotation. The student will receive a failing grade for the rotation.

3. Remediation of Faculty Evaluation

- a. The student must achieve 80% on the faculty evaluation to achieve clinical competency.
- b. Students receiving less than 80% on the faculty evaluation will be required to remediate the assignment.
- c. The student will have will be permitted one opportunity per rotation to remediate a failed faculty evaluation.
- d. Students receiving less than 80% on the remediated faculty evaluation will be considered to have not achieved mastery on that rotation. The student will receive a failing grade for the rotation.

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4. Clinical Patient Log

- a. Students will not be allowed to remediate patient logs.

5. SCPE Course Failure

- a. When a student does not meet the minimum requirements for a SCPE course(s), this results in a SCPE course(s) failure.
- b. The student must repeat the SCPE course(s) at the end of rotation 7 (seven). This will result in a delay in graduation and placement on academic probation.
- c. Students are permitted 2 (two) remediate rotations per clinical year. A third remediated rotation will result in an academic dismissal from the program. The failure of one remediated rotation will also result in academic dismissal from the program.


6. End-of-Program Summative Evaluation Failures

- a. Students must achieve a score of 80% or greater on the summative OSCE to pass the course. Failure to achieve a final grade of 80% or greater in the summative course will require remediation.
- b. Students who do not demonstrate competency by achieving a passing grade will be permitted one opportunity to repeat the summative OSCE. A score of 80% or greater is required to meet competency.


D. SUMMATIVE EXAMINATIONS

Students are required to achieve 70% competency on the didactic summative and 75% competency on the clinical end of curriculum examination and 80% competency on clinical skills assessments for eligibility to graduate as stated in the College Admission, Graduation and Retention Policy.

1. Failure to obtain this minimum competency on the 1st attempt will result in remediation of examination.
 - a. A remediation examination will be provided within 10 (ten) days of receipt of the initial examination score for the PHAS 603 (didactic) course.

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- b. A remediation examination will be provided within 21 (twenty-one) days of the initial examination score for the PHAS 709 (clinical) course.
2. Students who do not achieve minimum competency on the first retake examination will receive (and having no additional criteria to withhold recommendation for progression):
 - Didactic**
 - a. An incomplete in PHAS 603.
 - b. Recommendation for progression to the clinical phase will be withheld, and the student will be required to enroll in a Directed Independent Study (DIS) course for the upcoming Spring semester as determined by the Student Progress Committee.
 - c. The DIS course remediation plan, designed by the didactic education coordinator and/or faculty, is specific to the student.
 - Clinical**
 - a. An incomplete in PHAS 709.
 - b. Recommendation for graduation will be withheld, and the student may be required to enroll in a Directed Independent Study (DIS) course for the upcoming Spring semester as determined by the Student Progress Committee.
 - c. The DIS course remediation plan is designed by the clinical education coordinator and/or faculty specific to the student.
2. During enrollment in the DIS course, the student is provided with an additional and final opportunity to achieve the minimum competency on the summative evaluation after remediation.
3. If competency is not achieved on the third comprehensive examination (second retake examination), recommendation for progression will not be made. A recommendation for an academic dismissal will be sent from the

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SPC to the Program Director, additionally, recommendation will be communicated to the Office of the Dean of the College of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences.

All summative evaluations and remediation actions are documented in the student's secure file.