



<b>Policy:</b> Didactic & Clinical Phase Remediation Policy	<b>Applicability:</b> PA Sciences Program Students
<b>Policy Owner:</b> PA Sciences Program	<b>Approved By:</b> Dean, School of Graduate Studies
<b>Effective Date:</b> May 20, 2024	<b>Last Reviewed:</b> May 6, 2024
<b>Next Review:</b> May 7, 2025	<b>Contact:</b> (615)321-2933

**PURPOSE:** To inform students of the program’s policy and procedures for remediating deficiencies within the curriculum.

**POLICY:**

Didactic Phase Remediation:

Students who earn <69.5% on any major assessment, will be given the option for remediation. Only two (2) major assessments per semester, per course, will be subject to remediation with subsequent eligibility for grade improvement. The maximum score for grade improvement on a failed assessment is 70%. Remediation will be at the discretion of the instructor of record and must occur within seven (7) calendar days of the date the exam was taken.

Clinical Phase Remediation:

Remediation in the clinical phase of the program will occur when an MMC PA Sciences student fails to pass a major graded assignment with a 70% or higher score. Major assessments include End of Rotation Exams, End of Rotation Papers and OSCEs.

**DEFINITIONS:**

Remediation – The Program defined and applied process for addressing deficiencies in a student’s knowledge and skills, such that the correction of these deficiencies is measurable and can be documented.

**PROCEDURE:**

Didactic Phase Remediation Procedure:

1. Students who earn <69.5% on any major assessments on a didactic phase course has the option to remediate. Only two major assessments per semester, per course will be subject to remediation with subsequent eligibility for grade improvement.
2. For major assessments subject to grade improvement, the student must meet with the course director, complete a module/unit assignment, then be reassessed within seven (7) calendar days. Only one remediation attempt will be allowed.
3. Failure to achieve  $\geq 69.5\%$  or higher on a remediation attempt, the originally earned grade will be used to calculate the final course grade.
4. Failure to achieve  $\geq 69.5\%$  in the course after remediating any necessary major assessment(s) will result in “F” grade for the course and it is not subject to additional



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remediation. The student will be referred to the Student Evaluation and Promotion Committee for recommendation for dismissal.

5. Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or greater, on a 4.0 scale, in order to progress through the program in good academic standing. If at any point at the completion of a course, a student's GPA falls below 3.0, the student will be placed on academic probation and meet with the Student Evaluation and Promotion Committee and their academic advisor to discuss strategies and a plan for success.
6. Once on academic probation, the student will have two didactic semesters to bring their cumulative GPA to 3.0 or above. The Student Evaluation and Promotion Committee will meet to track the progress of the student on academic probation.
7. Student will be recommended for dismissal by the Student Evaluation and Promotion committee if:
  - a. A student earns an "F" in any course
  - b. A student fails to earn a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above at the end of the didactic curriculum.
  - c. A student on academic probation does not show sufficient progress, as deemed by the Student Evaluation and Promotion Committee.
  - d. Students can appeal to the Dean, School of Graduate Studies regarding decisions by the Student Evaluation and Promotion Committee.

Clinical Phase Remediation Procedure:

**Failure of Graded Assignments:**

In the event that a student scores below 69.5% on a major graded assessment during the clinical phase of the program, the following will occur:

1. The student must contact the Clinical Education Director (CED) within 24 hours of notification of a failed assignment and arrange a meeting with the CED to discuss the assignment and complete a Clinical Remediation Form.
2. The meeting must occur within 48 hours of the notification of a failed assignment, at which time, the student will be given a written remediation form, and a list of topics that were missed on the graded assignment.
3. The remediation assignment must be completed within one week of the initial failed assessment.



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4. After the remediation plan has been completed, the student will be re-assessed based upon the nature of his/her deficiency.
5. For failed OSCEs / Oral Presentations, the re-assessment must be completed by the conclusion of the following call-back session.
6. On re-assessment, the student is expected to earn a minimum grade of 69.5% or higher.
7. If the student earns a minimum grade of 69.5% or higher, the student has successfully completed the remediation. However, the highest grade the student can receive is a 70%.
8. Failure to adhere to deadlines and/or failure to achieve a minimum grade of 69.5% will result in referral to the Student Evaluation and Promotion Committee.
9. Copies of the Clinical Remediation Form and any correspondence will be made available to the Chair of the Student Evaluation and Promotion Committee, the Course Director, the Clinical Education Director, the Didactic Education Director, the student's faculty advisor, and placed in the student's file.

#### **Failure of One First Attempt of PAEA End of Rotation Exam**

A student is required to remediate, which consists of a written explanation of the "keyword feedback" provided on the student's individual PA Education Association (PAEA) End of Rotation (EOR) Exam Performance Report. The student will:

1. Select 25 bullet points (if there are less than 25 bullets, the student must answer all bullet points)
2. For each bullet point, the student must expand on the topic listed, focusing on the TASK identified (i.e., clinical intervention, clinical therapeutics, diagnosis, diagnostic studies, etc.) References must be provided for each bullet point.
3. After the remediation plan is accurately completed, the student will be required to take another version of the PAEA EOR exam in timed mode within one week of failing the original EOR exam.
4. Students must pass with a score of 69.5% or higher within one week of the original examination.
5. If the student passes the remediation exam, a maximum grade of 70% will be recorded as the final grade.
6. If the student does not earn a grade of 69.5% or higher on the remediation PAEA End of Rotation Examination, the original score will stand and the student will be required to complete another remediation plan as directed by the Clinical Education Director.



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#### **Failure of Two First Attempt of PAEA End of Rotation Exam**

In the event of a second first attempt End of Rotation exam failure, the student will:

1. Perform the remediation process as outlined above
2. If the student passes the remediation exam, a grade of 70% will be recorded as the final grade.
3. If the student does not earn a grade of 69.5% or higher on the remediation PAEA End of Rotation Examination, the original score will stand and the student will be required to complete another remediation plan as directed by the Clinical Education Director, and
4. The student will be placed on academic probation for the remainder of the clinical phase.

#### **Failure of Three First Attempt of PAEA End of Rotation Exam**

In the event of a third End of Rotation exam failure, the student will:

1. Perform the remediation process as outlined above
2. If the student passes the remediation exam, a grade of 70% will be recorded as the final grade, and the student will be placed on academic probation for the remainder of the clinical year.
3. If the student does not earn a grade of 69.5% or higher on the remediation PAEA End of Rotation Examination, the original score will stand and the student will be required to complete another remediation plan as directed by the Clinical Education Director, which may result in delayed graduation.

#### **Failure of Four First Attempt of PAEA End of Rotation Exam**

1. Perform the remediation process as outlined above
2. If the student passes the remediation exam, a grade of 70% will be recorded as the final grade.
3. If the student does not earn a grade of 69.5% or higher on the remediation PAEA End of Rotation Examination, the original score will stand and the student will be referred to the Meharry Medical College Physician Assistant Sciences Program Student Evaluation and Promotion Committee for recommendation for dismissal from the program.



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**Failure of a SCPE Course:**

1. In the event that a student fails a SCPE course due to the overall score of the course falling below 69.5%, the student will be required to repeat the SCPE course and be placed on Academic Probation for the remainder of the clinical phase.
2. If a student fails a second SCPE course, the student will be referred to the Meharry Medical College Physician Assistant Sciences Program Student Evaluation and Promotion Committee for recommendation for dismissal from the program.

\*\*If a student violates patient safety during a competency, SCPE, OSCE, or any other clinical assessment, he / she will be required to remediate as determined by the course instructor and CED regardless of the grade earned for the assignment.

**EXHIBITS:****RELATED POLICIES:**