



Area: University of Oklahoma School of Community Medicine PA Program, Tulsa
Title: Remediation Policy

Remediation is the opportunity to correct unsatisfactory performance, progress, and/or professional conduct. The Student Progress Committee (SPC) may offer a remediation plan to further assess/evaluate a student and to support the student in meeting the program's learning outcomes.

Didactic Phase Remediation

Course Performance: In order to receive a passing grade in any didactic course, it is necessary for a student to demonstrate competency by scoring 70% or greater for the entire course. Final course scores of 69.5% and above are rounded to a 70%. A final course score of 69.4% and below results in failure of the course.

Examination Performance: For Clinical Medicine I-III, Clinical Medicine for Special Populations, and Pharmacotherapeutics I-II, if a student scores below 70% on an examination, a remediation exam will be required. For Physical Diagnosis I-II, remediation will be required for non-passing scores (as detailed in the syllabus) on the performance checklists, simulated patient encounters, and OSCE. For other PA didactic courses, the need to remediate an examination will be determined by the SPC. Remediation examinations are to prove competency in the subject matter and are not factored into the final course grade. If a student fails to meet the remediation standard, the student will be referred to the Student Progress Committee to determine the appropriate course of action.

Remediation of an examination or failed Physical Diagnosis course component necessitates the student meeting with the course director to address areas of deficiency and to determine an appropriate remediation plan, including content review and reexamination.

SPC Action: An unsatisfactory score in a course (below 70%) or a failing score on a remediation examination (Clinical Medicine I-III, Clinical Medicine for Special Populations, Pharmacotherapeutics I-II, Physical Diagnosis checklist, simulated patient encounter, or OSCE) will be evaluated by the SPC. Based on a thorough evaluation of the overall academic and professional performance of the student, the SPC will recommend one of the following:

1. Administering a grade of I (Incomplete) on the transcript and completion of a course remediation plan may be considered if extenuating circumstances impacted academic performance.
2. Didactic Course: Administering a failing grade of D or F on the transcript followed by academic suspension with deceleration and remediation of the course in the next academic year.
3. Recommendation for dismissal from the PA Program. Recommendation is made to the Dean of the School of Community Medicine.

Incomplete (I):

A course grade of I (Incomplete) placed on the transcript will require the student to complete a prescribed remediation plan as determined by the SPC. The remediation plan will include addressing specific deficiencies noted during the course. Academic probation will be noted on the transcript when an Incomplete grade is assigned due to remediation. Upon successful completion of the remediation plan, the grade will be changed to a C on the transcript and academic probation will be removed at the completion of the term. Failure to complete the remediation plan as assigned will result in failure of the course.

The grade of "I" will be approved only when circumstances determine it, such as a serious illness that has prevented that student from completing work or when there is an unavoidable delay in receiving a course grade due to remediation.

- Mere inability to get work in on time will not constitute a reason for the grade of "I".
- To remove the "I" a student must complete the course work within one year maximum from when the "I" was given. The specific timeframe will be determined by the Student Progress Committee based on academic progression requirements.
- If a student does not complete the required course work within the prescribed time period, the "I" grade will convert to an "F".

Failure of the course (D or F)

When a student fails a PA program course during the didactic phase, the student is not permitted to progress further in the program. A recommendation for dismissal may be submitted to the Dean of the School of Community Medicine. Alternatively, the student may be placed on suspension and offered the opportunity to decelerate and return the next academic year to remediate the course, per the deceleration policy guidelines. If the failed course is not successfully remediated as determined by the SPC, if the student fails a second course during the course of the PA program, or if the student's cumulative GPA falls below a 3.0, the SPC may recommend to the Dean dismissal of the student from the PA program.

The student who has been suspended for a failed course and offered deceleration is guaranteed re-entry into the first year of the PA academic program, contingent upon all other programmatic requirements, including the successful completion of the re-entry plan, being met. Upon rematriculation to the academic program, the student is placed on academic probation. Although progression in the program will occur if the student achieves a minimum 3.0 term GPA, the student will remain on academic probation until a cumulative 3.0 GPA is achieved. See the Deceleration Policy for further details.

Clinical Phase Remediation

Course Performance: In order to receive a passing grade in any clinical course, it is necessary for a student to demonstrate competency by meeting the minimum required examination score as noted in each clinical course syllabus. In addition, it is necessary to achieve a grade of C or above in each clinical course, regardless of a passing examination score, in order to successfully complete the course.

Examination Remediation: Failure to achieve a passing score on a clinical examination (PAEA EOR or NBME) will result in a requirement to remediate the exam. Remediation examinations are to prove competency in the subject matter and are not factored into the final course grade. If a student fails to meet the remediation standard, the student will be referred to the SPC to determine the appropriate course of action.

SPC Action: An unsatisfactory score in a course (below 70%) or a failing score on a remediation examination will be evaluated by the SPC. Based on a thorough evaluation of the overall academic and professional performance of the student, the SPC will recommend one of the following:

1. Administering a grade of I (Incomplete) on the transcript and completion of a remediation plan determined by the SPC; may include remediation of second failed NBME exam with the applicable PAEA EOR examination.
2. Clinical Course: Administering a failing grade of D or F on the transcript followed by academic probation; requires repeating the clinical rotation. Refer to the Deceleration Policy for determination of clinical delay or clinical deceleration.
3. Recommendation for dismissal from the PA program. Failure of more than one clinical course may result in recommendation for dismissal. Recommendation is made to the Dean of the School of Community Medicine.

Remediation Considerations

- Students are expected to perform at a high level in this intensive professional program. The SPC reserves the right to require an individualized remediation program for students who do not meet academic or professional expectations.
- A remediation program may consist of but is not necessarily limited to:
 - The requirement to retake a failed examination (failure is defined as a grade of "D" or "F" on an exam).
 - Completion of a prescribed remediation program with emphasis on any deficient area.
 - Referral to the Student Success Program or to services for further evaluation, e.g., outside counseling for evaluation of learning methods or deficiencies.
 - Deceleration: Rematriculating with the next cohort at the beginning of the didactic phase. Retaking courses is not limited to failed courses.
 - The requirement to retake a failed clinical exam in order to receive a passing course grade.
 - The requirement to retake a failed clinical course.
 - Pursuit of self-directed learning and/or tutoring at the expense of the student.