

MISERICORDIA UNIVERSITY PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAM

REMEDICATION

Remediation is 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. The goal of any remedial activity will be to address the educational deficiencies of that particular component and assist the student with focused improvement.

Any student requiring remediation, will remediate the identified area(s) of deficiency. The specific remediation plan developed will be in conjunction with the Course Director and Didactic Director or Clinical Director, and may include, but not be limited to:

- Reading assignments.
- Written assignments regarding selected course learning objectives with reference citations.
- Completion of multiple choice or essay type examinations
- Written response to selected exam items with reference citations.
- Problem-based learning exercises focused on area(s) of weakness.
- Written self-reflection exercise.
- Required meetings with and assignments levied by the Program Director to address deficiencies regarding professionalism and professional behavior.
- Individual faculty-led tutoring (especially skills related deficiencies)
- Specialty Subject Exam
- Clinical Performance Evaluation
- Rotation Specific Assignment
- Miscellaneous Assignments

The student will be informed prior to remediation the guidelines for being reassessed and passing the remediation activity. The content of the remediation is at the discretion of the course director/instructor in conjunction with Didactic Director or Clinical Director. Successful remediation does not stipulate that a change in the final grade for any course will occur. Unsuccessful remediation attempts will be counted to the overall number of failed exams during the didactic phase. Students must schedule time in advance to complete remediations to ensure proctor availability. Students who require remediation must first attempt to use scheduled recitation time, but may be required to arrive early, remain after scheduled class times, or participate during scheduled academic breaks to complete required remediation activities. Participation in remediation sessions is mandatory and scheduled at the discretion of program faculty and staff. Students who have approved testing accommodations through the Student Success Center (SSC) will be required to complete all remediation assessments and related testing through the SSC in accordance with their approved accommodation plan.

Didactic Courses-Remediation

Student progress in didactic courses is monitored and documented by Course Directors. Course Directors are to work with students who are identified as having deficiencies in knowledge or skills as early as possible during their respective courses.

Didactic remediation occurs when:

- Any written exam grade below 70%
- Overall course grade of a "C"
- Patient Assessment practical exams below 80%
- Clinical Problem Solving and Diagnostics Clinical Experience Exams (CEEs) below 70% in the fall semester and 75% in the spring semester
- Formative 2 station OSCE grade average below 70%
- Formative full history and physical OSCE grade below 80%
- If a student receives <70% on any quiz or exam, they must "meet" with the course instructor for remediation of the deficiencies. The original grade on the quiz/exam does NOT change.
- A failed practical exam or failure of a second CEE will immediately constitute an academic warning.
- Students may only remediate 5 exams total (this includes practical exams and CEEs, not quiz grades) during the didactic phase of the program. The third exam failure places you on academic warning. If a 6th exam, practical exam, or CEE

requires remediation, the student will be dismissed from the program.

- Course Directors complete the Academic Progress Report mid-semester to identify student deficiencies. If there are deficiencies a formal academic warning will be issued and an academic improvement plan will be formulated. This will serve as a guide for improvement for the remainder of the semester.
- If the final course grade is above 80%, the academic warning will be rescinded.
- If the final course grade is 70-79.9% at the end of the semester, the student will be placed on Academic Probation and require further remediation.
- Practical Remediation: All practical exams must be passed with a grade of 80% or better in order to pass the class. If a student fails a practical, the student will meet with the Instructor to review their performance, including deficiencies, and be given a plan to improve. The student will then be given a second attempt at a later date per the direction of the faculty. The repeat practical will be given with two different instructors for proctoring. All practical exams must be passed with a grade of 80% or higher. If a student fails a practical, the student will be given a second attempt, and a repeat practical will be given with a different member of the faculty as the proctor. The original practical grade will still be the grade that is counted toward the final grade. If the student does not obtain a grade of 80% or higher on the remedial practical, the student will not be able to repeat the practical for a third time and will result in program dismissal.
- Clinical Experience Exams: All CEEs in the Fall Semester must be passed with a grade of 70% or better in order to pass the class. All CEEs in the Spring Semester must be passed with a grade of 75% or better in order to pass the class. If a student fails a CEE, the student will meet with the instructor to review their performance, including deficiencies, and be given a plan to improve. The student will then be given a second attempt at a later date per the direction of the faculty. The repeat CEE will be given with two different instructors for proctoring. The original CEE grade will be the grade that is counted toward the final grade. If the student does not obtain a grade of 70% or higher in the Fall Semester or 75% or higher in the Spring Semester on the remedial CEE, this will count as an additional failed grade that counts toward the allowable amount of 5 failed grades in the didactic phase. Students will then be given one last CEE attempt. If the student does not obtain a grade of 70% or higher in the Fall Semester or 75% or higher in the Spring Semester on the remedial CEE, the student will not be able to repeat the CEE for a third time and will result in program dismissal.
- Formative OSCE Remediation: The formative OSCE assessments must be passed with a grade of 70% or better in order to pass the class. If a student fails the performance of a formative OSCE, the student will meet with the Instructor to review their performance, including deficiencies, and be given a plan to improve. The student will then be given a second attempt at a later date per the direction of the faculty. The repeat OSCE will be given with two different instructors for proctoring. The highest grade that a student will be able to achieve on this repeat OSCE a grade of 70%. The student will not be able to repeat the OSCE for a third time. Failure to pass the second OSCE attempt will result in dismissal from the PA program.
- Course Directors/instructors are to utilize the **Remediation Form** (see Supplemental Documents) to document specific actions taken or recommended to a student to address deficiencies in that student's knowledge and / or skills, such that the outcomes from the actions are measurable and documented.
- All deficiencies (academic or professional) are to be reported to the Student Progress Review Committee Chair who will report to the Program Director.
- The documentation should include copies of the specific tools used to assess and measure the student's improvement in the areas of deficiency, as identified on the mentoring forms, including final outcome(s).
- The SPRC and Program Director will collaborate with the Course Director(s) in determining 1) if the remediation process aligned with university requirements and 2) was successful or unsuccessful. After review by the SPRC and Program Director, any student who is unsuccessful will be dismissed from the PA Program.
- Note: some instructors may also require 'informal remediations' for grades between 70 and 79.9, that although aren't considered failing, require demonstration of proficiency. These are not optional and are for the benefit of the student and the physician assistant profession.

Clinical Courses-Remediation

To successfully complete Supervised Clinical Practice Experiences and other clinical year courses, each student must achieve a level of performance specified in clinical year course syllabi, which include the following areas of assessment:

1. PAEA End of Rotation Exams
2. Power Point Presentation (elective rotation)

3. End of Rotation Preceptor Evaluation of Student
4. Simulated Medical Record Documentation
5. Mid-Rotation Evaluation
(Preceptor Evaluation of Student/Student Self-Assessment)
6. Student Evaluation of Preceptor and Site
7. EXXAT logging
8. ROSH Review Questions

- If a student achieves less than 80% for the overall grade in a clinical course, see “Clinical” section above in Academic Standards and Policies. Student progress in clinical courses is monitored and documented by the Clinical Director to identify deficiencies in knowledge or skills as early as possible. If a student does not pass an area of assessment as outlined in the clinical year handbook, the student will be given a remedial activity specific to the assessment that was not passed.
- If a student is identified as having deficiencies the Clinical Director will utilize the **Remediation Form** (See Supplemental Documents) to document specific remediation actions taken or recommended to a student. Doing so addresses deficiencies in that student’s knowledge and / or skills, such that the outcomes from the remediation are measurable and documented.
- For any student who is determined to have a deficiency the Clinical Director is to provide a report to the Student Progress Review Committee (SPRC) Chair that identifies each student and their overall clinical course / SCPE performance, along with copies of any **Remediation Forms** that have been completed.
- Issues leading to the remediation, actions taken, and results of the entire remediation process should be provided on **Remediation Forms** and forwarded to the Chair of the SPRC and the Program Director. The documentation should include copies of the specific tools used to assess and measure the student’s improvement in the areas of deficiency, as identified on the mentoring forms, including final outcome(s).
- The SPRC and Program Director will collaborate with the Clinical Director in determining 1) if the remediation process aligned with university requirements and 2) was successful or unsuccessful. After review by the SPRC and Program Director, any student who is unsuccessful in remediating will be dismissed from the PA Program.

Program Summative Assessment

- **Summative OSCE Remediation:** The summative OSCE assessment is a multiple station OSCE. The overall score must be passed with a grade of 80% or better. If a student fails the performance of a summative OSCE, the student will meet with the Instructor to review their performance, including deficiencies, and be given a plan to improve. The student will then be given a second attempt at a later date per the direction of the faculty. The repeat OSCE will be given with a different instructor as the proctor. The highest grade that a student will be able to achieve on this repeat OSCE is a grade of 80%. The student will not be able to repeat the OSCE for a third time. Failure to pass the second OSCE attempt will result in dismissal from the PA program.
- **Summative Examination Remediation:** The Program will utilize the PAEA End of Curriculum Exam. The summative exam will be graded as Limited, Satisfactory, and Advanced Medical Knowledge. If a student receives a score of Limited Medical Knowledge, it will be considered a failing grade. The student will meet with the instructor to review their performance based on data available and be given a plan to improve for at least 6 weeks. The student will repeat the Summative exam no sooner than 42 days following the first attempt. Failure to pass the second exam attempt with a score of Satisfactory or Advanced Medical Knowledge will result in dismissal from the PA program.
- **Summative H&P Remediation:** Each student must achieve a minimum score of 80% to be successful. If a student fails the summative H&P, the student will meet with the Instructor to review their performance, including deficiencies, and be given a plan to improve. The student will then be given a second attempt at a later date per the direction of the faculty. The repeat H&P will be given with a different instructor as the proctor. The highest grade the student can receive on the repeat H&P will be an 80%. Failure to pass the second H&P attempt will result in dismissal from the PA program.

- Master's Project Remediation: Each student must achieve a minimum score of 80% on each portion of the project. Any grade below 80% will require remediation. A repeat attempt will be allowed for each portion of the project. Failure to pass the second attempt will result in dismissal from the PA program.
- Summative Procedures and Test Interpretation: Each student must achieve a minimum score of 80% on each procedure and overall test interpretation to be successful. If a student fails any section of the summative Procedures and Test Interpretation, the student will meet with the Instructor to review their performance, including deficiencies, and be given a plan to improve. The student will then be given a second attempt at that section at a later date per the direction of the faculty. The repeat Procedures and Test Interpretation will be given with a different instructor as the proctor. The highest grade the student can receive on the repeat Procedures and Test Interpretation will be an 80%. Failure to pass the second Procedures and Test Interpretation attempt will result in dismissal from the PA program.

Professionalism – Remediation

If a student is placed on professional probation for a breach of professionalism, the student must complete the professional improvement plan, associated assessment(s), and determination of success or failure in remediating professional behavior to the standard of program. The professional improvement plan will be documented by the Program Director/Didactic Director/ Clinical Director and the Chair of the Student Progress Review Committee utilizing the Professional Development Assessment Tool (See Supplemental Documents). This will include documentation of specific actions taken or recommended to a student to address deficiencies in that student's professional behavior, such that the outcomes from the actions are measurable and documented.

Note: Policies and procedures are consistently applied to all similar situations in a similar manner.