

Division of Physician Assistant Studies

Definition of Academic Sanctions

Remediation (ARC-PA)

The ARC-PA defines remediation as “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.”

Deceleration (ARC-PA)

Deceleration is defined by the ARC-PA as “the loss of a student from the cohort, who remains matriculated in the physician assistant program.”

Probation (WVU Graduate/Professional Catalog)

“Graduate students may be placed on probation by the director of their program or by the dean of their college/school by failing to maintain acceptable grades in their courses or by failing to show acceptable performance in other areas such as research progress or professional behavior (as determined by the program or the University). Graduate students with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) below 2.75 may be subject to probation by the dean of their college/school and are considered by the University to not be in good standing. Individual academic units may designate a higher GPA or other academic standards required for students to remain in good standing within the program.

Probation, which is not recorded on a student’s permanent record, constitutes a warning to the student that standards are not being met. A letter of probation, delivered by the graduate program to the student, must outline the reason for the probation sanction as well as delineate academic or other benchmarks for the student to attain in order to have the probation sanction removed. Students may [appeal](#) a probation sanction.

At the conclusion of the semester in which a student was placed on probation, the academic program shall review the academic record and performance of the student. If the stipulations set forth in the letter of probation have been met, the student is removed from probation. If the stipulations have not been met, student standing is reassessed by the program. The student may continue on probation or be suspended or dismissed by the program.”

<http://catalog.wvu.edu/graduate/enrollmentandregistration/#probationsuspensiontext>

Suspension (WVU Graduate/Professional Catalog)

“Graduate students may be suspended from their program by the director of their program or by the dean of their college/school by failing to maintain acceptable grades in their courses, by failing to show acceptable performance in other areas such as research progress or professional behavior (as determined by the program or the University), or by failing to meet the terms of probation. Suspension from a program normally follows a probation sanction. Typically, students are suspended from a program at the end of an academic term and are notified formally by the department and/or the dean of the college/school of suspension. However, students can be suspended from their program without a prior probation period and at times other than the end of a term in the case of serious violations of academic or professional standards, with approval of the college/school dean and either the Associate Provost for Graduate Academic Affairs or Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs (for Health Sciences programs).

A student who is suspended from their program will not be permitted to register for classes offered by their program or participate in other program activities until the student has been notified that the suspension sanction has been lifted. The normal period of suspension is either one academic semester or one calendar year. Students may [appeal](#) a suspension sanction. At the end of the suspension period, the program must reinstate or dismiss the student from the program. If appropriate, the student may be reinstated and placed on probation.”

<http://catalog.wvu.edu/graduate/enrollmentandregistration/#probationsuspensionstext>

Dismissal from a program (WVU Graduate/Professional Catalog)

“Graduate students may be dismissed from their program by the director of their program or by the dean of their college/school by failing to maintain acceptable grades in their courses, by failing to show acceptable performance in other areas such as research progress or professional behavior (as determined by the program or the University), or by failing to meet the terms of probation. Dismissal from a program normally follows a probation sanction. Typically, students are dismissed from a program at the end of an academic term and are notified formally by the department and/or the dean of the college/school of dismissal. However, students can be dismissed from their program without a prior probation period and at times other than the end of a term in the case of serious violations of academic or professional standards, with approval of the college/school dean and either the Associate Provost for Graduate Academic Affairs or Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs (for Health Sciences programs).

A student who is dismissed from a program will not be permitted to register for classes offered by their program or participate in other program activities. A student who is dismissed from a program will be reclassified as a non-degree student unless they are admitted into a different degree program. Students may [appeal](#) dismissal from a program.”

<http://catalog.wvu.edu/graduate/enrollmentandregistration/#probationsuspensionstext>

Penalties for Academic Dishonesty (WVU Graduate/Professional Catalog)

“Information for both students and faculty on procedures related to the resolution of allegations of academic dishonesty can be found on the [Academic Standards Resources](#) website. A student at West Virginia University who is found responsible for academic dishonesty will be subject to one or more of the following academic and/or disciplinary penalties:

1. Remedial and/or educational sanctions. Community service, educational classes, and other work or research projects may be imposed by the Director of Academic Integrity instead of or in addition to other specified sanctions.
2. Required repetition or revision of the academic assignment at issue.
3. A lower grade on the academic assignment or course at issue.
4. Failure of the academic assignment or course at issue.
5. Unforgivable failure (UF) of the course. When a UF is assigned, a student may repeat the course at issue, but the undergraduate (and where applicable, the graduate or professional school) D/F repeat process will not be applied. A permanent record will appear on the student’s transcript, and the F will be permanently factored into the student’s GPA.
6. Failure of the course with exclusion from further participation. The student will receive a final grade of an “F” for the course at issue but will be prohibited from continued enrollment or participation in the course for the duration of the semester.
7. Disciplinary probation, deferred suspension, or disciplinary suspension at the university level. More information concerning disciplinary probation, deferred suspension, and disciplinary suspension of students at the university level is available in the [West Virginia University Campus Student Code and in the regional campus handbooks](#).
8. Dismissal from a program, college, or school. Dismissal is defined as termination of student status, including any right or privilege to receive some benefit or recognition or certification, from a specific academic program. A student may be academically dismissed from any program and remain eligible to enroll in courses in other programs at the institution.
9. Expulsion. Permanent separation of the student from the University. More information concerning expulsion of students at the university level is available in the [West Virginia University Campus Student Code and in the regional campus handbooks](#).
10. Other sanctions. Other sanctions may be imposed instead of or in addition to those specified, where those sanctions bear a reasonable relationship to the nature and severity of the violation.”

<http://catalog.wvu.edu/graduate/enrollmentandregistration/#Standards>

Dismissal from the University (WVU Graduate/Professional Catalog)

“In some cases of student conduct violations, such as serious academic dishonesty and research misconduct, the program may recommend dismissal from the University (i.e., expulsion) or other University-level sanctions explained in the [Campus Student Code](#). In these circumstances, the case is referred to the [Office of Student Conduct](#) and Student Conduct processes apply.”

<http://catalog.wvu.edu/graduate/enrollmentandregistration/#DismissalUniversity>

Applicable ARC-PA 5th Edition Standards

A3.02 The program must define, publish, make readily available and consistently apply its policies and practices to all students.

A3.15 The program must define, publish, consistently apply and make readily available to students upon admission:

- a) any required academic standards,
- b) requirements and deadlines for progression in and completion of the program,
- c) policies and procedures for remediation and deceleration,
- d) policies and procedures for withdrawal and dismissal,
- e) policy for student employment while enrolled in the program,
- f) policies and procedures for allegations of student mistreatment, and
- g) policies and procedures for student grievances and appeals.

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