

Policy on Academic Remediation

I. POLICY

A student who has failed to make satisfactory progress towards the MD degree will be considered by the Committee on Student Promotions.

If the Committee on Student Promotions determines that remediation is indicated, the Committee will determine the acceptable remediation approach. The following table summarizes the usual approaches that may be selected for specific situations:

Remediation approaches for Year 1				
Approaches	Failure in 1 curriculum section	Failure in 2 curriculum sections	Failure in 3 or more curriculum sections	Incomplete grade, not completed prior to the June meeting of the Committee on Student Promotions
Proceed to the next curriculum section with summer remediation of the deficiencies.	X	X		
Academic leave of absence, with repeat of some or all the entire first year coursework.*	X	X	X	
Dismissal		X	X	
Summer remediation as specified by the course director.				X

During year 1 coursework, a second failure in a curriculum section that is being repeated would lead to automatic dismissal. The University of Pittsburgh policy is that a student may only register twice for any section.

All curriculum sections of year 1 must be successfully passed before entry into year 2.

Remediation approaches for Year 2				
Approaches	Failure in 1 curriculum section	Failure in 2 curriculum sections	Failure in 3 or more curriculum sections	Incomplete grade, not completed prior

				to the beginning of year 3 coursework
Proceed to the next curriculum section with summer remediation of the deficiencies.	X	X		
Academic leave of absence, with repeat of some or all of the second year coursework.*	X	X	X	X
Dismissal	X	X	X	

All curriculum sections of years 1 and 2 must be successfully passed before entry into year 3.

Remediation approaches for Year 3 and 4

Approaches	Failure in 1 required clerkship or course	Failure in 2 required clerkships or courses	Failure in 1 elective	Failure in 2 or more electives
Remediation as specified by the course director	X		X	
Remediation of failed clerkships plus repeat of some or all of the clerkship year*		X		
Dismissal		X		
Repeat each failed elective				X

*NOTE: A student who is required to repeat the entire year will be required to take and pass all of the courses during that year, including courses that had previously been completed satisfactorily. This applies to all curriculum years.

II. PURPOSE

Students who fail courses must be provided with an opportunity to remediate their failing performance and to develop the necessary level of mastery of the subject matter. The Committee on Student Promotions has a key role in determining the type of remediation activity that is appropriate for each student's situation. The faculty on the Committee on Student Promotions are charged to globally evaluate individual student performance and use their judgment in making decisions. This policy defines the usual approaches that may be selected for specific situations.

III. SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- Medical students

IV. POLICY AUTHOR(S)

- Office of Medical Education

V. RELATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- Policy on Academic Dismissal and Appeals
- Policy on Academic Probation
- Policy on Leave of Absence
- Policy on Requirements for Granting of the MD Degree
- Policy on Structure and Function of the Committee on Student Promotions
- Policy on Standards for Performance and Academic Progress
- Policy on Time Limitations for Completing Portions of the MD Degree Program
- Policy on USMLE Examinations and Clinical Competency Assessment

VI. REFERENCES

• LCME Standard 9.9: Single Standard for Promotion, Graduation and Appeal Process: A medical school ensures that the medical education program has a single standard for the promotion and graduation of medical students across all locations and a fair and formal process for taking any action that may affect the status of a medical student, including timely notice of the impending action, disclosure of the evidence on which the action would be based, an opportunity for the medical student to respond, and an opportunity to appeal any adverse decision related to promotion, graduation, or dismissal.

• LCME Standard 10.3: Policies Regarding Student Selection/Progress and Their Dissemination: The faculty of a medical school establish criteria for student selection and develop and implement effective policies and procedures regarding, and make decisions about, medical student application, selection, admission, assessment, promotion, graduation, and any disciplinary action. The medical school makes available to all interested parties its criteria, standards, policies, and procedures regarding these matters.

VII. APPROVALS

Education Policy Council

Dean, School of Medicine, December 30, 2018