

Policy on Academic Observation

I. POLICY

Any student who receives a failing transcript grade shall be placed on academic observation for the remainder of the academic year in which the failure occurs, as well as for the next academic year. The student will be notified in writing of the observation status, both when it starts and when it ends.

Any student who fails a course while on academic observation will be discussed by the Committee on Student Promotions for a decision regarding remediation or dismissal.

All students on academic observation shall be reviewed at the Committee meeting pertaining to the advancement of his/her class to the next academic level.

Any student placed on observation a second time (for example, at the end of the first year for a deficiency in a first year course and again at the end of the second year for a deficiency in a second year course) will remain on academic observation until graduation.

II. PURPOSE

A student who fails a course is at higher risk for experiencing additional academic difficulties. As a part of being placed on academic observation, students are specifically alerted to the possibility that additional unsatisfactory coursework could lead to dismissal from the MD degree program. It also initiates additional close monitoring by the Committee on Student Promotions.

III. SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- Medical students

IV. POLICY AUTHOR(S)

- Office of Student Affairs

V. RELATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- Policy on Academic Remediation

- Policy on Standards for Performance and Academic Progress
- Policy on Structure and Function of the Committee on Student Promotions
- Procedural Guidance on Student Promotions

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

Dean, School of Medicine, originally approved December 30, 2018

Education Policy Council, revision approved October 28, 2019.

Executive Committee, revision approved December 10, 2019.

Dean, School of Medicine, revision approved December 16, 2019.