Policy Statement.
Students enrolled in the Master of Physician Assistant (MPAS) curriculum must meet all minimum standards set by the PA Studies Program and the University of North Texas Health Science Center to remain in good standing. Students who do not meet these standards may be subject to dismissal or offered opportunities to correct deficiencies according to guidelines in course syllabi and/or applicable program or university policy.

Based on an affirmative recommendation by the PA Student Performance Committee (PASPC) and approval by the Director of PA Studies, a student who is not in good standing may be placed on academic probation. Any student who fails any course in the curriculum or whose academic performance falls below marginal standards will be placed on academic probation. A student is not permitted to graduate from the program while on academic probation.

Students on academic probation are not eligible to hold office in sanctioned student groups and are expected to resign from any elected or appointed positions held. Students on academic probation may be required to repeat all or any portion of the curriculum in order to improve their academic standing and are subject to dismissal based on poor academic performance.

A PA student may be dismissed from the PA program if that student:

- Earns a failing grade in any academic course or clinical practicum.
- Fails a course or clinical practicum due to unprofessional behavior.
- Fails any repeated course or clinical practicum in the curriculum.
- Continues to exhibit marginal performance, as defined in this policy, while on academic probation.
- Fails to meet any additional requirements outlined in an approved remediation plan.
- Fails any single course while on academic probation.
- Fails to comply with the Student Code of Conduct.
- Is not recommended for removal from academic probation by the PASPC.

Application of Policy.
Students enrolled in the Master of Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) curriculum.

Definitions.
1. **Marginal Performance**: A PA student who earns a semester grade point average (GPA) below 2.5 for any single semester in the curriculum will be placed on academic probation. Effective for new students entering the program on or after July 1, 2011, students who earn a semester GPA below 2.85 for any single semester in the curriculum will be placed on academic probation.

2. **Good Standing**: Good standing requires maintenance of a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better in the curriculum.

3. **Academic Probation**: Serves as notice to the student that their continued enrollment is in jeopardy due to poor academic performance. Failure to remedy any failing grade or improve academic performance (i.e., GPA) while on academic probation can lead to dismissal from the program.

4. **Promotion**: Advancement to the next semester or courses in the curriculum.

5. **Dismissal**: Disenrollment from the curriculum. A dismissed student is not eligible for graduation.

### Procedures and Responsibilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Procedure / Duty</th>
<th>Responsible Party</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Normal progression through the curriculum requires students to satisfactorily complete all course requirements. Standards for completion of each course are contained in the course syllabus.</td>
<td>Student</td>
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<td>2. PA students having marginal performance will be required to meet with the Director of PA Studies (or designee) to develop a plan for improving their performance.</td>
<td>Student</td>
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<td>3. Recommendations for dismissal are subject to approval by the Dean.</td>
<td>Dean, School of Health Professions</td>
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<td>4. The PA Student Performance Committee (PASPC) may be called upon to evaluate an individual student’s progress and/or performance in order to provide recommendations on matters of probation, dismissal, promotion and remediation. Special care shall be taken to assure due process and appeal when a student feels their rights have been violated.</td>
<td>PASPC</td>
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5. Any student who is on academic probation or who receives a failing grade in a repeated course will be permitted an opportunity to meet with the PASPC to discuss their performance prior to giving a recommendation for dismissal.

6. A student will not be permitted to graduate while on academic probation. Removal from academic probation requires recommendation by the PASPC and approval of the Director of PA Studies. Consideration for removal from academic probation will not normally take place sooner than 9 months after being placed on academic probation, unless that student's eligibility for graduation is under review.

7. Any student offered an opportunity for readmission after dismissal must apply through the normal admissions process. The academic record of any student who applies for re-admission will automatically become a part of the data considered by the admissions committee.

8. Appeals are handled according to university policy and procedures established by the PA.

References and Cross-references.
07.411 SHP – Physician Assistant Graduation Requirements
07.406 SHP – Physician Assistant Remediation Policy

Forms and Tools.

Approved: August 2004
Effective: August 2004; Revision in June 2010 effective September 2011
Revised: June 2010