



Policy Title:

Student Academic Success and Early Intervention Policy

Policy Identifier:

A3.07

Prepared by: PA Program Faculty	Creation Date: 01/01/2026
Reviewed by: PA Program Executive Committee	Review Date: 01/01/2026
Approved by: PA Program Executive Committee	Effective Date: 01/01/2026
Category: Academic and Student Support Policies	

ARC-PA Standards

A3.07

Scope

University of South Carolina (USC) School of Medicine Columbia PA students.

Policy Statement

The USC SOMC PA Program is committed to supporting students’ academic success, personal well-being, and timely access to resources that address any issues that may impact progress in the program. The program provides structured academic support and referral processes to promote student success and ensure compliance with ARC-PA Standard A3.07.

Reason for Policy

To ensure compliance with ARC-PA Standard A3.07 by establishing and publishing written procedures that provide timely access and referral to services addressing academic and personal issues that may affect a student’s progress in the PA program. This policy promotes early intervention, student well-being, and academic success.

Definitions

- **Student Success and Wellness Center:** A USC School of Medicine resource providing academic support, counseling, and wellness services to students.
- **Early Intervention:** A proactive process initiated when a student demonstrates academic difficulty, allowing timely support and referral to available resources.
- **Faculty Advisor:** A designated PA program faculty member assigned to support a student’s academic and professional development throughout the program.
- **Personal Issues:** Emotional, psychological, health-related, or life circumstances that may interfere with academic performance or progression.



Procedures

1. Academic Monitoring and Referral Process

- The PA Program monitors each student’s academic performance throughout all phases of the curriculum.
- During the didactic phase, students will be automatically referred by the Director of Didactic Education to the Student Success and Wellness Center if they meet any of the following criteria:
 - Scoring below 70% on one substantive assessment.
 - Scoring below 80% on more than one exam within a single semester.
- Students referred for academic support must also meet with their assigned faculty advisor to discuss performance and identify strategies for improvement.
- Students may decline services offered by the Student Success and Wellness Center; however, participation is strongly encouraged.

2. Personal and Wellness Support

- Students experiencing personal issues impacting academic performance may self-refer or be referred by faculty to the Student Success and Wellness Center.
- Services include academic counseling, mental health support, and stress management.
- Faculty and staff must respect confidentiality and direct students promptly to appropriate resources without attempting to provide counseling or medical care themselves.

3. Documentation and Follow-Up

- All referrals and student meetings related to academic or personal support must be documented by the faculty advisor.
- Follow-up meetings should be scheduled to evaluate student progress and ensure effective use of resources.
- Persistent academic or personal concerns will be reviewed by the Student Progress and Promotion Committee, following program policy.

Contacts

Program Director
 USC School of Medicine Columbia
 Physician Assistant Program

History

Date of Change	Change
01/01/2026	Templated into new policy