



Policy Title:
Remediation Policy

Policy Identifier:
A3.14c

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Category: Academic Standards and Remediation Policies	

ARC-PA Standards

A3.14c

Scope

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

Policy Statement

The USC School of Medicine Columbia Physician Assistant (PA) Program is committed to supporting student success while maintaining academic and professional competency standards. Remediation provides students with an opportunity to address deficiencies in knowledge, skills, or professionalism in a structured and timely manner. Remediation does not replace academic requirements or alter recorded grades but serves as a means to demonstrate competency in defined learning objectives.

Reason for Policy

To ensure compliance with ARC-PA Standard A3.14c by establishing clearly defined policies and procedures for remediation of academic, clinical, and professional deficiencies. This policy promotes fairness, consistency, and academic integrity in addressing student performance issues across all phases of the PA curriculum.

Definitions

- **Remediation:** A structured educational process designed to address identified academic or professional deficiencies and assess mastery of defined competencies.
- **SPPC (Student Progress and Promotions Committee):** The committee responsible for reviewing student performance, recommending remediation, and determining progression or dismissal.
- **SCPE (Supervised Clinical Practice Experience):** A structured clinical rotation providing supervised patient care experiences.
- **Summative Evaluation:** A comprehensive assessment used to confirm readiness for

graduation and entry into clinical practice.

Procedures

1. Didactic Remediation

General Policy

- Remediation applies to all exam scores below 70% in didactic coursework.
- Remediation does not result in a grade change; the original exam score remains recorded.
- The Course Director (or designee) determines the appropriate remediation activity.
- The remediation activity must be completed successfully with a score of 70% or higher to demonstrate competency.
- All remediation activities must be completed within seven (7) course calendar days of notification of the failing grade.
- Quizzes will not be remediated.

Failure to Remediate

- Students who do not successfully complete remediation or who continue to demonstrate deficiencies will be referred to the SPPC for review and further action.
- Students who fail a cumulative or final exam may be referred directly to the SPPC for evaluation.

Anatomy and Physiology Course Remediation

- Due to the academic rigor and integrated nature of Anatomy and Physiology:
 - Individual exams in these courses will not be remediated.
 - If a student fails either course, course remediation may be offered once during the student's enrollment.
 - Course remediation must be completed within one year of being offered.
 - Students completing course remediation for Anatomy or Physiology must repeat the entire semester, including all courses within that term, regardless of prior grades.
 - Original course grades remain on the transcript and are factored into the cumulative GPA.

2. Clinical Year Remediation

During the clinical phase, students are evaluated on academic, clinical, and professional performance. Failure in any of these domains may result in referral to the SPPC, which determines whether remediation, repetition, or dismissal is warranted.

Referral to the SPPC may occur for:

- Overall SCPE score below 70%.
- Preceptor evaluation score below 70%.
- End-of-Rotation (EOR) exam score below 70%.
- Failure to participate in required EOR activities or assessments.
- Removal from a clinical site by a preceptor or faculty member due to academic, clinical, or professionalism concerns.
- Endangering a patient, staff member, peer, or self during a clinical rotation.
- Unprofessional behavior on a SCPE, including absenteeism, tardiness, or inappropriate



communication.

- Preceptor or faculty concerns indicating deficiencies in knowledge, reasoning, or professionalism.

Remediation of a SCPE

- At the discretion of the SPPC, a student may be permitted to remediate a failed SCPE.
- Remediation may include repeating the SCPE, completing targeted learning activities, or undergoing additional clinical skills training.
- If a SCPE is repeated, it may be scheduled at the end of the clinical year, which may delay graduation and result in additional tuition or fees.
- Failure to meet the terms of clinical remediation or a second SCPE failure may result in dismissal from the program.

3. Summative Remediation

Prior to graduation, all PA students must successfully complete summative evaluations assessing the core competencies required for entry into clinical practice.

If a student fails any component of the summative evaluation (written, clinical skills, or professionalism):

- The student will be required to complete remediation as directed by the Program Director or designated faculty.
- The remediation process will target specific areas of deficiency and must be completed successfully before the student is approved for graduation.
- Failure to successfully remediate any component will result in review by the SPPC, which may delay graduation or result in dismissal from the program.

Enforcement and Accountability

Failure to complete remediation as required or continued deficiencies following remediation may result in disciplinary action, including academic probation, delay in progression, or dismissal.

All remediation actions and outcomes are documented in the student's academic record.

Contacts

Program Director
USC School of Medicine Columbia
Physician Assistant Program

History

Date of Change	Change
01/01/2026	Policy drafted into new template