

 Policies & Procedures Manual	# Pages: 3	Policy Number: AC-01-30
	Approved by: Learning Council	
Section: Academic - Student	Effective Date: February 20, 2024	
Title: Academic Assessment for Faculty of Health Students	Replaces: February 21, 2023	

POLICY STATEMENT

All students attending Faculty of Health programs are expected to maintain an acceptable standard of academic achievement.

Diploma in Practical Nursing (DPN) students are required to obtain a minimum of a “C” grade (2.0) in every course, and a minimum program Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.5 in order to graduate. A final grade of “D” in any course taken to complete the diploma requirement is considered a failure and will not be used for credit toward graduation.

Primary Care Paramedic (PCP) students are required to obtain a minimum of a “B” grade (3.0) in every PAR course, and a minimum program GPA of 3.5 in order to graduate. A final grade of “C” in any non-PAR course taken is required.

Students shall be evaluated at the conclusion of each academic term, including the spring session, in which they receive a final grade in a minimum of 6 credit hours of course work, with the assessment being based on the resulting Term Grade Point Average (TGPA) in those courses. Students who do not complete the minimum credit hours in one term will be assessed as “too few credit hours to assess.” These students will be assessed over two terms or more and will be evaluated at the end of the term in which they reach the threshold of 6 credit hours.

Students will be permitted to repeat the same NUR or PAR course only once following a failure.

Withdrawal from the DPN or PCP program will be required following: 1) a second failure in the same NUR or PCP course, 2) failure in any two clinical courses, and 3) a TGPA of less than 2.5 for DPN students and less than 3.5 for PCP students after reinstatement.

Students who are required to withdraw from any Faculty of Health program are ineligible for re-admission to the program for at least 6 (six) years. A transcript notation will be placed on the student’s academic record that the student is required to withdraw, and will include a return eligibility date to the specific program.

PURPOSE OF POLICY

To monitor the academic performance of Faculty of Health students and to implement interventions to support student success.

PROCEDURES

Good Academic Standing

A Faculty of Health student with an acceptable TGPA as follows:

- DPN students with a TGPA of 2.5 or higher
- PCP students with a TGPA of 3.5 or higher in PAR courses.

Academic Warning

The first time a Faculty of Health student's TGPA drops below the acceptable level as follows will receive an academic warning:

- DPN students with a TGPA below 2.5,
- PCP students with a TGPA below 3.5 in PAR courses.

Academic Probation

The second time a student's TGPA drops below 2.5 (DPN students) and 3.5 in PAR courses (PCP students), the student will be placed on Academic Probation. The student will be referred to the Learner's Assistance Centre (LAC) for academic support.

- The student may be required to repeat selected program courses, or the student may be required to register for selected non-program courses (not elective courses), e.g., the student may be required to take reading and writing, math, or science courses.
- If any courses are repeated, the student will be subject to all academic regulations related to final grades in repeated courses, and the number of failures allowed in any given course or sequence of courses in the Faculty of Health program.
- Students will be allowed to register in courses that they are required to repeat after students who are taking the course for the first time have had the opportunity to register, and the availability of space in the course can be confirmed.
- The student will be required to meet with the applicable program Coordinator at least twice during the subsequent term of study.
- If there are non-academic issues interfering with the student's academic progress, the student will be required to make every effort to deal with, and resolve those issues during the period of academic probation.

Academic Suspension

The third time a student's TGPA drops below 2.5 (DPN students) and 3.5 in PAR courses (PCP students), the student will be placed on Academic Suspension. Students who are suspended shall be ineligible to take any courses at UCN for a minimum of eight and a maximum of fifteen (15) calendar months. The time period for the suspension actually served by the student is contingent on the program timetable and course availability.

Once the term of suspension has been completed, a student may apply for reinstatement. The student will be placed on academic probation upon his/her return to the Faculty of Health program.

Academic Reinstatement

Students who wish to continue their studies in the applicable Faculty of Health program must submit a written application for reinstatement to the Dean of Health by May 1. The written application must specifically address the academic and non-academic issues that had affected the student's academic standing prior to his/her academic suspension and describe how these issues were addressed and/or resolved.

At a minimum, this information should include:

- An outline of what the student has been doing during their time away from the program (e.g., developing good study habits, attending counseling, etc.);
- An explanation of what has changed to make it more likely that they will be successful, and their plan for success if reinstated; and
- An academic plan for the duration of their studies.

The applicable DPN or PCP Admissions Committee will consider each request on a case-by-case basis and reserves the right to deny a student's request for reinstatement.

Students who are reinstated or who are actively under consideration for reinstatement will be subject to the following procedures with respect to their course registrations:

1. Students who are suspended at the end of the Fall Term (December) will:
 - Request reinstatement by May 1 of the same year in which they were suspended;
 - Be given a final decision in writing by the end of June or early July;
 - Register for courses during the Faculty's registration period; and
 - Proceed with coursework in the Fall term, subject to course/space availability.
2. Students who are suspended at the end of the Winter Term (April) will:
 - Request reinstatement by May 1st of the following year;
 - Be given a final decision in writing by the end of June or early July;
 - Register for Fall term courses during the Faculty's registration period; and
 - Proceed with coursework in the Fall term, subject to course/space availability.
3. Students who are suspended at the end of the Spring/Summer Term will:
 - Request reinstatement by May 1 of the following year;
 - Be given a final decision in writing by the end of June or early July;
 - Register for courses during the Faculty's registration periods; and
 - Proceed with coursework in the Fall term, subject to course/space availability.

Students who do not apply for reinstatement by the May 1st deadline will be considered as having withdrawn from the applicable program and will be required to reapply to the program as a new student.

Students who are permitted to return from suspension will be placed on probation and be required to meet with the applicable Academic Advisor to develop an academic plan.