



# Academic Standards and Progression-Completion Policy

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**APPLIES TO:** CMU PA Students

**DATE OF REVISION:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2024

## **BACKGROUND:**

ARC-PA Standard A3.15 a-c states: *The program must define, publish, consistently apply and make readily available to students upon admission: a) any required academic standards; b) requirements and deadlines for progression in and completion of the program; and c) policies and procedures for remediation and deceleration.*

## **PURPOSE:**

To comply with ARC-PA standard A3.15 a & b, we must define, publish, apply, and make readily available to students the expectations of the CMU PA Program in regard to academic standards a student must achieve as well as how a PA student progresses in the program and what is required for completion of the PA Program.

## **POLICY:**

CMU PA Program policy regarding ARC Standard A 3.15, a & b, applies to both the incoming and current didactic students as well as the clinical year students. This information will be available to them via the CMU PA Program website as well as the Program Handbook and CMU Clinical Year Handbook.

## **PROCEDURE:**

### **Standard A3.15a**

- a) Academic Standards - Upon Admission
  1. Earned a bachelor's degree with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher (3.25 if CMU graduate)
  2. Successfully complete Pre-requisite courses
    - a. Anatomy Lecture/Lab
    - b. Physiology Lecture/Lab
    - c. Pathophysiology
    - d. Microbiology (with or without lab)
    - e. Biochemistry (with or without lab)
    - f. Developmental Psychology (birth -geriatric age)
  3. Acquire at least 500 hours of direct patient care.
    - a. Program-approved DPC experiences-[Direct Patient Care Hours List \(cmich.edu\)](https://cmich.edu/direct-patient-care-hours-list)
- b) Academic Standards - After Matriculation
  1. Maintain a cumulative 3.00 or above GPA for all PA courses (PHA XXX or HSC 630 if applicable)
    - a. Falling below a 3.00 GPA after any semester will result in Academic Probation by the Office of Graduate Studies. Per policy, students will have 2 semesters to reach an overall GPA of 3.0
      - i. Graduate Policy - <https://cmich.smartcatalogiq.com/en/2023-2024/graduate-bulletin/policies-and-general-information/academic-policies-and-information/graduate-academic-and-retention-standards/>
  2. Pass all courses in the PA curriculum with a C or better



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## Standard 3.15b

- c) Requirements and Deadlines for Progression in the Program
  1. PA students will advance through the curriculum via semesters IF they are able to meet the Academic Standard after matriculation.
  2. Per Graduate Studies Policy, a student who is unable to achieve a GPA of 3.0 or better after 2 probationary semesters may be dematriculated. The PA Program Progress Committee would meet prior to any action taken by Graduate Studies to advocate for the student based on other aspects of student performance.
  3. A student must “successfully relate” to clients to progress in the program as explained in the Graduate Studies Bulletin. If a student does not successfully relate or performs poorly regarding patient care, clinical knowledge or professionalism, they may be placed on probation, suspended or decelerated and/or dismissed from the program
  4. All courses must be successfully completed (C or better) in order for a student to progress to the next semester. In the event that the student fails a course, they will be decelerated until such time as they can retake the failed course and pass with a C or greater. In the event that they are also below a 3.0 GPA, they will remain on probation per Graduate Studies policy.
- d) Requirements and Deadlines for Completion of the Program
  1. Successfully complete all PA courses in the PA curriculum with a GPA of 3.0 or higher – 130 credit hrs.
  2. Successfully complete all Supervised Clinical Practical Experiences as defined by the program (8 rotations):
    - a. Pass all end-of-rotation exams for each SCPE with a score of 74% or higher
    - b. Pass the preceptor evaluation at the end of all SCPE’s with a score of 75% or higher and with scores of 3 or higher in all sections.
    - c. Achieve a score of 1475 or greater on the End of Curriculum Exam
    - d. Achieve a passing score on the Capstone project
    - e. Fulfill the service-learning requirement of 40 recorded hours while in program
    - f. Earn a passing score of 80% on program summative professionalism evaluation
    - g. Fulfill the Observed Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) requirement of successfully completing all stations with an overall passing score of 80%.
- e) Please note the following:
  1. Once a student has matriculated in the PA Program, in the case of a student-initiated leave or program- defined deceleration, the student has 48 months to successfully complete all requirements of the PA program.
  2. A student is only allowed (1) deceleration throughout the duration of the program whether student-initiated or program-initiated, for professional remediation or academic remediation.
  3. Any student who has been decelerated in the clinical year and has been without didactic instruction for more than one year will be required to repeat the didactic curriculum before resuming clinical rotations at their expense.



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Approved by Faculty Executive Committee on June 7, 2024.

*Kathleen Flannery PA-C*

6/7/2024

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*Signature*

*Date*

Kathleen Flannery, PA-C  
CMU PA Interim Program Director