

**UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE**

SUBJECT: Academic Standing Policy
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I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

To inform faculty, staff, and students of student academic standing requirements, processes, and procedures at UH College of Medicine.

II. BACKGROUND

Students must maintain or re-attain good academic standing to continue in and complete the medical education program.

III. POLICY

A. Good Standing

1. Good standing is a designation that indicates a student is eligible for promotion to the next phase of the medical education program, for continued participation in the curriculum, or for transfer to another institution.
2. A student must be in good standing in order to be selected for leadership positions, to represent the College of Medicine, or for external research or clinical experiences.
3. Academic and professionalism issues may, but do not automatically, result in revocation of the status of good standing.
4. The Student Performance and Advancement Committee (SPAC) will examine serious academic and professionalism issues to determine whether they impact the standing of the student.

B. Remediation and/or Disciplinary Actions

1. The SPAC will determine whether any academic or professionalism disciplinary action that may impact a student's eligibility to be promoted or to continue in the curriculum will result in the loss of good standing.
2. Revocation of status of good standing becomes effective only after the student has exhausted all appeal processes.
3. When the terms of the disciplinary action are satisfied, the SPAC may restore the status of good standing with the student remaining in academic watch or warning (see below). Remediation is not considered a disciplinary action unless the SPAC explicitly deems it as such.

C. Academic Watch or Warning

1. UHCOM uses two internal categories called: "academic watch" or "academic warning," neither of which, in and of itself, result in the loss of good standing. Even while maintaining the designation of good standing, failures within the curriculum may result in the SPAC placing the student in a status of "academic watch" or "academic warning."
2. **Academic watch** indicates that a student is *potentially* at risk of not meeting requirements for promotion as a result of academic failures and/or breaches of professional behavior.
 - a. Examples of academic watch:
 1. A student has failed one course
 2. Professionalism issues
 3. Unsatisfactory performance on CBSE

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- b. Consequences of Academic Watch:
 1. Encouraged to resign from leadership positions
 2. Encouraged to decrease extracurricular activities
 3. Should meet with Learning Community Mentor
 4. Should meet with Director of Academic Support on regular basis
 3. **Academic Warning** indicates that a student is at risk of being *dismissed* from the College of Medicine as a result of academic failures and/or breaches of professional behavior.
 - a. Examples of Academic Warning:
 1. A student has failed two courses in first semester.
 2. Failure of 2 courses in a subsequent semester.
 3. Persistent professionalism issues or egregious professionalism issue.
 - b. Consequences of Academic Warning:
 1. Must resign all leadership positions
 2. May not participate in external rotations or research experiences
 3. Must meet with Learning Community Mentor
 4. Must meet with Director of Academic Support on regular basis
 4. Both academic watch and academic warning are internal designations and will not be on the transcript, MSPE (Medical Student Performance Evaluation), or other official document that is shared externally.
 5. Corrective measures instituted by the SPAC to address issues of academic watch or warning may include, but are not limited to, remediation programs (internal or external), or repetition of the curriculum of an entire year (see SPAC policy). When external remediation programs are prescribed, students will be responsible for attendant financial costs. Additionally, standard tuition and fee charges will apply to any repeated course work.
 6. Students in the status of academic watch or warning will remain under the purview of the SPAC until successful completion of all remediations. Failure of any course or a clerkship will bring those students' issues back before the SPAC. The SPAC considers the complete academic and professional history of all students presenting to the committee.
 7. Students in the status of academic watch or warning who intend to take a leave of absence must meet with the ADSAAO. For most leaves, students on academic watch or warning must receive approval of the SPAC prior to the leave and receive direction on requirements for return from the SPAC. (See Leave of Absence Policy)
- D. Removal from Academic Watch or Warning
1. A student will be removed from Academic Watch or Warning by the SPAC when remediations are completed or when a student has shown adequate progression by time and performance.
 2. A student may petition the SPAC to be removed from Academic Watch or Warning if they feel they have completed the remediations and have demonstrated adequate progression.

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E. Reinstatement of Good Standing

A student must request the SPAC to reinstate Good Standing after all requirements set out by the committee have been met. This does not need to wait until the end of the next academic year if the student feels they have met the requirements.

F. Sanction

If a student loses Good Standing and is subsequently brought in front of SPAC for a further offense, a Sanction can be imposed which would be on the MSPE and part of the official transcript.

IV. MONITORING OF THIS POLICY

A. The Office of Student Affairs will monitor student academic standing.

Approval History		
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