



School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences › Departments › Administrative Offices › Student Success and Engagement › PharmD Student Handbook › **Academic Progression**

Academic Progression

This policy pertains ONLY to students originally accepted into the PharmD class of 2025 and prior.

[▶](#) View the academic success policy for the Classes of 2026 and 2027

To maintain academic standards and determine eligibility for continued enrollment, and participation in school activities, the SPPS Student Academic Affairs Committee regularly reviews the academic records of all professional pharmacy students.

This review addresses the quality of the student's studies as measured by the student's course grades, semester grade point average (GPA) and cumulative GPA. For the purposes of this document, semester and cumulative GPA are based on required courses only. Elective and waived courses are excluded from the UB SPPS GPA calculations (semester and cumulative) when determining academic good standing.

Academic reviews are conducted at the end of each fall and spring semester.

The following policy supersedes prior UB SPPS policies regarding course remediation. However, please note that this policy does not apply to grades received prior to the Fall of 2021, as this policy goes into effect for the beginning of the Fall 2021 semester. In cases where remediation is required for grades received prior to the Fall 2021 semester, that remediation must be completed by the terms defined within the prior Progression Policy.

Questions regarding this policy may be directed to the Office of the Senior Associate Dean for Student, Professional and Community Affairs.

This policy does not alter SPPS GPA requirements, which are summarized in Table 3.

[▶ See also: Academic Intervention and Remediation](#)

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This policy does not alter SPSS GPA requirements, which are summarized in Table 3.

Table 1. Course Grade Actions

This policy pertains to students originally accepted into the PharmD class of 2025 and prior.

Course Grade	Additional Considerations	SAAC Action	Student Requirements	Student Requirements for the Pharmacotherapeutics (PT) Sequence Courses: Course Numbers are Listed in Table 2
A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
D	Semester GPA ² ≥ 2.50	Caution Letter	N/A	N/A
D	Semester GPA ² < 2.50	Probation ³	The student must repeat the course(s) where the D grade(s) was (were) earned. The student must earn a C grade or better in the repeated course(s). In some cases, a student may be required to obtain higher course grades (e.g., B's) and/or semester	The student must repeat the course(s) where the D grade(s) was (were) earned. The student must earn a C grade or better in the repeated course(s). In some cases, a student may be required to obtain higher course grades (e.g., B's) and/or semester

GPA's by the Student Academic Affairs Committee to meet the requirements of good academic standing.

Up to one course is remediable during the winter session, and up to two courses are remediable during the summer session, subject to the conditions of the Academic Intervention and Remediation⁴ policy.

Refer to the Academic Intervention and Remediation⁴ policy for specific details on repeating courses through remediation.

A student with more than three D grades will repeat those courses in the next regularly scheduled academic fall or spring semester. This will result in a student being held back a year, resulting in a delayed graduation.

A student may be held back a year, resulting in a delayed graduation for courses that do not qualify for remediation or if the student chooses to repeat the course during the regularly scheduled fall / spring semesters.

GPA's by the Student Academic Affairs Committee to meet the requirements of good academic standing.

Up to two D grades *in the pharmacotherapy courses* are remediable during a single summer session, subject to the conditions of the Academic Intervention and Remediation⁴ policy.

Refer to the Academic Intervention and Remediation⁴ policy for specific details on repeating courses through remediation

A student with more than two D grades *in the pharmacotherapy courses* will repeat those courses in the next regularly scheduled academic fall or spring semester. This will result in a student being held back a year, resulting in a delayed graduation.

A student may be held back a year, resulting in a delayed graduation for courses that do not qualify for remediation or if the student chooses to repeat the course during the regularly scheduled fall / spring semesters.

D

Prior grade of ≤ D in a course within the same course series (see chart below)

Probation³

The student must repeat those courses where the D grades we earned, regardless of GPA. The student must earn a C grade or better in the repeated courses.

In some cases, a student may be required to obtain higher course grades (e.g., B's) and/or semester GPA's by the Student Academic Affairs Committee to meet the requirements of good academic standing.

Up to one course is remediable during the winter session, and up to two courses are remediable during the summer session, subject to the conditions of the Academic Intervention and Remediation⁴ policy

Refer to the Academic Intervention and Remediation⁴ policy for specific details on repeating courses through remediation.

A student may be held back a year, resulting in a delayed graduation for courses that do not qualify for

The student must repeat those courses where the D grades we earned, regardless of GPA. The student must earn a C grade or better in the repeated courses.

In some cases, a student may be required to obtain higher course grades (e.g., B's) and/or semester GPA's by the Student Academic Affairs Committee to meet the requirements of good academic standing.

Up to two D grades *in the pharmacotherapy course sequence* are remediable during a single summer session, subject to the conditions of the Academic Intervention and Remediation³ policy.

Refer to the Academic Intervention and Remediation⁴ policy for specific details on repeating courses through remediation

A student with more than two D grades *in the pharmacotherapy courses* will repeat those courses in

remediation or if the student chooses to repeat the course during the regularly scheduled fall / spring semesters.


the next regularly scheduled academic fall or spring semester. This will result in a student being held back a year, resulting in a delayed graduation.

A student may be held back a year, resulting in a delayed graduation for courses that do not qualify for remediation or if the student chooses to repeat the course during the regularly scheduled fall / spring semesters.

F	N/A	Probation ³	<p>The student must repeat those courses where the F grade was earned, regardless of GPA. The student must earn a C grade or better in the repeated courses.</p> <p>In some cases, a student may be required to obtain higher course grades (e.g., B's) and/or semester GPA's by the Student Academic Affairs Committee to meet the requirements of good academic standing.</p> <p>Up to three F grades are remediable during a single academic year, subject to the conditions of the Academic Intervention and Remediation³ policy. (I,e,one course in the winter session and up to two courses during the summer sessions).</p> <p>Refer to the Academic Intervention and Remediation⁴ policy for specific details on repeating courses through remediation.</p> <p>A student may be held back a year, resulting in a delayed graduation for courses that do not qualify for remediation or if the student chooses to repeat the course during the regularly scheduled fall / spring semesters.</p>	<p>The student must repeat those courses where the F grade was earned, regardless of GPA. The student must earn a C grade or better in the repeated courses.</p> <p>In some cases, a student may be required to obtain higher course grades (e.g., B's) and/or semester GPA's by the Student Academic Affairs Committee to meet the requirements of good academic standing.</p> <p>A student with one or more F grades <i>in the pharmacotherapy courses</i> will repeat those courses in the next regularly scheduled academic fall or spring semester. This will result in a student being held back a year, resulting in a delayed graduation.</p> <p>A student with one or more unrepeated F grades <i>in the pharmacotherapy courses</i> shall not enroll and take PHM 705.</p>
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2. GPA reflects required coursework, not including electives

3. Note: Students will remain on academic probation until all terms of the probation have been met, including successful completion of repeated courses (earning grades of C or better and a GPA \geq 2.50). as directed by the Student Academic Affairs Committee.

4. UB SPPS Academic and Intervention Remediation policy may be found [here](#) .

A student will be dismissed if the student fails to meet the terms of Academic Probation. Depending on the history and circumstances particular to the student, the student may be offered remediation, allowed an appeal, or permanently dismissed from the PharmD program (as determined by the terms and conditions of the student's academic probation and this policy). The Student Academic Affairs Committee may recommend a remediation plan for a student, based on this policy and the Academic Intervention and Remediation policy GPA.

Table 2. Course Series

Explanation	Course Series ¹
Students earning two or more grades of $\leq D$ in a course series must repeat the courses where D or F grades were earned ² .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · PHC 501, PHC 529, PHC 530 · PHC 531, PHC 532 · PHM 503, PHM 504
Students earning two or more grades of $\leq D$ in a course series will remain on academic probation until all terms of the probation have been met, including successful completion of repeated courses (earning grades of C or better) ² .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · PMY 511, PMY 512 · PHM 505, PHM 506 · PHM 515, PHM 516, PHM 615, PHM 616, PHM 715, PHM 716 · PHM 651Lec, PHM 652Lec, PHM 651Lab, PHM 652Lab · PHM 581, PHM 582, PHM 681, PHM 682, PHM 781, PHM 782 · PHM 530, PHM 730
Pharmacotherapeutic course sequence ²	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · PHM 501, PHM 601, PHM 602, PHM 603, PHM 604, PHM 701, PHM 702, PHM 703, PHM 704, PHM 705

1. Course Series Include courses listed for each bullet in the table above.

2. Students are referred to Table 1 above for complete explanation of remediation and repetition of course work

Table 3. GPA Requirements

This policy pertains to students originally accepted into the PharmD class of 2025 and prior.

SAAC Action ¹	Semester GPA ²	Applies to Classes of 2024	
		End of the academic year Cumulative GPA ^{2,3}	
PROBATION ^{3,4}	<2.50	n/a	
DISMISSAL ^{4,5}	NA	<2.50	
CAUTION	>2.50 <2.75	>2.50 <2.75	

1. Action to be taken by the Student Academic Affairs Committee (SAAC)

2. GPA reflects required coursework, not including electives

3. Students may not enter the P4 APPE rotations while on probation.

4. Students who violate the conditions of their probation will be dismissed from the PharmD program.

5. The SAAC may dismiss a student, even after one semester, in cases where the Committee concludes that the student has failed to meet SPPS standards with respect to academic performance. A student will be released from the program if his/her SPPS GPA is < 2.0 in the required coursework after the first semester. Required coursework does not include electives.

Academic Good Standing

This policy pertains to students originally accepted into the PharmD class of 2025 and prior.

A student is in Academic Good Standing if:

- The student's UB SPPS cumulative GPA is 2.50 or greater
- The student's most recent UB SPPS semester GPA is 2.50 or greater AND
- The student earns C grades or better in each course during the most recent semester OR
- The student earns B- grades on each APPE rotation (P4 year)

A student in Academic Good Standing is eligible for all School and University Activities.

Academic Probation**This policy pertains to students originally accepted into the PharmD class of 2025 and prior.**

Academic Probation is based on Minimum Semester GPA and Course Grades. A student is on Academic Probation and not in Academic Good Standing if:

- The student's UB SPPS cumulative GPA is less than 2.50 at the end of the year OR
- The student's most recent UB SPPS semester GPA is less than 2.50 OR
- The student earns a grade of F in a semester
- The student receives TWO grades of $\leq D$ in a series of related courses as per chart OR
- The student earns a C+ or C grade on one APPE rotation (P4)

A student on Academic Probation may have restrictions on work and School and University activities as determined by the SPPS Student Academic Affairs Committee. A student on probation must meet the conditions of that probation or release from the program will occur.

Terms of Academic Probation:

- All course grades** obtained during the probationary period must be C or better
- While on Academic Probation, semester GPA must be ≥ 2.50
- If 2 or more courses require repeating/remediating, the student may be held back a year, thereby delaying graduation

- All grades on APPE rotations must be B- or better (P4)
- Students can only be placed on Academic Probation twice. The third instance of Academic Probation results in dismissal.

Conditions Removing Academic Probation:

- All course grades** obtained during the probationary period are C or better **AND**
- While on Academic Probation, semester GPA ≥ 2.50 **AND**
- Cumulative GPA ≥ 2.50

Academic Dismissal

This policy pertains to students originally accepted into the PharmD class of 2025 and prior.

A student meets the criteria for Academic Dismissal from the SPPS Professional Pharmacy program if:

- The Student Academic Affairs Committee decides that the student be dismissed, even after one semester, who has not met the standards of the school with respect to academic performance.
- Failure to meet the conditions of the previous semester's Academic Probation
- While on Academic Probation the semester GPA < 2.50
- The student's UB SPPS cumulative GPA is less than 2.50 at the end of the P2 or P3 year
- Any remediated or repeated course grade earning a grade less than a C
- While on Academic Probation, earning a grade $< B-$ in any further APPE rotation
- Earning a grade of F on any APPE rotation in the P4 year

P2, P3, and P4 students who are Academically Dismissed may be readmitted to the program by permission of the Student Academic Affairs Committee through a written petition. This petition must indicate a specific course or courses to be repeated and include an outline of other changes in the professional/personal circumstances to assist him/her in achieving academic success. P2 and P3 students gaining readmission will be placed on Academic Probation and, in most cases, will not be able to progress directly into the P3 or P4 year, respectively.

****required courses in the curriculum. Electives must earn a C or better to be credited.**

P4 APPE Eligibility/Progression/Dismissal Policy

NOTE: Refer to the APPE Manual for the full policy for details on all APPE policies.

The information below concerns only Eligibility, Progression and Dismissal for use by the Student Academic Affairs Committee in determining the Academic Status of P4 Students

A. STUDENT ELIGIBILITY FOR APPE

Students in the Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience Program that are in good standing, and not presently on probationary status (see below) as determined by the UB SPPS Student Academic Affairs Committee, may be eligible for APPE rotation assignments when the student has satisfactorily completed the following:

1. All required courses as assigned by the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Curriculum Committee that pertain to that particular class year.
2. Elective credit hours
3. All rotational prerequisites which include:
 - Successful completion of all three levels of IPPE
 - Attendance at entire APPE orientation session in May of each year

NOTE: Once all of the above have been completed, students will then be allowed to progress onto their APPE year starting in Module 1 (annually in May).

B. CURRENT SCHOOL OF PHARMACY AND PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES PROBATION POLICY FOR STUDENTS COMPLETING THE THIRD PROFESSIONAL YEAR

Students who are on Academic Probation as defined by the UB SPPS and/or the UB SPPS Student Academic Affairs Committee may not enter the advanced pharmacy practice experience program (APPE). This includes the following:

- Students with a P3 spring semester GPA lower than 2.50 but overall cumulative GPA of 2.50 or greater
- Students with an F in any required course during the P3 spring semester

Students who are on probation for two semesters during the P3 year (Fall P3 and Spring P3) will be dismissed. If a student appeals this decision and the appeal is accepted the student will be required to repeat and/or fulfill additional courses/requirements as part of a comprehensive remediation plan as deemed necessary by the Student Academic Affairs Committee. The student may not progress into the experiential program until the successful completion of the remediation plan. The decision of the Student Academic Affairs Committee is final for progression into the P4 year.

Course Repeat while on Probation

In situations where a student is required to repeat course as a condition of probation, students may take a comparable course at another ACPE accredited pharmacy school, only under all of the following conditions:

- The student's graduation is delayed a year as a result of being on probation, and
- There is a scheduling time conflict with the UB SPPS required repeated course and another required UB SPPS pharmacy course, and
- Attendance is mandatory for both the required UB SPPS course and the time conflict required UB SPPS course (i.e., the student cannot be in both classes at the same time), and
- There is no accommodation mechanism in either UB SPPS course for the student to attend one course and participate asynchronously in the other UB SPPS course, and
- The Asst / Associate Dean of Academic Affairs approves of the comparable course at another ACPE accredited pharmacy school, and
- The student is authorized by the Asst/Assoc Deans of Student Success and Engagement and Academic Affairs to take a comparable course at another ACPE accredited pharmacy school, and
- The student is responsible for all associated tuition and fees at the other another ACPE accredited pharmacy school, and
- The student must submit a transcript showing a passing grade from the comparable course to satisfy the requirements of the required UB SPPS repeated course.

Grading and Probation Status: Criteria for Successful Completion of APPE

Rotation	Grade	Consequence
All Rotations	A, A-, B+, B, B-	Student passes rotation and may proceed to the next module of the program.
All Rotations	C-, C or C+	If this is the first C-, C or C+ the student has received after completing an APPE module, the student passes the rotation. However, the student will be placed on academic probation. If a second C-, C or C+ grade is received after completing any future module, the student will be removed from the Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience Program (APPE). The student will not be able to proceed to future rotations. As such, the student's graduation will be delayed. The Student Academic Affairs Committee will decide on the appropriate remediation actions (e.g., coursework, projects etc. through interactions with APPE) that the student must fulfill. Only after successful completion of the assigned work will the student be allowed to repeat the rotations with the achievement of a grade better than a C. All repeated rotations are contingent upon availability and may occur outside the immediate WNY area.
All Rotations	F	A student who receives a final grade of F on an APPE rotation will fail that APPE rotation. The Student Academic Affairs Committee will receive notice of the failing grade and will review and determine its implications on the student's ability to continue in the PharmD program.

As such, the student will be withheld from continuing APPE rotations until the committee decision is finalized and the student granted permission to continue; the student's expected graduation date may be delayed.

A grade of B- or higher will be considered a minimally satisfactory grade for the Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience Program. A student who obtains **one C-, C or C+ on any rotation** are placed on academic probation.

Students who are required to remediate rotations will have his/her graduation delayed and are not eligible to take any required pharmacy licensing examinations.

Participation in Organizations

You will be required to resign any officer position of any organization if you are on probation. This must be done prior to the semester starting probation. You may continue to be a member of that association or group, but NOT in a leadership position.

Appeals



[Click Here for Appeals Information](#)