

Policy Title: Policies and Procedures for Program Deceleration
APR-PA Accreditation Standards for Physician Assistant Education, 6th Edition
Standards Addressed: A3.14d
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ARC-PA Standard(s) Addressed

A3.14 The program publishes, consistently applies, and makes readily available to enrolled and prospective students:

c) policies and procedures for deceleration

Policy

Deceleration is the removal of a student from the entering cohort (class) who remains matriculated in the Program and enters a subsequent cohort. Deceleration may be recommended at any time to a student who does not meet the requirements for progression in the Program.

A student may also decelerate because of an approved leave of absence granted by the SPC. Refer to the *Leave of Absence Policy* for more information. The SPC will be responsible for making deceleration decisions. A student who is decelerated due to a leave of absence will be required to repeat the entire didactic and/or clinical year. The time of return to the Program will be reviewed by the Student Progress Committee and the Program Director. The student will be notified of their return date by the program director.

Students who fail one course during the didactic phase and do not pass the comprehensive remediation and reassessment of the course are placed on academic probation. Students who fail one clinical rotation during the clinical phase and do not pass the remediation and reassessment of the rotation are placed on academic probation. If a student on academic probation, either in the didactic or clinical phase of the Program, fails to meet all the requirements during the probationary period, the student will be referred to the SPC. The student's file will be reviewed as a whole by the SPC, and if it is believed that the student will succeed in the future, the student may be decelerated and required to repeat the entire didactic and/or clinical year. The conditions of the deceleration and return to enrollment status will be defined at the time the deceleration is initiated.

- All courses that have been successfully completed must be audited for self-evaluation, and a grade of at least a C must be achieved.
- On return to the Program, the student will remain on permanent academic probation for the remainder of his/her time in the Program.
- Failure of any didactic course or clinical rotation after return to the Program will result in dismissal from the Program.

A student who is decelerated to the next cohort will be notified in writing by the Program Director. The student must inform the Program of their intentions to matriculate with the next cohort three months prior to

the start of the Program. If a student fails to notify the Program of their intent to return, the student will be dismissed and required to reapply. Students who are decelerated will be removed from the current cohort and required to sign a letter of acknowledgement and understanding of the terms for the deceleration.

Students who fail two didactic courses in a single semester or who fail a second didactic course while on academic probation, are not eligible for deceleration. Students who fail a repeated clinical rotation or a second clinical rotation while on academic probation are not eligible for deceleration. These students are referred to the SPC for dismissal from the Program.