

Committee on Student Promotions and Academic Achievement (MDPC)

The MDPC is the standing committee of the School of Medicine (SOM) of Baylor College of Medicine charged with monitoring medical student performance in and progression through the SOM curriculum and ensuring that all students graduating from the SOM meet the academic and professionalism standards required for the degree Doctor of Medicine (MD). The MDPC is composed of voting members, faculty members representing both the Foundational Sciences curriculum and the Clinical Sciences curriculum, as well as non-voting (ex officio) members, deans from the Office of Student Affairs and the Office of Curriculum. The MDPC is responsible for ensuring that every student satisfactorily completes each required element of the SOM curriculum, meets all requirements for promotion from one year of study to the next year of study, and ultimately satisfies all the requirements for the degree Doctor of Medicine prior to graduation. The MDPC reviews the academic progress and professional development of each student at multiple time points from matriculation to graduation. Grades, examination scores, narrative summaries, and professional conduct and development are assessed to ensure each student's successful progresses through the curriculum. The MDPC has the primary responsibility for the following tasks:

- Setting academic, technical, and behavioral standards and curricular requirements necessary for promotion and graduation
- Ensuring that each student demonstrates the academic and technical competency and professional and ethical conduct of a physician
- Recommending qualified students for promotion to the next year of training
- Assigning the status of "at risk" to students whose academic performance places them at risk for future academic struggle but whose performance does not rise to the level of an Adverse Action [see chart below]
- Taking Adverse Action (Probation, Suspension, or Dismissal) against students whose academic record or behavior, whether professional or personal, is sufficiently deficient as to meet criteria for an Adverse Action [see chart below]
- Recommending award of the M.D. degree to qualified students
- Designating exceptional achievement for academic work after completion of the Foundational Sciences curriculum
- Designating award of the M.D. degree with Highest Honors, High Honors, or Honors for exceptionally meritorious academic work
- Holding students accountable for their behavior when their actions either violate the BCM Code of Conduct or are in some other way inconsistent with the professionalism expectations of a member of the medical profession, including the failure to recognize impairment of self, whether due to substance use or other physical or psychological factors.
- Reviewing the system of evaluation of student performance (i.e., grading system and narrative summaries)
- Promulgating appropriate procedures and guidelines to ensure the fair and consistent operation of the Committee
- Reviewing Committee procedures at least annually and amending as the need arises to remain in compliance with institutional policies and values, prevailing intellectual, technical, professional, and ethical standards for the practice of medicine, requirements of accrediting agencies, as well as state and federal law.

The MDPC may place students on At Risk status or on the Adverse Actions of Probation, Suspension, or Dismissal, on the basis of performance below the academic or professional standards for graduation with the MD degree from the SOM. Such deficiencies may include, but are not limited to, the following:

ADVERSE ACTION CHART (UPDATED JULY 2021)

DEFINITION OF CURRICULAR ELEMENT

COURSE, ROTATION, NON-COURSE OR ROTATION-RELATED EXAMINATION REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION (NBME, USMLE, CPX)

ACADEMIC PROBATION

FINAL GRADE OF "D" IN 3 FOUNDATIONAL SCIENCES COURSES

GRADE OF "D" IN 2 FOUNDATIONAL SCIENCES COURSES AND A FINAL GRADE OF "F" IN 1 FOUNDATIONAL SCIENCES COURSE

FINAL GRADE "F" IN 2 FOUNDATIONAL SCIENCES COURSES

FINAL GRADE "F" IN 3 CURRICULAR ELEMENTS OF SOM

FINAL GRADE OF "F" IN 1 CLINICAL CLERKSHIP

FINAL GRADE OF MARGINAL PASS IN 2 CLINICAL CLERKSHIPS

GRADE OF "F" ON THE CPX ON THE SECOND ATTEMPT

FAILURE OF 3 NBME EXAMINATIONS

UNPROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR INCONSISTENT WITH THE STUDY & PRACTICE OF MEDICINE DEEMED REMEDIABLE

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF EXAMS ALLOWED TO BE REMEDIATED DURING REMEDIATION PERIODS (JULY/JANUARY): 2 + CBSE

SUSPENSION

PROFESSIONALISM AND/OR ACADEMIC ISSUES INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE STUDY OR PRACTICE OF MEDICINE (risk of harm, disruption of learning environment, arrest, drug/alcohol abuse, allegations of misconduct)

DISMISSAL

FINAL COURSE GRADE <60 in FBSM (FALL 1); FINAL GRADE <70.0 ON SECOND ATTEMPT OF FBSM

FINAL GRADE OF "D" IN 4 FOUNDATIONAL SCIENCES COURSES

GRADE OF "D" IN 3 FOUNDATIONAL SCIENCES COURSES AND A FINAL GRADE OF "F" IN 1 FOUNDATIONAL SCIENCE COURSE

GRADE OF "D" IN 2 FOUNDATIONAL SCIENCES COURSES AND A FINAL GRADE OF "F" IN 2 FOUNDATIONAL SCIENCE COURSES

FINAL GRADE OF "F" IN 3 FOUNDATIONAL SCIENCE COURSES

GRADE OF <70 UPON COURSE REMEDIATION

FAILURE IN SAME COURSE TWICE

FAILURE OF CBSE ON 3RD ATTEMPT

FAILURE OF 4 NBME EXAMINATIONS

FAILURE OF CPX ON 3RD ATTEMPT

FAILURE OF 4 CURRICULAR ELEMENTS

FAILURE OF 2 CLINICAL CLERKSHIPS

GRADE OF MARGINAL PASS IN 3 CLINICAL CLERKSHIPS

UNPROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR INCONSISTENT THE STUDY & PRACTICE OF MEDICINE DEEMED UNREMIABLE

FAILURE TO COMPLETE CURRICULUM WITHIN TIME LIMITS:

FOUNDATIONAL SCIENCES MAX 30 MONTHS; CLINICAL MAX 42 MONTHS; TOTAL 72 MONTHS/6 YEARS

FAILURE TO TAKE AND PASS USMLE STEP 1 OR STEP 2 CK WITHIN TIME LIMITS OF SOM CURRICULUM