

**Purpose: To identify program specific academic standards designed to academically prepare high quality health care practitioners.**

**A. Academic Warning**

Students will receive electronic notification if their overall course grade falls below 75%, or if the faculty member determines they are in danger of being unsuccessful in the course.

**B. Academic Probation**

1. Undergraduate students must maintain a GPA of 2.0 or better. Failure to maintain a GPA of 2.0 or better will result in academic probation. Students on academic probation are not eligible to progress into program specific courses (NUR, DMS, NMT, etc.). Probationary status for two consecutive semesters will result in dismissal from PA College.
2. Graduate students must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or better. Failure to maintain a GPA of 3.0 or better will result in academic probation. Students on academic probation are allowed to continue with their course progression. Probationary status for two consecutive semesters will result in dismissal from the program.

**C. Prerequisite Requirements**

Prior to beginning a course, prerequisites must be completed with the required grade. For General Education courses, students must achieve a grade of "D-" or higher in prerequisite courses. Additionally, students must meet program specific minimum course requirements to progress within the program, as specified below.

**D. Failure to Meet Minimum Course Requirements**

Students who have taken a course at PA College and earned a grade less than that which is required must repeat the course at PA College and achieve the required grade in order to earn course credit toward graduation. **No course with a grade less than that which is required may be repeated more than once.** The newly earned grade will become the grade of record for the purposes of transcripts, GPA computations and determination of academic progression. CLEP or course challenges are not acceptable replacements for repeating courses completed without a required passing grade.

**E. Diploma/Certificate Graduates Seeking a Degree**

Students who have graduated from PA College with a diploma or certificate may re-enroll to pursue a degree. Credits from courses taken at the College, transfer credits accepted upon matriculation into a diploma/certificate program, and up to six (6) transfer credits taken after matriculation into the degree program will be considered for acceptance toward the degree. If the six transfer credits were completed after graduation, acceptance of transfer will be based upon applicability toward the requirements for the degree as stated in the current catalog.

**F. Program Specific Academic Standards**

**1. Health Science Programs (Associate Degrees, Technical Certificates, Academic Certificates)**

Any student not earning the required grade in a program specific course will be dismissed from the program. To resume enrollment in the program, students must reapply and be accepted.

a. **Cardiac Electrophysiology (CEP)**

Students in the CEP program must complete the following courses with a grade of “C” or higher and achieve an overall GPA of 2.0 to be eligible for progression into the second year clinical coursework (exceptions may be made with the permission of the Program Director of Cardiovascular Programs):

BIO 175	Human Anatomy & Physiology I
BIO 176	Human Anatomy & Physiology II
BIO 185	Microbiology
ENG 100	English Composition
HSC 100	Medical Terminology
HSC 101	Methods of Patient Care
MAT 150	Clinical Mathematics for the Health Sciences
<i>or</i>	
MAT 160	College Algebra

Students must complete the following additional courses with a grade of “C” or higher:

CEP theory courses (CEP 200, 201, 202, 204, 214, 224)	
CIS 203	Rhythm Analysis & 12-Lead ECG
CIS 205	Invasive Procedures I
PHI 210	Ethical and Legal Dimensions in the Health Sciences

Students must complete the following courses with a grade of “B” or higher:

CEP clinical courses (CEP 230, 240, 250)

b. **Cardiovascular Invasive Specialty (CIS)**

Students in the CIS program must complete the following courses with a grade of “C” or higher and achieve an overall GPA of 2.0 to be eligible for progression into the second year clinical coursework (exceptions may be made with the permission of the Program Director of Cardiovascular Programs):

BIO 175	Human Anatomy & Physiology I
BIO 176	Human Anatomy & Physiology II
BIO 185	Microbiology
ENG 100	English Composition
HSC 100	Medical Terminology
HSC 101	Methods of Patient Care
MAT 150	Clinical Mathematics for the Health Sciences
<i>or</i>	
MAT 160	College Algebra

Students must complete the following additional courses with a grade of “C” or higher:

CIS theory courses (CIS 201, 203, 205, 206, 215, 222, 235, 240)	
PHI 210	Ethical and Legal Dimensions in the Health Sciences

Students must complete the following courses with a grade of “B” or higher:

CIS clinical courses (CIS 210, 211, 212)

c. **Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS)**

Students in the DMS program must complete the following courses with a grade of “C” or higher and achieve a minimum overall GPA of 2.0 to be eligible for progression into the second year clinical coursework:

BIO 175	Human Anatomy & Physiology I
BIO 176	Human Anatomy & Physiology II
HSC 100	Medical Terminology
HSC 101	Methods of Patient Care
ENG 100	English Composition
PHY 150	Physics
MAT 160	College Algebra

To meet graduation requirements, all DMS prefix courses must be completed with a grade of “C” or higher.

d. **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)**

To meet requirements for successful completion of the EMT 101 program, students must:

- Earn a cumulative course grade of 80% or better
- Complete 40 hours of clinical

e. **Medical Laboratory Science (MLS)**

Prior to program completion, students must complete all MLS courses with a grade of “C” or higher.

f. **Nuclear Medicine Technology (NMT)**

**Associate Degree NMT students** must complete the following courses with a grade of “C” or higher to be eligible for progression into the second year clinical coursework:

BIO 175	Human Anatomy & Physiology I
BIO 176	Human Anatomy & Physiology II
CHE 100	General Chemistry
ENG 100	English Composition
MAT 160	College Algebra
PHY 150	Physics

**All NMT students** must complete the following courses with a grade of “C” or higher:

Nuclear Medicine theory courses (NMT 201, 202, 203)	
HSC 195	Cross-Sectional Anatomy
HSC 100	Medical Terminology
HSC 101	Methods of Patient Care
PHI 210	Ethical and Legal Dimensions in the Health Sciences

All students must complete the following courses with a grade of “B” or higher:

Nuclear Medicine clinical courses (NMT 211, 212, 213)

g. **Paramedic**

In order to progress to EMS 202, students enrolled in EMS 201 must:

- Earn a cumulative course grade of 80% or better,
- Satisfactorily complete Clinical Phase 1,
- Satisfactorily complete the required field clinical hours as detailed in the course syllabus.

In order to progress to EMS 203, students enrolled in EMS 202 must:

- Earn a cumulative course grade of 80% or better,
- Satisfactorily complete Clinical Phase 2,
- Satisfactorily complete the required clinical hours as detailed in the course syllabus.

In order to graduate, students enrolled in EMS 203 must:

- Earn a cumulative course grade of 80% or better,
- Satisfactorily complete Clinical Phase 3 and Clinical Phase 4,
- Satisfactorily complete the required clinical hours as detailed in the course syllabus.

h. **Radiography**

Students in the Radiography program must complete the following courses with a grade of “C” or higher and achieve a minimum overall GPA of 2.0 to be eligible for progression into the second year coursework:

Radiography didactic courses (RAD 101, 103, 105, 131, 132)	
BIO 175	Human Anatomy & Physiology I
BIO 176	Human Anatomy & Physiology II
HSC 100	Medical Terminology
HSC 101	Methods of Patient Care

Students must complete Radiography clinical courses with a grade of “B” or higher (RAD 102, 104, 106).

Radiography students must complete the following courses (typically in the second year) with a grade of “C” or higher to meet the requirements for graduation:

Radiography didactic courses (RAD 207, 209, 233, 240)	
ENG 100	English Composition
HSC 195	Cross Sectional Anatomy
MAT 160	College Algebra
PHI 210	Ethical and Legal Dimensions in the Health Sciences
SOC 200	Cultural Diversity

Students must complete Radiography clinical courses with a grade of “B” or higher (RAD 208, 210).

Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0 to be eligible for graduation.

i. **Respiratory Care**

Students in the Respiratory Care program must complete the following courses with a grade of “C” or higher prior to graduation:

BIO 175	Human Anatomy & Physiology I
BIO 176	Human Anatomy & Physiology II
HSC 100	Medical Terminology
HSC 101	Methods of Patient Care
PHI 210	Ethical and Legal Dimensions in the Health Sciences
RCP 110	Respiratory Care Procedures I
RCP 120	Respiratory Care Lab I
RCP 130	Respiratory Care Theory I
RCP 140	Respiratory Care Procedures II
RCP 150	Respiratory Care Lab II
RCP 160	Respiratory Care Theory II
RCP 201	Entry Level Review
RCP 210	Respiratory Care Procedures III
RCP 220	Respiratory Care Lab III
RCP 230	Respiratory Care Theory III
RCP 251	Respiratory Care Procedures and Diagnostics IV
RCP 271	Respiratory Care Theory and Application IV
RCP 280	Advanced Level Respiratory Care Review

The following courses must be passed with a grade of “B” or higher prior to graduation:

RCP 240	Clinical Level I
RCP 260	Respiratory Care Lab/Clinical IV
RCP 290	Clinical Level II

HSC 101 Methods of Patient Care must be taken prior to or concurrently with the student’s first RCP course.

BIO 176 Anatomy and Physiology II must be taken prior to or concurrently with RCP 130 Respiratory Theory I.

j. **Surgical Technology**

Students in the Surgical Technology program must earn a minimum overall GPA of 2.0 to be eligible for academic progression within the program and graduation. Students must earn a “C” or higher in the following courses to graduate from the program:

BIO 175	Human Anatomy & Physiology I
BIO 176	Human Anatomy & Physiology II
BIO 185	Microbiology
CMP 111	Digital Learning in the 21st Century
HSC 100	Medical Terminology
HSC 101	Methods of Patient Care
MAT 150	Clinical Mathematics for the Health Sciences
PHI 210	Ethical and Legal Dimensions in the Health Sciences

All SUR prefix courses

A passing grade (“D-” or higher) is required for all other required general education courses.

Additionally, students must attempt the NBSTSA certification exam prior to graduation.

## 2. Associate Degree Nursing Program

### Guidelines for Program Progression

- a. All General Education courses required for program completion must be repeated if the student earns a grade below a “C”.
  - b. A grade of “C+” (77%) or higher is required in NUR courses.
  - c. Prior to beginning NUR 201, NUR 203 or NUR 204, students must successfully complete the following courses: BIO 175, BIO 176, MAT 150, ENG 100 and PSY 100. Prior to beginning NUR 202, NUR 205 or NUR 206, students must successfully complete BIO 185 and BIO 250.
  - d. Three-Year Track: Prior to beginning NUR courses, all students must complete Human Anatomy & Physiology I and II with a minimum grade of “C”.
  - e. Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Assessment Module: The following courses must be completed with a minimum grade of “C” prior to entering the LPN Assessment Module:

BIO 175	Human Anatomy & Physiology I
BIO 176	Human Anatomy & Physiology II
MAT 150	Clinical Math
ENG 100	English Composition
PSY 100	General Psychology
- Three (3) additional general education course credits must be completed prior to beginning a 200 level NUR course.
- i. Successful completion of the six-week LPN Assessment Module exempts students from taking NUR 101, NUR 111, NUR 102 and NUR 112.
  - ii. The LPN Assessment Module may be attempted once. If a student is unsuccessful in the module, the student may begin the ASN Program with NUR 101 and NUR 111.
  - iii. Students who attempt the module must begin NUR courses within one year.
- f. Students may repeat a maximum of 25% of the NUR courses within a track. Students exceeding this criteria will be dismissed from the program.
    - i. Students in the two-year track can repeat two NUR courses.
    - ii. Students in the three-year track can repeat three NUR courses.
    - iii. Students entering the program in the second year of the two-year track can repeat one NUR course.
    - iv. Students entering the program in the second year of the three-year track can repeat two NUR courses.
  - g. If a student transfers between tracks within the program, all previous unsuccessful attempts of NUR courses will be counted.
  - h. Once NUR clinical courses have started, the maximum time students may be out of NUR clinical courses is one academic year.

- i. Prior to a student re-entering the program of study, faculty reserve the right to assign placement in the curriculum and to require remedial activities.

**Guidelines for Course Progression**

- a. Theory courses are pre or co-requisites for corresponding clinical courses.
- b. Clinical courses may not be continued if the co-requisite theory course is dropped; however, theory courses may be continued if the co-requisite clinical course is dropped.

**ATI Testing**

Successful completion of Assessment Technologies Incorporated (ATI) tests is required for academic progression. For detailed information, refer to the *Division of Nursing Undergraduate Student Handbook*.

**3. Baccalaureate Programs**

**a. BSN Program – Pre-licensure Track**

- i. A grade of “C+” or higher is required for all courses with a clinical component except IPC 450.
- ii. A grade of “C” or higher is required for all other courses.
- iii. Students may repeat a maximum of three of the following courses with a clinical component. Any student exceeding this criteria will be dismissed from the program.

**Pre-licensure BSN Courses with a Clinical Component**

NUR 155	Foundations of Client Care I
NUR 175	Foundations of Client Care II
NUR 255	Foundations of Client Care III
NUR 275	Health and Illness I
NUR 320	Health Assessment
NUR 295	Health and Illness II
NUR 349	Nursing Internship
NUR 355	Health and Illness III
NUR 405	Health and Illness IV
IPC 450	Capstone

- iv. Students may repeat a maximum of three of the following courses. Any student exceeding this criteria will be dismissed from the program.

NUR 151	Professional Nursing Student Experience
NUR 160	History of Theory of Nursing Practice
NUR 260	Pharmacology
NUR 311	Cultural Care in Nursing
NUR 320	Health Assessment
IPC 322	Teaching and Learning
NUR 406	Clinical Decision Making
NUR 410	Issues and Trends in Nursing
NUR 421	Leadership and Transition to Practice
NUR 430	Nursing in a Global Society
IPC 302	Introduction to Capstone

- IPC 330 Health Informatics and Technology
- IPC 401 Research in Health Care
- v. Once NUR clinical courses have started, the maximum time students may be out of NUR clinical courses is one academic year.
- vi. Prior to a student re-entering the program of study, faculty reserves the right to assign placement in the curriculum and to require remedial activities.
- vii. IPC 450, NUR 406 and NUR 421 may only be taken in the last semester of the program.
- viii. Successful completion of standardized testing is required for academic progression. For detailed information, refer to the *Division of Nursing Undergraduate Student Handbook*.

**b. BSN Program – RN to BSN Track**

- i. A grade of “C” or higher is required for all core courses.
- ii. Students may repeat a maximum of 3 of the following courses:
  - a) RN to BSN core courses
  - b) General Education courses: ENG 300, PHI 330, ECO 150, ECO 310, MAT 260 (does not apply to students matriculated prior to Fall 2017)Any student exceeding this criteria will be dismissed from the program.
- iii. Students are expected to complete ENG 300, PHI 330, ECO 150, ECO 310, MAT 260 and NUR/IPC core courses prior to IPC 450.

**RN to BSN Core Courses**

NUR 301	Conceptual Foundations of Nursing Practice
IPC 302	Introduction to Capstone
NUR 310	Human Diversity and Health Care
or	
NUR 311	Cultural Care in Nursing
NUR 321	Health and Physical Assessment
or	
NUR 340	Comprehensive Health Assessment
IPC 322	Teaching and Learning
IPC 401	Research in Health Care
NUR 410	Issues and Trends in Nursing
NUR 420	Nursing Leadership and Management
NUR 430	Nursing in a Global Society
IPC 450	Capstone

- iv. Students must obtain their RN license within one year of starting the program. If an RN license is not obtained within one year, the student may not continue in the core RN to BSN nursing courses.
- v. Students must secure employment or volunteer in a health care setting for eight hours weekly by the beginning of the second semester of enrollment. Students must maintain employment or volunteering in a health care setting for eight hours weekly throughout the program. Students not able to meet this requirement may not continue in the core RN to BSN nursing courses.



c. **Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration (BSHA) and Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences (BSHS)**

- i. A grade of "C" or higher is required for all core courses with the exception of HCA 448 (Introduction to Internship) and HCA 449 (Healthcare Administration Internship) which require a grade of "B" or higher.
- ii. Students may progress in the program as long as the attempted course is not a prerequisite for another course.
- iii. HCA 449 and IPC 450 may not be taken in the same semester.
- iv. Students may repeat a maximum of 3 the following courses. Any student exceeding this criteria will be dismissed from the program.

**BS in Healthcare Administration Core Courses**

HCA 200	Principles of Health Care Administration
HCA 305	Data Analysis
HCA 301	Health Care Marketing
IPC 302	Introduction to Capstone
HCA 415	Health Care Finance
HCA 335	Human Resources in Health Care
HCA 340	Legal Issues in Health Care
HCA 350	Leading Change in Health Care
HCA 400	Health Information Management
IPC 401	Research in Health Care
HCA 410	Health Care Quality
HCA 420	Health Care Planning and Policy
HCA 448	Introduction to Internship
HCA 449	Internship in Health Care Administration
IPC 450	Capstone
HSC 100	Medical Terminology
HSC 300	Organizational Behavior
HSC 320	Leadership and Management
IPC 322	Teaching and Learning
IPC 447	Project Management

**BS in Health Sciences Core Courses**

HSC 300	Organizational Behavior
IPC 302	Introduction to Capstone
HSC 320	Leadership and Management
IPC 322	Teaching and Learning
IPC 401	Research in Health Care
IPC 450	Capstone
HCA 200	Principles of Health Care Administration*
HCA 305	Data Analysis*
HCA 415	Health Care Finance*
HCA 335	Human Resources in Health Care*
HCA 410	Health Care Quality*
Any 300 or 400 level clinical course specific to discipline*	

\*denotes if this course is taken dependent upon career goals

- v. BSHS students must obtain their certification, licensure or registration within one year of starting the program. If certification, licensure or registration is not obtained within one year, the student may not continue in the core BSHS courses.
- vi. BSHS students must secure employment or volunteer in a health care setting for eight hours weekly by the beginning of the second semester of enrollment. Students must maintain employment or volunteering in a health care setting for eight hours weekly throughout the program. Students not able to meet this requirement may not continue in the core BSHS/BSHA courses.

**4. Graduate Studies**

- a. A grade of “B” or higher is required for all courses, with the exception of courses that are graded as Pass/No Pass.
- b. If a student earns a grade less than “B” in a course, the student may progress in the program as long as the attempted course is not a prerequisite for another course. The course in which the student was unsuccessful must be taken during its next available offering. Failure to complete the course successfully on the second attempt will result in dismissal from the program.
- c. In the MHA, MSHS, MSN-A and MSN-E programs, to be eligible for 600 level courses, students must earn a grade of “Pass” in IPC 550
- d. Students are eligible for IPC 650 Integrating Experience II upon completion of all other program requirements.
- e. Nurse Practitioner students who fail clinical courses due to safety, behavior or ethical issues may be dismissed from the Nurse Practitioner Program.

<b>Audience:</b>	Students
<b>Date Issued:</b>	05/17/04
<b>Date Approved by Faculty:</b>	05/17/04, 11/29/07
<b>Date Revised:</b>	06/28/07, 01/23/08, 03/26/08, 02/18/09, 02/25/09, 06/15/09, 05/19/10, 06/16/10, 05/23/11, 01/23/12, 02/27/12, 03/26/12, 01/28/13, 01/27/14, 03/17/14, 06/10/14, 01/26/15, 02/23/15, 03/16/15, 04/27/15, 05/11/15, 05/20/15, 07/14/15, 02/22/16, 05/16/16, 05/20/16, 06/01/16, 06/16/16, 07/13/16, 09/26/16, 02/27/17, 03/27/17, 04/24/17, 05/22/17, 06/07/17, 01/22/18, 05/21/18, 06/01/18, 06/04/18, 07/13/18, 07/31/18
<b>Date Reviewed:</b>	06/28/07, 01/23/08, 02/20/08, 03/26/08, 02/18/09, 02/25/09, 06/15/09, 05/19/10, 06/16/10, 05/23/11, 01/23/12, 02/27/12, 03/26/12, 01/28/13, 01/27/14, 03/17/14, 06/10/14, 01/26/15, 02/23/15, 03/16/15, 04/27/15, 05/11/15, 05/20/15, 07/14/15, 02/22/16, 05/16/16, 05/20/16, 06/01/16, 06/16/16, 07/13/16, 09/26/16, 02/27/17, 03/27/17, 04/24/17, 05/22/17, 06/07/17, 01/22/18, 05/21/18, 06/01/18, 06/04/18
<b>Owner:</b>	Program Directors