Academic Standards and Policies for the Predoctoral Program in Dentistry at NYU College of Dentistry

Guidelines for Academic Progress, Promotion, and Graduation*
In effect for the Class of 2023 and subsequent classes

The educational goal of New York University College of Dentistry (NYU Dentistry) is based on creating a partnership with students in order to assist them in achieving academic excellence. The faculty of the College has designed a rigorous curriculum, which provides didactic, pre-clinical and clinical educational experiences directed towards the development of competent dentists. This Academic Standards and Policies document (Guidelines), defines the standards that students must meet and provides the framework for student evaluation.

Process of Evaluation
The faculty of the College evaluate student progress throughout the academic year and provide constructive feedback. As a result of these evaluations, students receive grades at the end of each semester. Students are expected to monitor their grades on NYU Brightspace and can access grades at any time on the NYU Student Information System (SIS) through “Albert.” Clinical progress may be accessed through the NYU Dentistry axiUUm site.

The Guidelines were developed by the Committee on Academic Review and Standards (CARS) and the Executive Management Council (EMC) in 2001, and have been periodically modified and updated. All updates are approved and monitored by the EMC.

Decisions on student academic progress, monitored status, academic probation or promotion, and graduation are made by the Class Promotions Committees and are based on these Guidelines. Class Promotions Committees (CPC) meet a minimum of four times each year to monitor student performance and identify at-risk students. When students are identified as at risk of failing one or more courses, they are placed on Monitored Status and an action plan is developed. Student progress is monitored by the Class Promotions Committee, the Student Success Network Group, and the Offices of Academic Affairs and Student Affairs and Academic Support Services. Monitored Status is an internal designation, which is changed to either good academic standing or academic probation at the end of the academic year.

Evaluation of Academic Performance:
The Role of the Class Promotions Committees (CPC)
The Dean will appoint four Class Promotions Committees (D1-D4), which will be composed of course directors and faculty actively engaged in teaching at that level of training; a representative from the FT or PT Faculty Council; and a representative of the Office of Academic Affairs, and the Office of Student Affairs and Academic Support Services. The committees will meet a minimum of four times each year to review the performance of students in that class and will determine if the students are making satisfactory academic progress. Students not making satisfactory progress are placed on “monitored status” and an action plan is developed. Additionally, the CPC will make judgments concerning academic promotion or academic sanction.

These Guidelines are subject to revision at any time with the approval of the EMC.
The CPC can only take into consideration extenuating circumstances that have previously been reported to either the Office of Academic Affairs or the Office of Student Affairs and Academic Support Services. No student can be promoted to the next year without approval of the CPC, and having passed all courses (with the exception of clinical “Y” grades in D3 into July-Aug of D4). The Office of Academic Affairs will notify students of any CPC decisions including the need for intervention/actions as a result of the student’s academic performance. Students MAY NOT contact faculty members of any Class Promotions Committee in an effort to influence CPC decisions, or ask other faculty members to petition for them. Such action is considered a violation of the Honor Code and students who attempt to do so will be subject to sanction as described therein.

**The academic year**

The academic year runs from July 1 – June 30 each year and is divided into two semesters, which run from July – December and January – June. The exact start and end dates for the semesters are published each year in the academic calendar, which is posted on the NYU Global Home site. The schedule for any academic year is determined by the faculty, approved by the EMC, and announced in the academic calendar. The schedule varies for each level of training (D1-D4). Students must abide by the specific semester and course start/end dates and the dates of scheduled breaks for their level of training. Therefore, students may not extend a scheduled break by taking additional days off before and/or after any scheduled break. The Office of Academic Affairs will not approve an extension of published breaks for personal circumstances, and will not excuse absence for social events (weddings, family celebrations etc.) at any time during the academic year.

**Attendance**

NYU Dentistry expects that students will attend all classes, clinics, labs, and rotations, that they will submit all projects and assignments in a timely manner, and that they will demonstrate the requisite professional demeanor and conduct in all activities.

Specifically, the policy is:

1. **Participation through attendance is required, is considered a critical part of education, and will be monitored.** The attendance policy for each course is established by the faculty and course director and is published in the course syllabus. Students who are absent from classes must complete all course work (including projects and assignments) and must make up missed clinic, rotation and pre-clinical sessions as directed by the course director. Excessive absence or lateness from courses, as defined in the course syllabus, will impact the final grade earned, up to and including failing a course.

2. **Attendance in didactic courses will be monitored intermittently in accordance with the attendance policy set forth in the course syllabus.** The mechanism and frequency for monitoring attendance is at the discretion of the course director and department chair and may include but is not limited to utilization of audience response tools, attendance sheets, unannounced quizzes, etc. Attendance may be monitored at any time during a scheduled session. Falsification of attendance records by signing in for another student is considered a violation of the NYU Dentistry Honor Code by all parties involved and may result in sanctions including failing the course or dismissal from the College.

3. **Students must take required examinations.** A missed examination will be factored into
the final course grade in accordance with the grading policy set forth in the course syllabus. An absence from a required examination may result in the student failing the course. In rare instances when the absence results from a serious illness or other circumstance beyond the control of a student, it is at the discretion of the course director and department chair, in accordance with the established course policy, to determine the appropriate course of action. Students will be required to present proof of exigent circumstances beyond their control in order for the course director and chair to make a determination as to the course of action to be taken.

4. **Participation through attendance at preclinical and clinical sessions, community outreach assignments, and clinical rotations is mandatory.** Students must advise the course or rotation director of an absence due to illness or circumstance beyond their control prior to the session to be missed, unless they are physically unable to do so. Students who accrue absences in clinics must make arrangements with the course director to attend substitute sessions to make up for the absences on their unassigned time. At the discretion of the course director and department chair, the number of makeup sessions required may exceed the number of sessions missed. In some instances, this may result in make-up sessions during break periods, or require the student to complete make-up sessions beyond the expected graduation date. In rare instances course directors or department chairs may waive make up sessions where students have demonstrated competence and patient care obligations are otherwise fulfilled.

5. **A student who is absent from a scheduled clinic session for any reason is responsible for assuring that a patient scheduled for an appointment that session is notified in a timely manner before the appointment.**

6. **NYU Dentistry follows the University Calendar Policy on Religious Holidays.** Students must complete the Religious Holiday Observation Request form each semester by the designated deadline in order to receive an excused absence. Failure to do so can result in makeups scheduled during official College breaks or in June of the D4 year. In addition, students must notify course directors and/or GPDs at least one week before the beginning of the holiday period. For further information students may refer to the Student Handbook or [https://www.nyu.edu/about/policies-guidelines-compliance/policies-and-guidelines/universitycalendar-policy-on-religious-holidays.html](https://www.nyu.edu/about/policies-guidelines-compliance/policies-and-guidelines/universitycalendar-policy-on-religious-holidays.html)

7. For information regarding the difference between excused and unexcused absences and for procedure to request an excused absence, students may refer to the Student Handbook, [https://dental.nyu.edu/content/dam/nyudental/documents/academic-programs/dds/dds-student-handbook.pdf](https://dental.nyu.edu/content/dam/nyudental/documents/academic-programs/dds/dds-student-handbook.pdf).

8. D3 and D4 students may refer to the Student Handbook for protocol and procedures to request excused absence for residency interviews, externships, presenting at professional meetings, or participating in NYU Sponsored Outreach programs.

If a student is absent for three (3) or more consecutive school days, the Office of Academic Affairs must be informed and will require documentation that the student is medically cleared to return to the academic program, or documentation supportive of the resolution of any other cause for absence from the program. Requests for excused absences from mandatory assignments and examinations for absences of less than 3 days should be made directly to the appropriate Course Director and Chair. Do not report absences of one to two days to the Office of Academic Affairs.
Grades

Grades in the College are: A, B, C, D, and F. In order to pass a course that is graded with a letter grade, the student must obtain a “C” in the course. The “D” grade signifies a marginal failure and indicates that the student may be eligible to remediate that course. Students who accrue up to two “D” grades and no “F” grades in an academic semester (based on course end date) are eligible for remediation. Courses that are graded on a pass-fail basis, receive grades of “H, P, P/F and F”. A grade of “H” in a P/F course may be offered at the discretion of the course director and department chair.

The “C-” grade is reserved for students who have passed a letter graded remedial course, while P/F is the grade awarded to a student who passes a pass/fail remedial course. Additionally, faculty may use grades of “I, Y, and W”. “I” and “Y” grades are conditional grades that indicate coursework has not been completed due to an exceptional circumstance. These are not final grades. W (Withdrawal) is for administrative use only to record the disposition of a course when a student is registered and does not complete the course in accordance with the appropriate College or University policy.

Grade Key
A = 4.0, B=3.0, C = 2.0, C- = 1.7 and F = 0
The “D” grade is not computed in the GPA as it is converted to either a “C- “or an “F” at the end of the remediation period.
H = Honors, P = Pass, F = Fail, W= withdrew prior to evaluation.

Modification of Grades
Faculty may use a plus “+” to modify grades of “A”, “B” and “C”. In addition, faculty may use a minus “-” to modify grades of “A” and “B”. The use of a plus with a grade increases the grade point value by 0.3 and a minus will decrease the value by 0.3. Thus, a grade of “C+” = 2.3, “B+” = 3.3, an “A-” = 3.7 and so on. A grade of “A” can be modified with a “+” but without an increase in the grade-point value. A grade of “C” may be modified with a + but may not be modified by a minus as part of an original course grade. The “C-” grade is solely reserved for successfully remediated “D” grades.

Grade conversion table for didactic courses*:
PASSING GRADES:
   A+: 96.495 – 100
   A: 92.495 – 96.494
   A-: 89.495 - 92.494
   B+: 86.495 – 89.494
   B: 82.495 – 86.494
   B-: 79.495 – 82.494
   C+: 75.495 – 79.494
   C: 69.495 – 75.494 (69.495 is the minimum PASSING grade)* In certain courses, the minimum passing grade will be 74.495; see section on “Minimum passing grade” below.
   C-: highest possible passing grade after didactic course remediation

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FAILING GRADES:

D: 59.495 – 69.494 is a **FAILURE** that **IS** eligible for remediation (up to a maximum of 2 “D” grades with no “F” grades per academic semester)

F: grade is less than or equal to 59.494 – this is a **FAILURE** that is **NOT** eligible for remediation

*This grading table also applies to the didactic portion of pre-clinical courses.

**Clinical Course Grades**

Clinical courses may be letter graded or Pass/Fail at the discretion of the Course Director and Department Chair. The grading rubric for each clinical course and the specific requirements for achieving specific grades are detailed in each clinical course syllabus. Students MUST successfully pass all competencies that are assessed in a given course in order to achieve a passing grade.

**Grading When Coursework is Incomplete**

I: (incomplete didactic or pre-clinical course grade) indicates that while the regular course of study has ended, the student has required assignments that have not been completed. An “I” grade can be utilized only for didactic or laboratory/simulation courses. A grade of “I” in a didactic course requires extra work, which must be completed within 4 weeks after the published course completion date. A grade of “I” in a laboratory/simulation course must be completed by the end of the course’s remedial period and/or the academic year in question. After that date the grade is changed to a passing or failing grade. The passing grade for an “I” grade in a laboratory or simulation course can be no higher than a C grade. The passing grade for an “I” grade in a didactic course can be any grade in accordance with the specifications within the course syllabus.

Y: (incomplete clinical course grade) is awarded when a student has not completed a sufficient amount of the course work requirement to permit the evaluation of the student’s performance at the end of a clinical course. The D3 clinical course year typically concludes at the end of May in alignment with the beginning of the “Transition to D4 clinics” course which runs through the month of June. The next academic year (D4) begins on July 1, or the first Monday thereafter if July 1 falls on a weekend. Students may carry “Y” grades from June of D3 until the summer break in August without incurring any grade penalty. Students must clear all “Y” grades by the end of August, and a passing course grade entered by the 1st Tuesday in September of the D4 year (the day that classes resume after Labor Day) in order to be promoted to D4.

Students who fail to clear all “Y” grades by the 1st Tuesday in September of the D4 year will have a “D” or an “F” entered on their transcript for that course. The course grade determination (“D” vs “F”) is made by the course director depending upon the students’ progress towards completion of course requirements. All “D” and “F” grades must be cleared in order for a student to be promoted to D4. “D” grades that are not cleared by October 31 will be converted to “F”. The highest grade achievable for successful remediation of a failed clinical course between the 1st Tuesday in September and October 31, is a C-. Students with unresolved “D” or “F” grades in clinical courses **CANNOT** be promoted to D4 until the deficiencies are cleared and upon full review of the students’ academic and clinical record by the CPC. Students with unresolved “D” or “F” grades in clinical courses will be subject to delayed graduation, extension of their course of
study by a semester, repeat of the D3 year, or dismissal from the program, as determined by the CPC upon full review of the student’s clinical and academic record.

**Revocation of Preliminary Patient Care Privileges for Clinical Incompetence and Remedies for Return of Clinical Privileges:** In keeping with the principles of patient-centered care and patient safety, students who accrue “D” or “F” grades for failing to clear D3 “Y” grades are subject to losing their patient care privileges, and will be required to demonstrate the requisite knowledge and skill by completing specific assignments as determined by the relevant course director, GPD, or designated faculty, before their patient care privileges are re-instated. Students with multiple deficiencies to be rectified should expect a prolonged academic course or more stringent outcomes as detailed above.

**Honors or Electives courses:** Students who qualify for and are selected to participate in these courses, may do so while carrying a maximum of 2 “Y” grades after the conclusion of D3 clinics in May, but MUST have a passing course grade entered for such courses by the 1st Tuesday in September of the D4 year (the day that classes resume after Labor Day) in order to continue enrollment in those courses. Enrollment of students with up to 2 “Y” grades in Honors and Elective courses will be on a probationary basis until the 1st Tuesday in September of the D4 year (the day that classes resume after Labor Day). In the event that a student fails to clear their “Y” grades at that time they MAY NOT continue to participate in those courses. In such cases, the probationary period will end, and there will be no grade or record of the experience entered on the official transcript.

**Midterm Grades**
The University requires that midterm grades be assigned in courses that run longer than one semester in order to comply with Federal regulations governing financial aid compliance and monitoring of satisfactory academic progress. At the College, these courses are typically clinical courses. These midterm grades are visible by the student on “Albert” but are not recorded on the student’s official transcript. These interim grades represent a real-time snapshot of the student’s progress and imply neither a passing nor a failing grade at the conclusion of the course. These special midterm grades are:
- **S (Satisfactory):** An “S” indicates that the student is demonstrating at least the minimal expected progress in the course to date.
- **NI (Needs Improvement):** An “NI” indicates that the student has not demonstrated the minimal expected progress in the course to date.

**Minimum Passing Grade**
The pre-doctoral curriculum is based on a competency model. In order for a student to progress at each step, there must be an indicator of satisfactory progress toward competency. Therefore, a grade of C (graded course) and C- (after successful remediation) or P (pass-fail course) and P/F (after successful remediation) is the minimum passing grade in a course.

The minimum passing grade for the **MAJORITY** of didactic courses is 69.495. However, a **MINIMUM PASSING GRADE OF 74.495** will be applied to specific didactic courses - particularly those in which students must demonstrate the cognitive ability to think critically and apply previously taught foundational science to the clinical context.
The minimum passing grade WILL be raised to 74.495 for the following courses:

- all INBDE prep courses (D1-D4),
- all INBDE mock board examinations I, II and III (taken in D3 and D4)
- D3 Clinical Pathologic Correlations
- D3 Care of the Medically Complex Patient

This action is in alignment with the passing grade for the INBDE, which is 75. All courses with a minimum passing grade of 74.495 will publish this requirement in the course syllabus. The mechanism for raising the minimum passing grade to 74.495 for any course not listed above will be by petition to the Curriculum Committee only upon prior approval of the Senior Academic Leadership Team (SALT).

In P/F courses, students will receive a “D” grade before remediation (unless, it is determined that the student cannot remediate, in which case the grade is F). At the end of the remediation period the “D” grade will be converted to a “P/F” if remediated successfully, or to an “F” grade if the student failed the remediation.

A summary of the “D” grade and “F” grade rules for each level of training can be found in the section on remediation below.

**Submission of Grades in a Course**

The faculty determines grades in any course. Faculty are required to submit grades within five working days after the last day of class or the scheduled final examination, and/or completion of clinical documentation. Incomplete grades (I grades) in a preclinical course must be finalized to a letter grade at the end of remedial period that follows immediately after the preclinical course and/or at the end of the academic year in question.

**Notification of Examinations**

Faculty must give students adequate notice of the date for examinations and the submission of major assignments. This notice should be provided as part of the syllabus given at the beginning of each course. Students should be notified about their performance on examinations in a timely manner. The Office of Academic Affairs strongly recommends that faculty notify students of their performance within 5 business days (by posting the examination grades on a digital bulletin board, or by individual e-mail). This provides feedback for students and the opportunity to employ corrective action.

**Course Evaluation**

Evaluation is a fundamental part of dental education. The faculty of the College believes that feedback from students is a means to gain information geared towards improving instruction, and enhanced learning. Therefore, the Curriculum Committee, utilizing its Curriculum Management Plan, will evaluate specific courses reviewing student and course director input and other outcome measures.

Students are expected to complete evaluations of courses when requested. Students must complete the evaluation process as a condition of receiving their final grade in the course.

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Clinical Privileges

It is a privilege to provide oral health care to the public. Students must adhere to the standards of care and rules and regulations set forth in the Clinic Manual. Given the trust of the public for the profession, the faculty plays a fundamental role in overseeing the treatment of any patient. As part of the partnership between the faculty and students, faculty continually monitor student performance in the clinic and supervise patient care. Faculty are expected to withdraw the privilege of patient care at any time if a student fails to demonstrate sufficient preparation, skill, and/or a level of knowledge that is necessary to assure the well-being of patients.

Students who are determined to be deficient in patient care skills may be placed on a Clinical Mentorship plan as a means to improve in a closely-supervised clinical setting. A student placed on a clinical mentorship plan who fails to meet expectations as set forth in their plan may be subject to revocation of patient care privileges or other academic consequences as determined by the appropriate Class Promotions Committee.

Revocation of Preliminary Patient Care Privileges for Clinical Incompetence and Remedies for Return of Clinical Privileges:

In keeping with the principles of patient-centered care and patient safety, students who accrue D or F grades, or fail to clear D3 “Y” grades, as described above, are subject to losing their patient care privileges, and will be required to demonstrate the requisite knowledge and skill by completing specific assignments as determined by the relevant course director, GPD, or designated faculty, before their patient care privileges are re-instated. Students with multiple deficiencies to be rectified should expect a prolonged academic course or more stringent outcomes as detailed above.

A student who neglects or inappropriately treats his/her patients may lose patient care privileges from all clinics, may receive a grade of “F” in the respective course at any time during the academic year, and may be subject to academic dismissal.

A student with an “I” grade in a preclinical/simulation course is not granted clinical privileges in that discipline until the deficiency is corrected and a passing grade received.

Requirements for Promotion

The DDS Program is intended to be completed in four academic years (or two years plus one semester for the Advanced Standing program). The program must be completed within six years of initial matriculation (three years and one semester for the Advanced Standing program), barring extraordinary circumstances.

In order to progress to the next academic year, students must have passed all courses. A student will not progress to the next academic year unless all courses have been completed. (Exception—students with “Y” grades ending the 3rd academic year, see section on “Y” grades, above). Progress in the clinical disciplines is evaluated at a minimum of four times a year. Students should be making progress in each clinical discipline based on their evaluation. A student who is not progressing in a clinical discipline during the D3 year may be required to extend the academic program beyond graduation, repeat the academic year, or be dismissed.

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Students with unresolved “D” or “F” grades in clinical courses CANNOT be promoted to D4 until the deficiencies are cleared and upon full review of the students’ academic and clinical record by the CPC. Students with unresolved “D” or “F” grades in clinical courses will be subject to delayed graduation, extension of their course of study by a semester, repeat of the D3 year, or dismissal from the program, as determined by the CPC upon full review of the student’s clinical and academic record.

**Remediation**

For the D1, D2 and D3 years, remediation of didactic and preclinical courses will be on a semester basis with remediation periods in January and June. Courses will be remediated in the semester in which they officially end. Students who receive one or two D grades and no F grades in any course in a given semester may be granted the opportunity to remediate those courses based upon their performance in the failed courses and their overall academic record. No student may remediate more than two courses per semester. Students failing any course with an F grade, or three or more courses with D grades, as well as students who are not offered the opportunity to remediate, may be offered the opportunity to repeat the academic year in its entirety or may be dismissed. All academic-action decisions are made on the basis of the entire academic and non-academic record as presented to the Class Promotions Committee.

In the D3 year, students may have didactic or preclinical laboratory coursework that is graded as part of a clinical course. Performance on those course components will not “count against” a student’s two-course remediation limit, although overall student performance will be evaluated as part of the decision to permit a student to remediate. Third-year clinical course grades are governed by the Y grade policy, above.

In the D4 year, the majority of coursework is clinical in nature and remediation is considered to be ongoing on a per-student ad hoc basis as determined by the Group Practice Director and/or clinical discipline or rotation director. Didactic or preclinical coursework that is deemed to be eligible for remediation will be permitted to be remediated in May of the D4 year, prior to the College Graduation date. Students receiving an F grade in any didactic, preclinical laboratory or clinical coursework in the D4 year are subject to the possibility of academic action, including delayed graduation by up to one full semester, repeating the academic year or dismissal.

In any year, a student on Academic Probation will be eligible to remediate only one course per semester. Receipt of multiple D grades, any F grades, or unsuccessful remediation in a probationary year subjects the student to consideration for dismissal from the program.

**The Remedial Self-Guided Study Period**

**Description:** The DDS curriculum is based on the achievement of competency. Competency is predicated on the demonstration of requisite knowledge, skills, judgment, and values as defined in the Competency Manual. When students have not met the minimum acceptable standard for achievement in a didactic course or have not demonstrated an adequate level of skill in a preclinical course (as indicated by a grade of “I” or “D”), the student must enter a period of remedial self-guided study, assuming they have been deemed eligible based on the criteria described in this document. This opportunity is considered to be a guided self-directed experience to improve the...
knowledge, competency, and skills of a student. Students are encouraged to identify their weaknesses, seek peer tutors, and work with their academic advisors on study strategies. No structured or formal instruction is provided during the self-study period; however, the faculty may suggest, provide, or assign: review materials, study questions or reading assignments if/as applicable at the beginning of the remedial self-study period. The faculty may guide the student in accessing information and advising in problem-solving strategies.

Students permitted to participate in the remedial self-study period may be placed on a modified schedule to allow for study time depending on the number of courses involved.

The remedial program must be accomplished within a designated “remedial period” which will be at the end of the academic semester, or in May of the D4 year. The Fall remedial period will conclude no later than the second Friday in January. The Spring remedial period will be held in June.

**For Pre-Clinical and Clinical Courses:** In preclinical/simulation courses, for students with an “I” grade, the remedial period may start immediately after the course has ended. To be eligible to participate in the remedial period, students must have already participated in a full course of instruction. Successful completion of the remedial period will provide validation of achievement in order to provide a course grade for the experience.

For pre-clinical and clinical courses, the remedial period is an additional period of time in a continuum of clinical instruction. For pre-clinic and/or clinical areas the student will be provided with specific feedback about their present level of performance and a clear description of the skills that the student must demonstrate in order to progress. The role of the faculty is to provide a clear assessment of skill and knowledge in a clinical discipline and to advise students in successful approaches to clinical problems and procedures. As described above, for clinical courses, students are subject to suspension of their patient-care privileges until such time as they can demonstrate the requisite knowledge and skill (as determined by the course director, GPD, or designated faculty based upon criteria specified in course syllabi) to have their patient-care privileges reinstated.

**Outcome of Remedial Instruction:** At the end of the remedial period, faculty will provide a final grade of “C-”, “P/F” or “F” to the student as well as the Office of Academic Affairs and the Office of Student Advising and Academic Support Services. Students earning “C-” and “P/F” grades, which indicate passing in remediation, will be promoted to the next academic year. If any student earns a failing (F) grade in remediation, their full academic and non-academic record will be forwarded to the appropriate CPC for adjudication.

**Summary:** This plan provides students, who have the potential to achieve, the opportunity to participate in a remedial period. Students who demonstrate an acceptable level of achievement at the end of this period will be promoted to the next academic year. Students who do not achieve a passing grade will be considered for dismissal or will be required to repeat the academic year upon review of the full academic and non-academic record by the Class Promotions Committee (CPC).

A student may appeal dismissal decisions of the CPC solely on the ground that the College materially failed to follow the policy and procedures outlined in these Guidelines (see the section

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on Dismissal and Petition Procedures below). The decision to repeat an academic year is final and cannot be appealed.

The CPC reviews the student’s overall academic and non-academic performance in determining whether to allow a student to repeat the year or be dismissed. Students who are repeating the year are NOT eligible to repeat the year a second time. Students may repeat any given academic year only once. The maximum allowable time to complete the DDS program is 6 years (or three years and one semester for the Advanced Standing program).

**D4 Grading Policy**

In order to graduate, students MUST:
- Pass all courses and competencies,
- Complete all clinical and discipline requirements including all clinical assignments and rotations scheduled through the end of the academic year,
- Be in good standing, and,
- NOT have any outstanding University obligations. (Please note: The clearing of outstanding University obligations is a function of the central university Office of the Bursar.)
- Students in the Class of 2023 and beyond must pass the INBDE in order to graduate.

**Delayed Graduation or Requirement to Repeat the Year Due to Unresolved D3 Clinical Deficiencies:** The Class Promotions Committee will monitor D4 didactic and clinical progress throughout the academic year. A student who is found to be significantly clinically deficient at any point in the year may be subject to repeating the academic year or dismissal.
Academic Actions

The faculty is committed to the achievement of excellence in every aspect of the pre-doctoral program. As a consequence, students who do not meet the standard for achievement set by the faculty are subject to academic disciplinary action. This may include the placement of a student on monitored status, academic probation or dismissal from the College. The Class Promotions Committees (CPC) have been appointed to ensure early identification of students at risk of academic sanctions to the extent possible, and to provide support and guidance for success (see below).

Monitored Status: This is an internal designation made by the CPC when a student is identified as being at risk for failing. In partnership with the Office of Student Advising and Academic Support Services, the student will develop an action plan for improvement, which will be monitored at least 4 times during the academic year by the CPC. Monitored status may be changed to good academic standing or probation depending on the student’s performance throughout the academic year.

Academic Probation: A student is on academic probation under any of the following conditions:
- Has one or more outstanding F grades
- Any student repeating an academic year until the academic year has been successfully completed.

A student on academic probation is not in good academic standing.

Repeat of the Academic Year: The conditions for repeating an academic year are outlined in the Academic Actions descriptions above. Students may not repeat any academic year more than once. Repeat of the Academic Year decisions are not appealable.

Dismissal: The conditions for being dismissed from the College are outlined in the Academic Actions descriptions above. Failure of any course during a repeat year results in dismissal. Students may also be dismissed for violation of the NYU College of Dentistry Honor Code or the NYU Code of Ethical Conduct. Dismissal decisions are appealable only on the allegation that the College failed to follow its published policies.

Definition of “In Good Academic Standing”
Being "In Good Academic Standing" indicates that the student has received passing grades in all academic courses (does not include “Y” grades during the June - 1st Tuesday in September clearance period), is not subject to academic discipline, has no outstanding obligations to the University, and has no complaints pending against him/her for violation of the NYU College of Dentistry Honor Code or the NYU Code of Ethical Conduct. In addition, the student is not under sanction of the Peer Review Boards for violation of any disciplinary or conduct code nor on probation for violation of any University policy.
Rules for Repeating an Academic Year

A student may be required to repeat an academic year as a means for the student to demonstrate overall competence in the curriculum, to gain additional skills, or to improve their knowledge base in dentistry before moving on to the next level of the curriculum. Students who are required to repeat an academic year must repeat all courses. The decision to repeat an academic year is final and cannot be appealed.

Dismissal from the College: For AY 2023-2024 and beyond

Dismissal from NYU Dentistry is based on a student’s failure to perform at an acceptable academic level. The decision to dismiss can only be appealed on the ground that NYU Dentistry materially failed to follow its published policies and procedures. The student may submit any relevant information to the Senior Vice-Dean for Research Development and Academic Affairs for review in their consideration of the appeal. Any extenuating circumstance cited by a student in the appeal, MUST have been contemporaneously reported to the Office of Student Affairs or the Office of Academic Affairs to share with the CPC in order to be considered in the appeal. An extenuating circumstance is considered to be contemporaneously reported when the information is shared by the student as it is occurring, or immediately thereafter (concomitant with the occurrence to the extent practicable).

Petition Procedure

The Class Promotion Committees (CPC) evaluate the academic performance of all students and makes decisions regarding promotion and graduation. The Office of Academic Affairs notifies students of the CPC dismissal decision. After such notification, the student may appeal this decision to the Senior Vice-Dean for Research Development and Academic Affairs on procedural grounds ONLY, i.e., that NYU Dentistry has not followed its published policies.

The following procedures must be followed for submitting information an appeal. The written petition should be sent to: Senior Vice-Dean for Research Development and Academic Affairs, NYU Dentistry, 345 East 24th St, New York, NY 10010. To be considered, the petition must be submitted electronically, by trackable mail or delivered by hand, within five (5) business days after the student is notified of the dismissal.

At a minimum, a petition must include a detailed justification of the reason for the request.

The Senior Vice-Dean will consider appeals based on deviation from published policies in these Guidelines. The rules described in course syllabi cannot be challenged as part of an appeal after dismissal. A student may challenge policies described in individual course syllabi no later than 5 (five) business days after the respective course is over and final grades have been submitted.

The Senior Vice-Dean will consider the student’s request for reconsideration of a dismissal decision within 21 working days of receiving the request.

The decisions of the Senior Vice-Dean are based on the academic performance of a student, the CPC’s findings, and the facts set forth in the student's petition. In the unusual situation where clarification is needed, the Senior Vice-Dean may request additional information from the student.

Students MAY NOT ask faculty members to petition the Senior Vice-Dean on their behalf.
Students who have been dismissed and who choose to appeal the dismissal decision are considered suspended from all clinical activity until a final decision has been rendered.

Appeals: The decision of the Senior Vice-Dean is final and cannot be appealed.

Requirements for Graduation
Graduation from NYU Dentistry is based on achievement of the following:
   a) passing all courses and completing all discipline requirements including all clinical assignments and rotations scheduled through the end of the academic year;
   b) passing the INBDE for the Class of 2023 and beyond;
   c) meeting the requirements that demonstrate competency in all of the measures defined by the faculty; and,
   d) meeting all obligations to NYU.

Policy on Extended, Returning or Repeating Seniors
Students who have passed the Integrated National Board (INBDE) as well as all didactic requirements but are still deficient in clinic requirements at the time of expected graduation will be categorized as follows:

A. Extended Seniors: Students who complete all requirements by mid-August of the same academic year will graduate in September. No additional tuition or fees are assessed during this period.

B. Returning Seniors: Students who will complete all requirements by December 31 following their senior year and will graduate in January of the following year. These students will be assessed full registration fees and ½ of the senior year tuition.

C. Repeating Seniors: Students who will complete all clinical requirements within one year of the original graduation date. A student, except those on approved leave of absence who does not complete all clinic requirements within 14 months (July 31) following their original expected graduation date will be dismissed from the University. Repeating students will be assessed full registration and tuition fees.
Interruptions in Matriculation

**DDS Program Duration**

The four-year DDS program must be completed in a maximum of 6 years total (1.5 times the expected completion period). The DDS Advanced Standing program must be completed in a maximum of 3.5 years, or 1.5 times the length of the curriculum following the one-semester introductory program. This is inclusive of leaves of absence and repeating an academic year. This is based on the reason for the interruption in matriculation and adequate clinical resources for the student to return in a given year. A student may not repeat the same academic year more than once. A student who fails any course in a repeat year will be dismissed.

**Leave of Absence**

**Description:** A student may encounter difficulties during his or her matriculation and find it necessary to leave school for a period of time. The faculty of the College is aware of such circumstances and will assist students through such difficult periods. A leave of absence may be considered under special circumstances. All leaves of absence must be requested in writing and addressed to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. This written application should include the general reason for the request and the proposed duration of the leave. All medical leaves of absence should be substantiated with appropriate medical documentation. The decision to grant a leave of absence will rest with the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. A Leave of Absence is not official until it is so granted by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and will be effective as of the date specified in the official notification letter. At the time of requesting the leave, students are evaluated for their academic record. In the absence of final grades for courses underway, interim evaluations through the CPC will reflect if the student leaves in good academic standing or not in good academic standing.

In order to maintain continuity in the curriculum, in most instances an absence from the program cannot extend more than one academic year. In exceptional circumstances, approval or extension for one additional year of the leave of absence will be considered provided the student requests it in writing four months prior to the start of the next academic year. Approval of an extension will be based on (a) the exceptional extenuating circumstance; (b) the length of time the student has been in the program; (c) the academic performance of the student; and (d) changes in the curriculum that may have occurred or will occur during the leave of absence.

Failure to request an extension in writing will result in permanent de-enrollment of the student.

**Medical or Personal Leave of Absence:** If a student’s leave of absence is based on a health problem it is required that the Office of Academic Affairs receives information about the need for the leave from either the NYU Health Center or the NYU Counseling Services (212-443-9999). Under unusual circumstances, validation for the need of a health-related leave of absence may be accepted from an external source. This validation should be submitted to the appropriate University health service, with a copy to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. At the time of the request, the student should be in good academic standing.
Maternity Leave: Maternity leave is considered a leave of absence. Students who request such a leave are under the jurisdiction of all stated requirements in this document. During this period it is required that the student comply with the following:

1) Contact the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and the Director of Academic Advising and provide them with the anticipated first day of the leave and the approximate return date to the University.

2) Contact all faculty and departments, especially those where an exam or clinic experience is scheduled. Inform the faculty of your leave and make arrangements for any required makeups. Students on maternity leave are responsible for all requirements as specified by the course director.

3) Contact the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and the Director of Academic Advising with your return date, and provide evidence of medical clearance to return to the program.

Parental Leave (non-birth parent): Parental leave is considered a leave of absence. Students who request such a leave are under the jurisdiction of all stated requirements in this document. The College recognizes the need/desire of parents to bond with their new infant and/or provide necessary emotional support to their partner. It is recommended that parental leave for purposes of bonding not extend beyond a 2-week period. Longer parental leaves will be considered in unusual circumstances and/or for the student's own medical recovery following childbirth. Parental leave of longer than two weeks must be requested in writing. As soon as practical during the period of leave, it is required that the student comply with the following:

1. Contact the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and the Director of Academic Advising and provide them with the anticipated first day of the leave and the approximate return date to the University.

2. Contact all faculty and departments, especially those where an exam or clinic experience is scheduled. Inform the faculty of your leave and make arrangements for any required makeups. Students on parental leave are responsible for all requirements as specified by the course director.

3. Contact the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and the Director of Academic Advising with your return date (students on parental leave for medical recovery reasons must provide evidence of medical clearance to return to the program).

Mandatory Leave of Absence: The College of Dentistry reserves the right to require a student to take a leave of absence when there is a concern for the welfare of the student, or for the public, should the student be allowed to continue in the program. Request to return from a mandatory leave of absence must be substantiated by appropriate medical documentation that the student may return to their duties.

Outstanding Financial Obligations: A student with outstanding financial obligation to the College/University may be de-enrolled, which is in essence an involuntary administrative leave of absence, subject to the general rules of a leave of absence. Before a student can be considered for the possibility of return to the college, all outstanding financial obligations must be satisfied.

These Guidelines are subject to revision at any time with the approval of the EMC.
Grades in Courses at the Time of the Granting of a Leave of Absence: Students may request a leave of absence when courses have not been completed. Students cannot obtain partial credit for courses that are interrupted. A record of the student’s performance in courses that have not been completed at the time of the leave of absence will be maintained by the course directors and the CPC.

Returning from a Leave of Absence: When a student is able to return from a leave of absence, the request for reinstatement must be in writing and submitted, on or before March 1 of the academic year for readmission. When returning from a medical leave of absence, including maternity leave, students must provide evidence that they are fit to return to a full-time program. Before returning to the College, the student is subject to an academic review by the Office of Academic Affairs to determine when or if the student is eligible to return. The academic review will consider the following factors in determining when or if the student may return: 1) the student’s academic record, 2) changes that may have occurred in the curriculum during the time when the student was on leave, 3) the current status of courses in the overall continuum of instruction and where the student’s educational progress is most reasonably accommodated, and 4) available space. In addition, the Office of Academic Affairs will determine: 1) evidence that the circumstances that initiated a leave of absence have been resolved; and, 2) evidence that other relevant circumstances, if any, have been addressed. There is no guarantee of reinstatement.

Failure to request in writing a return to the next academic year will result in permanent ineligibility for reinstatement of the student. A student who returns to the program from a leave of absence is considered a full-time student.


New grades (W/ U and W/S) and modified Leave of Absence policy approved by the Committee on Academic Review and Standards (CARS) on 01/27/2010 and EMC on 03/10/2010. Modified Clinic Privileges policy approved by CARS on 02/22/2011 and by EMC on March 2, 2011.

Modified F grade policy for students on probation, approved by CARS on July 15, 2014 and EMC on August 6, 2014, effective for any decision to be made going forward from August 6, 2014.

Editorial updates and modified policy on mandatory enrollment for students who did not pass Part II NBDE, approved by the Committee on Academic Review and Standards on June 17, 2015, and EMC on July 1, 2015.


Update of I grade policy approved by EMC on September 6, 2017. Updated grade and remedial policy approved by EMC on August 1, 2018.

Updated attendance, grade and remedial policies approved by EMC May 1, 2019.

Updates parental leave and edit to remediation policy approved by EMC on November 6, 2019.


Updates to remediation policy to ensure consistency between the text of the document and the chart summary of (possible) outcomes following remediation, approved by EMC August 5, 2020.

Updates to grading policy and promotion requirements in accordance with University and Federal compliance mandates; updates to national boards dates and deadlines, approved by Deans and Department Chairs, January 20, 2021; approved by EMC on January 27, 2021.

See Absence Due to Illness- COVID-19 AMENDMENT, approved by EMC October 6, 2021. Updated minimum passing grade information approved by EMC on April 6, 2022.

Updated with information on requirements for Graduation and the criteria in the D4 Grading Policy, approved by EMC on May 4, 2022.

Updated with information on (a) semesterization of remediation, (b) qualifications for remediation, (c) addition of the Clinical Mentorship Program, (d) change in the process to appeal dismissals, (e) updated National Board Requirements, and (f) updated COVID-related amendments; approved by EMC on October 5, 2022.

The current version including the updated grading scheme and the dissolution of the Committee on Academic Review and Standards (CARS) approved in toto by the Executive Management Council on Wednesday, July 26, 2023.
Absence Due to Illness - COVID-19 AMENDMENT

In accordance with the Academic Standards and Policies found on the NYU Global Home Page:

If a student is absent for three (3) or more consecutive school days, the Office of Academic Affairs must be informed and will require documentation that the student is medically cleared to return to the academic program, or documentation supportive of the resolution of any other cause for absence from the program.

This is true for ALL illnesses, however, with COVID-19, there are additional steps required.

Please remember: COVID-19 is an infectious disease; as such, it is the responsibility of the student to comply with all of the steps detailed below in the interest of safety for the entire NYU Dentistry Community.

1. If you test positive for COVID-19, YOU MUST:
   - Submit a COVID-19 Reporting Form to the NYU COVID-19 Prevention & Response Team - CPRT (https://nyu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bCvIk6DpqWeFsJT)
   - Follow the isolation guidance provided therein on what to do if you are, or if you are not experiencing symptoms.
   - **NOTE:** The CPRT no longer provides a clearance to return date; they provide Isolation Guidelines. Please read and follow the Isolation Guidelines carefully.
   - Inform the Health Services Unit via email dental.hsu@nyu.edu
   - Inform the Office of Academic Affairs via email dental.academics@nyu.edu as required for any absences of 3 or more consecutive days

2. In order to be eligible for excused absence from mandatory classes, examinations, labs, or clinical assignments, YOU MUST:
   - Submit proof of a positive FDA, EUA, or lab approved test to HSU via email at dental.hsu@nyu.edu at the beginning of the absence period.
   - You will be followed and guided by HSU as to when you may return to the College, whether and/or when you require additional testing, and whether you require referral to the Student Health Service for further evaluation and/or treatment.

3. In the event that you miss an examination, during your COVID illness/isolation period:
   - You MUST reach out to the course director BEFORE the exam is administered (ON or BEFORE the date of the exam) to inform them of your absence and your compliance with item #2 above.
   - Assuming compliance with item #2 above: you will be eligible to take the make-up examination for the course as scheduled by the Course Director with no grade penalty.
   - In the unlikely event that you remain symptomatic on the date of the make-up examination and are not cleared to return to the program by that date, and assuming compliance with item #2 above: you will be eligible to take a make-up examination during the designated remediation period with no grade penalty.
   - Please note that there will only be one scheduled in-course make-up examination for students with excused absences and that the format of any and all make-up examinations is at the discretion of the Course Directors and Department Chairs.
   - **This policy is specific for absences of 3 days or more related to COVID.**
   - For absences of less than three days OR absences that occur on an exam/quiz day, please refer to the Student Handbook page 18 on the DDS Academics Card on NYU Global Home for guidance on how to proceed.