Academic Policies and Procedures for the Predoctoral Program in Dental Medicine

- Guidelines for Predoctoral Promotion and Graduation

  ➢ General Requirements

To be promoted into the next academic year, students must successfully complete all courses and educational obligations of the first and second semesters of the current academic year. Specifically, promotions guidelines require that students complete the year with no final grade of “F,” no more than one final grade of “D,” and a GPA of 2.0 or above. Students not meeting these minimum requirements will not be eligible for promotion. Courses in which a final grade of “F” was achieved are not eligible for remediation/re-examination and must be repeated in their entirety. Promotion will not be allowed until the failed course(s) has been repeated successfully. An exception to this policy may be applied to courses that are patient care-based and for which the Promotions Committee determines that an extension of the deadline for completion is warranted. Additional exceptions to this policy may be made by the Promotions Committee, under rare conditions, after review of any mitigating circumstances. In recognition of the scope and rigorousness of the predoctoral curriculum, students are permitted one final grade of “D” per academic year without penalty. Two or more courses in which a final grade of “D” was achieved during the year must be repeated in their entirety, unless the Promotions Committee finds that remediation/re-examination may be warranted. Again, promotion will not be allowed until such unsatisfactory courses have been successfully resolved.

To graduate from the School, students must have first successfully completed each year of the program prior to their final year. During their final year, students must successfully complete all courses with no final grade of “F,” no more than one final grade of “D,” and a GPA of 2.0 or above. Students not meeting these minimum requirements will not be eligible for graduation. As above, courses in which a final grade of “F” was achieved are not eligible for remediation/re-examination and must be repeated in their entirety. Graduation will not be allowed until the failed course(s) has been repeated successfully. An exception to this policy may be applied to courses that are patient care-based and for which the Promotions Committee determines that an extension in the time for completion is warranted. Additional exceptions to this policy may be made by the Promotions Committees, under rare conditions, after review of any mitigating circumstances. Two or more courses in which a final grade of “D” was achieved during the year must also be resolved, as described above. In addition, to be considered eligible for graduation students must also complete related educational obligations; these include achievement of competency in all clinical areas/disciplines, completion of patient treatment or appropriate transfer of all patients under their direct care, and fulfillment of administrative requirements (e.g. challenging the National Board Dental Examinations). Students not meeting all such obligations will be deemed ineligible for graduation.

➢ Role of the Promotions Committees

The School has three standing committees charged with reviewing the performance of predoctoral students: 1) the First-year Promotions Committee; 2) the Second-year & Advanced Standing 1 Promotions Committee; and 3) the Third-year, Fourth-year & Advanced Standing 2
Promotions Committee. Each of these Promotions Committees is comprised of faculty and staff representative of the respective class years being reviewed. These include a Committee Chair, several directors of current year courses, and various School administrators (as ex officio members). The Committee Chairs and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and/or Associated Dean for Clinical Education review interim and final course grades throughout the year to identify students having academic, preclinical and/or clinical difficulty and to recommend tutoring/remedial experiences. As warranted, these students will be concomitantly placed on Academic Probation by either the respective Committee Chair or the Academic Dean (with or without a Committee vote). The full Committees meet annually (or more frequently as may be needed) to review student academic, preclinical and/or clinical performance. For students demonstrating unsatisfactory performance, the Committees, through either the Committee Chair or the Academic Dean, notify students of their interim and/or final academic status for the academic year. The Committees provide the Dean their recommendations for any corrective actions and/or sanctions applicable for students who do not meet the requirements for promotion or graduation. The Dean, in turn, may accept, reject or modify the recommendations of the Promotions Committee. The Dean presumes that the Committee proceedings were fair, consistent and appropriate and, unless credible evidence to the contrary exists, will generally accept the findings and recommendations of the Committee.

It should be noted that Promotions Committee deliberations are closed sessions, whether conducted face-to-face or electronically, to maintain confidentiality of the proceedings. As a matter of policy and accepted custom, the Promotions Committees do not record their deliberations in the form of any official written minutes, audio and/or video recordings. The Committee Chair establishes what information may or may not be made publicly available to individuals who are not the primary parties involved in any given student's case. As used here, “primary parties” include the student, Committee members, School administrators, relevant course directors, faculty mentors/advisors and designated tutors as well as any physician, behavioral medicine clinician, or other health care provider that may be involved in the student’s case.

- **Findings and Recommendations of the Promotions Committees**

The Promotions Committees review student performance outcomes to verify compliance/non-compliance with promotions or graduation guidelines. When needed, the Committees may ask for additional information or clarification to assist their review. For students found to be in compliance with promotions or graduation guidelines, no individual notification of such status is provided by the Committee and no action is required by the student; in these cases promotion or graduation is automatically approved. For students found to be in non-compliance with promotions or graduation guidelines, each individual student is notified of the Committee’s findings and the corrective actions recommended; in these cases clinic eligibility may be denied or withdrawn until deficiencies are resolved.

- **Promotion/Non-promotion**

For students completing the First-, Second-, Third- and Advanced Standing 1 years, the Committee will recommend Promotion after review of all recorded first and second semester final grades verifies no final grade of “F,” no more than one final grade of “D,” and a GPA of 2.0 or above. The Committee will recommend Non-Promotion when these criteria have not been
achieved. For those students not eligible for Promotion, the Committee will recommend appropriate corrective action.

Students who are non-compliant with promotions guidelines have two primary corrective actions recommended by the Promotions Committees: 1) Dismissal from the program or 2) Repetition of the year. The Committees may, in limited circumstances, authorize Remediation/Re-examination as an alternative to Dismissal or Repetition of the year. Consideration of this latter option will occur only after review of first and second semester final grades, and determination by the Committees of the feasibility of successful remediation/re-examination by the given student. The Committees also may, in limited circumstances, authorize students to continue into the next academic year under the condition that unsatisfactory courses from the preceding year be repeated. However, this applies only to the Third-year courses; this option is not applicable for students non-compliant after Year One or Year Two in the 4-year traditional DMD program, due to curriculum restrictions.

- Graduation/Non-graduation

For students completing the Fourth- and Advanced Standing 2 years (i.e., their final years), the Committee will recommend Graduation after review of all recorded final-year grades verifies no final grade of “F,” no more than one final grade of “D,” and a GPA of 2.0 or above. In addition, the Committee will establish whether or not patient-care and any other educational activities have been/will be completed before graduation.

Students who are non-compliant with graduation guidelines during their final year have three primary corrective actions recommended by the Promotions Committees: 1) Dismissal from the program, 2) Repetition of the year or 3) Continuation in the program (i.e., “continuing student” status) until completion of all outstanding educational obligations. The Committee may, in limited circumstances, authorize Remediation/Re-examination of unsatisfactory coursework as an alternative to Dismissal or Repetition of the year. Consideration of this option will occur only after review of first and second semester final grades, and determination by the Committee of the feasibility of successful completion of the program by the given student. At the Committee’s discretion, students may be recommended for graduation pending the attainment of any additional educational conditions that may be established for the particular student. It should be noted that any disciplinary issues arising during the final year may override the Committee’s recommendation for graduation, resulting in delayed graduation or non-graduation depending upon the severity of the infraction.

- Time Limit for Completing the Predoctoral Program

Students are expected to make continuous and timely progress towards completion of the program. However, it is recognized that delayed graduation of students in a clinical program is not unusual, and that any given student’s program may be extended due to patient care commitments and increased time to achieve competency. It is further recognized that additional factors such as academic difficulties, student health issues, financial hardships, and other personal considerations can lengthen the time it takes a student to complete the program. Consequently, the School considers a time factor of 1.5 times the original length of the program as a reasonable timeframe within which to complete all educational obligations, without prejudice (i.e., six years for the 4-year traditional program and three years for the 2-year
Advanced Standing program). For students taking longer than the 1.5x time factor, the School will review their individual cases and make a determination whether or not to allow continuation in the program. In making this determination the School will evaluate the student’s progress to date and his/her putative ability to achieve clinical competency. As warranted, students will be notified that they will be administratively terminated from the program by a set deadline, unless sufficient educational progress can be demonstrated. Thus, students taking seven or more years to complete the 4-year traditional program (or four or more years to complete the 2-year Advanced Standing program) are at risk of being dismissed from School due to insufficient progress.

- Clinic Eligibility/Non-eligibility

The welfare and safety of the School’s patients are of paramount concern. The Promotions Committees will evaluate a student’s qualifications to begin and/or continue direct patient care. No student will be allowed to provide direct patient care if the Committees determine that his/her didactic, preclinical and/or clinical performance raise reasonable doubts about that individual’s ability to adequately care for patients, even under supervised conditions.

- Academic Probation

Any student displaying a pattern of unsatisfactory academic, preclinical and/or clinical performance will receive notification that they are being placed on Academic Probation. This status is not meant to be punitive. Rather, it serves to identify deficiencies in educational performance that, if continued, may negatively affect promotion or graduation. This status alerts the faculty that the student may be in need of additional assistance, and it initiates eligibility for School-sponsored tutoring. The intent is to provide support for the student to continue in the program, and such support may include mandated referral to any other University or external resource. Students on Academic Probation are prohibited from clinical activities, including direct patient care, intramural rotations and external clerkships unless specifically allowed by the Promotions Committee. This is to ensure the safety of patients when a student’s deficiencies raise doubt about his/her ability to provide appropriate health care. Students on Academic Probation also may be restricted or prohibited from active participation in extra- or non-curricular activities, in order to allow more focused concentration on educational obligations. Academic Probation is a non-permanent status and is not part of a student’s permanent record unless significant deficiencies remain uncorrected. The status of Academic Probation must be resolved before a student can be recommended for promotion or graduation.

- Dismissal from School

If review of the academic, preclinical and/or clinical record establishes that a student's performance is beyond the scope of reasonable corrective action, then the Committee may recommend dismissal from School. Dismissal is generally effective immediately, especially when patient care may be jeopardized, but may be postponed as warranted by relevant considerations in students' individual cases.

- Repetition of the Academic Year
If the Promotions Committee determines that a student’s performance is beyond the scope of remediation/re-examination, but not beyond correction, the Committee may recommend that the student Repeat the Academic Year. A student directed to repeat any given year will be required to repeat some or all of the courses in that year’s curriculum, as determined by the Committee. In general, when a student is directed to repeat a year, all courses with a final grade of “C” or below must be repeated in their entirety; this condition is automatic and universally applied. In addition, any courses in which the student previously received “A” or “B” level grades will also need to be repeated, for either a grade or as an audit, if the Committee determines that such courses are necessary to ensure continuity of knowledge, skills and values to meet entrance requirements for the next program year. The student may be further required to complete additional educational activities, as also recommended by the Promotions Committee, to support successful outcomes.

If a student is required to repeat any given year, the status of Academic Probation will be extended through that repeat year, and the student will be subject to all specific conditions recommended by the Committee. The Committee, through the Office of Academic Affairs, will notify the student of all courses to be repeated and any additional educational activities and/or specific conditions associated with his/her case. The student is responsible for attendance and full participation in these courses and related activities. To be considered successful, the student must achieve no final grade below a “C” in all repeated courses. Failure to meet this condition will result in the Committee’s subsequent recommendation for Dismissal from School.

- Repetition of a Specific Course(s), without Repeating the Academic Year

The Promotions Committees may, in limited circumstances, authorize a student to repeat one or more failed (“F”) courses, or two or more unsatisfactory (“D”) courses, while concurrently participating in educational activities of the next academic year. Consideration of this option will occur only after review of all recorded first and second semester final grades. This option is considered appropriate only for students with one or two deficient courses, and when curriculum scheduling permits. Students having three or more deficient courses typically will be recommended to repeat the year, or will be dismissed. Any student repeating a specific course will remain on Academic Probation and will not be officially promoted until all designated courses are successfully repeated, with a final grade no lower than a “C” for each course being repeated. Although the student may be permitted to participate in the next year’s curriculum, the student will be responsible for attendance and full participation in the course(s) being repeated. Furthermore, student acceptance of this option is with the understanding that non-compliance with the Promotions Committee recommendation will result in Dismissal or Repetition of the Year.

- Remediation/Re-examination

The Promotions Committee may, in limited circumstances, authorize Remediation/Re-examination of two or more unsatisfactory (“D”) courses. Courses in which a final grade of “F” was achieved are not eligible for remediation/re-examination and must be repeated in their entirety, unless the Promotions Committee finds relevant mitigating circumstances warranting Remediation/Re-examination of the course. Consideration of Remediation/Re-examination will occur only after review of all recorded first and second semester final grades. If course Remediation/Re-examination is recommended, it is solely the student’s responsibility to contact
the relevant course director(s) to initiate the Remediation/Re-examination process; neither the course director(s) nor the Promotions Committee have any responsibility to initiate the process after the student has been notified of this recommendation. Any student Remediating/Re-examining specific courses will remain on Academic Probation and will not be officially promoted until these courses have been successfully Remediated/Re-examined, with a final grade no lower than a “C.” Although the student may be permitted to participate in the next year’s curriculum, it is with the understanding that non-compliance with the Promotions Committee recommendation will result in Dismissal or Repetition of the Year.

- Specific Considerations, by Class

  - DMD 1

  To be promoted into the DMD 2 Year, students must achieve the following:
  - Complete the year with no final grade of “F,” no more than one final grade of “D,” and a GPA of 2.0 or above.

  Due to the overall curriculum structure and scheduling limitations, hybrid DMD 1/DMD 2 curricula are not feasible for students having to repeat First-year courses. Therefore, DMD 1 students are either recommended for Promotion into the DMD 2 year, or are recommended for Dismissal or Repetition of the Year.

  In limited circumstances, however, the Promotions Committee may authorize Remediation/Re-examination as an alternative to Dismissal or Repetition of the Year. Consideration of this option will occur only after review of all recorded first and second semester final grades, with the exception of PH 610 APEX Clinical Clerkship. When notified, the student must contact the relevant course director(s) involved and advise him/her/them of the intention to participate in Remediation/Re-examination, which will be scheduled during the APEX period. The APEX Preceptor and the APEX Program Director must be notified by the student in advance of any absence(s) due to Remediation/Re-examination activities. Students who are enrolled at out-of-state APEX sites must make individual arrangements to be present at the scheduled times and places for Remediation/Re-examination. Any absence from APEX for remedial activities must be made up before an APEX final grade will be issued. Test dates and locations will be scheduled by the Office of Academic Affairs. The student must be present on the scheduled date(s) of Remediation/Re-examination, and no substitute dates are allowed. To be considered successful, the student must achieve a grade no lower than a “C” for all courses being Remediated/Re-examined. Successful completion of all authorized Remediation/Re-examination challenges will result in replacement of the original deficient final grade with a maximum grade of "C-.” Unsuccessful Remediation/Re-examination attempts may result in a new grade that is lower than the original grade. Furthermore, unsuccessful Remediation/Re-examination attempts will be followed by a Promotions Committee recommendation for Dismissal or Repeat of the Year.

  - DMD 2

  To be promoted into the DMD 3 Year, students must achieve the following:
  - Complete the year with no final grade of “F,” no more than one final grade of “D,” and a GPA of 2.0 or above,
• Challenge Part I of the National Board Dental Examination (passing NBDE I is not a requirement for promotion into the DMD 3 Year), and
• Demonstrate eligibility for entry into the Clinic. Clinic eligibility will be withheld when any of the following occurs:
  ❖ One or more final grade(s) of “F” in any course(s) during the academic year
  ❖ Two or more final grades of “D” in any courses during the academic year
  ❖ A GPA of less than 2.0
  ❖ One or more final grade(s) of “F” or “D” in any preclinical laboratory or clinical didactic course
  ❖ Academic Probation; it should be noted that DMD 2 Students on Academic Probation are ineligible for entry into the Clinic, unless the Promotions Committee recommends otherwise and/or the probationary status is rescinded.

Due to the overall curriculum structure, scheduling limitations and patient-care obligations, hybrid DMD 2/DMD 3 curricula are not feasible for students having to repeat Second-year courses. DMD 2 students not meeting the above criteria are recommended for Dismissal or Repetition of the Year.

In limited circumstances, however, the Promotions Committee may authorize Remediation/Re-examination as an alternative to Dismissal or Repetition of the Year. Consideration of this option will occur only after review of all recorded first and second semester final grades. When notified, the student must contact the relevant course director(s) involved and advise him/her/them of the intention to participate in Remediation/Re-examination. Test dates and locations will be scheduled by the Office of Academic Affairs. The student must be present on the scheduled date(s) of Remediation/Re-examination, and no substitute dates are allowed. When this option is offered, the intent is to make a student eligible for Promotion, not to change a student’s permanent record or academic rank. To be considered successful, the student must achieve a grade no lower than a “C” for all courses being Remediated/Re-examined. Successful completion of all authorized Remediation/Re-examination challenges will result in a new maximum grade of "C-". This remedial grade will be entered alongside the original grade on the student’s transcript to indicate the correction of a deficiency, but the original grade will be used to determine a student’s GPA and class rank for the year. Unsuccessful Remediation/Re-examination attempts may result in a new grade that is lower than the original grade. Such an outcome also will be followed by a Promotions Committee recommendation for Dismissal or Repeat of the Year.

  ▪ DMD 3

To be promoted into the DMD 4 Year, students must achieve the following:
• Complete the year with no final grade of “F,” no more than one final grade of “D,” and a GPA of 2.0 or above, and
• Demonstrate satisfactory clinical progress. Clinic eligibility will be withdrawn when any of the following occurs:
  ❖ Student’s clinical performance is significantly and consistently below acceptable standards of care
  ❖ Patients’ welfare or safety has been/will be compromised
DMD 3 students not meeting the above criteria are recommended for either Dismissal or Repetition of the Academic Year. If a student is required to Repeat the Academic Year, the Promotions Committee will notify the student of the courses that must be repeated. The student is responsible for attendance and full participation in these courses. A student who is Repeating the Third Year will not be promoted into the Fourth Year and will not be allowed to participate in any Fourth Year courses, Externship, clinical rotations, or any clinical licensing examinations. However, the student will usually be allowed to continue direct patient care, unless otherwise limited by the Promotions Committee.

In limited circumstances, students may be allowed to repeat selected didactic, non-patient based courses. Due to flexibility in the curriculum structure, hybrid DMD 3/DMD 4 curricula are allowable for students having to resolve deficiencies in didactic, non-patient based courses. In such cases, the student will not be promoted into the Fourth Year, but will be allowed to participate in all Fourth Year courses, Externship, clinical rotations, and clinical licensing examinations. Furthermore, the student will usually be allowed to continue direct patient care, unless otherwise limited by the Promotions Committee. The following applies to **didactic, non-patient based courses:**

- Courses having final grades of “F” or “D” are not eligible for remediation/re-examination
- Any course having a final grade of “F” must be repeated
- Any two or more courses having a final grade of “D” must be repeated
- All repeated courses must have a new final grade of “C” or higher to be considered successful

In limited circumstances, clinical, patient-based courses are eligible for Remediation/Re-examination. The Promotions Committee may consider this option after determining that a satisfactory grade could be achieved by extending the course deadline, thereby allowing the student an opportunity for continued clinical activity. The Promotions Committee establishes the new deadline, which may be variable, but generally no longer than November 1st of the next academic year. In such cases, the student will not be promoted into the Fourth Year, but will be allowed to participate in all Fourth Year courses, Externship, clinical rotations, and direct patient care, unless otherwise limited by the Promotions Committee. Generally, any student having deficiencies in clinical, patient-based courses are prohibited from registering for or challenging clinical licensing examinations, unless an exception is granted by the Promotions Committee. The following applies to **clinical, patient-based courses:**

- Courses having final grades of “F” or “D” are eligible for an extension of the deadline for completion (i.e., remediation/re-examination)
- Any course having a final grade of “F” must be satisfactorily resolved/completed
- Any two or more courses having a final grade of “D” must be satisfactorily resolved/completed
- All remediated courses must have a new final grade of “C” or higher to be considered successful
- Students who do not successfully remediate clinical, patient-based courses by the new deadline will be recommended for Dismissal. In limited cases the Promotions Committee may recommend Repetition of the Year, as warranted by any mitigating circumstances.
Third-year students either Repeating the Academic Year or Repeating Selected Courses will remain on/be placed on Academic Probation.

- **DMD 4**

To graduate from GSDM, DMD 4 Year students must achieve the following:
- Complete the year with no final grade of “F,” no more than one final grade of “D,” and a GPA of 2.0 or above
- Demonstrate clinical competency in all designated disciplines/areas of study
- Completion of patient treatment or appropriate transfer of all patients under their direct care
- Fulfillment of administrative requirements (e.g. challenging the National Board Dental Examinations)
- Be in good academic standing with all of the previous years’ promotions committees
- Must not be on Academic Probation

Students not meeting these conditions will be ineligible for graduation. As above, courses in which a final grade of “F” was achieved are not eligible for remediation/re-examination and must be repeated in their entirety. Graduation will not be allowed until the failed course(s) has been repeated successfully. An exception to this policy may be applied to courses that are patient care-based and for which the Promotions Committee determines that an extension in the time for completion is warranted. Additional exceptions to this policy may be made by the Promotions Committee, under rare conditions, after review of any mitigating circumstances. Two or more courses in which a final grade of “D” was achieved during the year must also be resolved, as described above. In addition, to be considered eligible for graduation students must also complete related educational obligations.

- **Advanced Standing 1**

To be promoted into the AS 2 Year, students must achieve the following:
- Complete the year with no final grade of “F,” no more than one final grade of “D,” and a GPA of 2.0 or above,
- Demonstrate eligibility for entry into the Clinic. Clinic eligibility will be withheld when any of the following occurs:
  - One or more final grade(s) of “F” in any course(s) during the academic year
  - Two or more final grades of “D” in any courses during the academic year
  - A GPA of less than 2.0
  - One or more final grade(s) of “F” or “D” in any preclinical laboratory or clinical didactic course
  - Academic Probation; it should be noted that AS 1 Students on Academic Probation are ineligible for entry into the Clinic, unless the Promotions Committee recommends otherwise and/or the probationary status is rescinded.
Students not meeting the above criteria are recommended for Dismissal or Repetition of the Year. Due to the overall curriculum structure, scheduling limitations and patient-care obligations, hybrid AS 1/AS 2 curricula are not feasible for students having to repeat AS 1 courses. In limited circumstances, however, the Promotions Committee may authorize Remediation/Re-examination as an alternative to Dismissal or Repetition of the Year. Consideration of this option will occur only after review of all recorded first and second semester final grades. When notified, the student must contact the relevant course director(s) involved and advise him/her/them of the intention to participate in Remediation/Re-examination. Test dates and locations will be scheduled by the Office of Academic Affairs. The student must be present on the scheduled date(s) of Remediation/Re-examination, and no substitute dates are allowed. When this option is offered, the intent is to make a student eligible for Promotion, not to change a student’s permanent record or academic rank. To be considered successful, the student must achieve a grade no lower than a “C” for all courses being Remediated/Re-examined. Successful completion of all authorized Remediation/Re-examination challenges will result in a new maximum grade of “C-.” This remedial grade will be entered alongside the original grade on the student’s transcript to indicate the correction of a deficiency, but the original grade will be used to determine a student’s GPA and class rank for the year. Unsuccessful Remediation/Re-examination attempts may result in a new grade that is lower than the original grade. Such an outcome also will be followed by a Promotions Committee recommendation for Dismissal or Repeat of the Year.

- **Advanced Standing 2**

To graduate from GSDM, AS 2 students must achieve the following:

- Complete the year with no final grade of “F,” no more than one final grade of “D,” and a GPA of 2.0 or above
- Demonstrate clinical competency in all designated disciplines/areas of study
- Completion of patient treatment or appropriate transfer of all patients under their direct care
- Fulfillment of administrative requirements (e.g. challenging the National Board Dental Examinations)
- Be in good academic standing with all of the previous years’ promotions committees
- Must not be on Academic Probation

Students not meeting these conditions will be ineligible for graduation. As above, courses in which a final grade of “F” was achieved are not eligible for remediation/re-examination and must be repeated in their entirety. Graduation will not be allowed until the failed course(s) has been repeated successfully. An exception to this policy may be applied to courses that are patient care-based and for which the Promotions Committee determines that an extension in the time for completion is warranted. Additional exceptions to this policy may be made by the Promotions Committee, under rare conditions, after review of any mitigating circumstances. Two or more courses in which a final grade of “D” was achieved during the year must also be resolved, as described above. In addition, to be considered eligible for graduation students must also complete related educational obligations.

- **Appeals Process**
Addendum Article V of the School’s By-Laws stipulates that students have the right to fair process, and outlines the steps needed to appeal recommendations made by a Promotions Committee. Specifically, a student shall be informed that he/she has the right to appeal any of the recommendations made by a Promotions Committee. To initiate such an appeal procedure, the student must send a letter to the Dean requesting a review of the case, including a summary of reasons for seeking such a review. Appeals to the Dean must be submitted in writing within 14 business days of the date of notification of academic sanction. The Dean will decide if the case merits further review and will uphold, overturn or modify the original recommendations of the Promotions Committee. The Dean’s decision shall then be communicated to the student and the appropriate School administrator(s). In the case of a predoctoral student, the Dean shall inform the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and the relevant Promotions Committee. Any follow-up actions will be implemented, as per the Dean’s decisions.

Students have an additional level of appeal beyond the GSDM Dean. Students who do not find the Dean’s decisions to be acceptable have the right to appeal to the Provost of Boston University Medical Campus, in accordance with the policies and procedures governing the medical campus. Appeals to the Provost must be submitted in writing within 14 business days of the date of notification of the GSDM Dean’s decision. The Provost will communicate his/her decision to the student and the GSDM Dean, with any recommended actions. It should be noted that the Provost’s decision is final and that there are no further levels of appeal.