

Policies and Procedures for Evaluation of Academic Performance and Determination of Status Predoctoral Program

I. General Requirements for Promotion, Graduation, and Timely Completion of the Program

Promotion within or graduation from the predoctoral program requires:

- satisfactory completion of all academic and clinical requirements;
- compliance with all educational, administrative, and regulatory policies; and
- sufficient ongoing progress towards attainment of competency, as described by the program.

Promotion: Students must successfully complete all courses and educational obligations of the first and second semesters of the current academic year to be promoted into the next academic year. Promotions guidelines require that students complete the year with no more than one final grade of “D,” no final grade of “F,” and a GPA of 2.0 or above. Students not meeting these minimum requirements will not be eligible for promotion.

In recognition of the scope and rigorousness of the predoctoral curriculum, students are permitted one final grade of “D” per academic year without penalty. Students who receive a final grade of “D” in two or more courses during the year must repeat the courses in their entirety, unless the Promotions Committee finds that remediation/reexamination may be warranted. Students who receive a final grade of “F” in any course(s) generally are not eligible for remediation/reexamination and must repeat the course(s) in their entirety, unless the Promotions Committee determines that an exception is warranted (e.g., a patient care-based course for which an extension of the deadline for completion is appropriate given significant mitigating circumstances). In any case, promotion will not be allowed until all such unsatisfactory courses have been successfully resolved. In the rare instance where a student completes the year with a GPA less than 2.0 but with no final “D” or “F” grades, the Promotions Committee will recommend corrective action before promotion is granted.

Graduation: 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 more than one final grade of “D,” no final grade of “F,” and a GPA of 2.0 or above. Students not meeting these minimum requirements will not be eligible for graduation.

Students who receive a final grade of “D” during the year in two or more courses, or any final grade of “F,” must resolve those courses, as described above. 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 circumstances, after review of any mitigating circumstances.

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.

Timely progress towards completion: 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 needed 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 four-year DMD program and three years for the two-year DMD Advanced Standing program). However, the time away from school due to any official leave of absence is excluded from this calculation; the calculation is based on actual time enrolled. For students taking longer than the 1.5x time factor, the Promotions Committee will review their individual cases and determine whether to allow them to continue in the program. In making this determination the Promotions Committee will evaluate the student's progress to date and their putative ability to achieve clinical competency. If 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 four-year DMD program (or four or more years to complete the two-year DMD Advanced Standing program) are at risk of being dismissed from School due to insufficient progress.

II. Predoctoral Grade Scale

The grading scale for predoctoral courses is: A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D, and F; there are no A+, D+, D-, F+, or F- grades. The use of a pass/fail (P/F) scale is normally not allowed for required courses, but may be considered in limited instances with approval of the associate dean for academic affairs. The use of P/F grades for elective courses is allowed without the need for approval by the associate dean for academic affairs. The grade of "I" (incomplete) or "IP" (in progress) as a temporary grade is only awarded under extenuating circumstances, such as inability to complete course work due to illness or personal reasons beyond the student's control. Normally, incomplete grades should be resolved within 30 days after the close of the semester. However, students are expected to resolve incomplete grades no later than the end of the subsequent semester, unless the associate dean for academic affairs authorizes additional time. A grade of "I" will not be recorded as a final grade on the transcript. If the student does not rectify the incomplete grade by no later than the end of the subsequent semester (or additional time authorized by the associate dean for academic affairs), then the "I" will be automatically replaced with a grade of "F" (or with a "W" if the student withdraws from the program).

III. Resolution of Deficient Grades: At a minimum, all students must complete each year of the program with no final course grade of "F," no more than one "D," and with a minimum grade point average of 2.0. Any student not meeting these minimum requirements is not eligible for promotion or graduation. Corrective action steps are generally recommended by the Promotions Committee.

When a student repeats a course in its entirety, the student will be awarded the grade earned for that course. The original grade remains on the student's transcript (except for the DMD 1 year, as described below), and a new grade is recorded in the year the course is retaken along with the designation "RP". Successful completion of a remediation option without repetition of a course in its entirety will result in a grade improvement from a "D" or "F" to a "C-". Improvement of a grade by this means will be recorded

on the transcript as a “C-” with the designation “RM”. The original deficient grade will remain on the transcript.

IV. Vacation Policy and Absences: Students are expected to attend/participate in all assigned educational activities, including but not limited to classes (either in-person or remote), laboratories, clinical care, and research projects. The Office of Academic Affairs establishes the policies for student vacation, in addition to official school holidays, and for authorized and unauthorized absences. In general, absences must be approved by the associate dean for academic affairs in advance of the absence.

Missed Examinations: Students must contact the associate dean for academic affairs and the course director prior to the start of any examination that will be missed due to valid illness or personal reason. It is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the course director to make up the missed examination in a timely manner. Students will normally be asked to provide relevant documentation to support the reason for absence from the examination.

Absence for Religious Reasons: The school remains open during religious holidays. If a student intends to be absent for a religious holiday, it is imperative that the program director be notified well in advance. The university policy can be found at <http://www.bu.edu/ctl/university-policies/policy-on-religious-observance/>. It should be noted that days absent from the program for religious purposes will generally be considered vacation days.

V. Non-compliance with Regulatory Requirements: Students must be in compliance with all federal, state, University, and/or school regulatory requirements. These include, but are not necessarily limited to, HIPAA, CPR, Immunizations, Infection Control & Prevention, OSHA, Safety Rules, Management of Medical Emergencies, Health Insurance, and Emergency Contact Information. For some of these requirements (e.g., HIPAA), the entire dental school is a covered entity, and the University does not make any distinction between students that may not yet be actively treating patients. Non-compliance with such regulatory requirements is a serious matter, and sanctions will be imposed on students who are not in compliance. The type and duration of any sanctions will depend on the severity of the non-compliance. Sanctions include, but are not necessarily limited to, suspension from clinical patient care activities, research laboratories, classrooms/lectures, and/or computer/electronic access.

VI. Program Extension: Students remaining past the program end date to complete program requirements must be officially registered and assessed tuition and/or fees, as applicable to their specific situation. Payment entitles a student to appropriate access to University libraries, research laboratories, academic staff, and other academic facilities for completing their program requirements.

VII. 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 comprises faculty and staff representatives of the respective class years being reviewed. These include a Committee chair, several directors of current year courses, and various

School administrators (the latter as *ex officio* members). Committee actions are communicated to respective students by the relevant committee chair or the associate dean for academic affairs.

The Committee chairs as well as the associate dean for academic affairs, associate dean for clinical affairs, associate dean of students, and/or director of the Group Practice Experience & Team Leadership review interim and final course grades to identify students having academic, preclinical, and/or clinical difficulty and to recommend tutoring/remedial experiences. 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 at least once 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 Committees. 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. In instances where a student files an appeal to the dean (see below), the dean will review the content of the appeal and any supportive documentation to determine if the findings or recommendations of the Committee should be amended.

Promotions Committee deliberations are closed sessions, whether conducted face-to-face or electronically, to maintain confidentiality of the proceedings. Further, all documentation reviewed and discussions undertaken are considered confidential; as a matter of policy and long-standing procedure, the Promotions Committees do not record their deliberations in the form of any official written minutes, audio, and/or video recordings. As warranted, input may be sought from school administrators, relevant course directors, faculty mentors/advisors and group practice leaders, 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. The Promotions Committee chair establishes what information may or may not be made available to individuals other than those previously listed.

VIII. Recommendations of the Promotions Committees

Academic Probation: Any student demonstrating unsatisfactory didactic, preclinical, and/or clinical performance may be placed on academic probation. The student will be informed of the reasons for this action and what must be accomplished within a specified time frame to be removed from academic probation. A student may be maintained on academic probation until the deficiency/ies for which they were originally placed on academic probation have been remedied. Students who are repeating courses, repeating years, or doing remediation/reexamination of courses are automatically placed on academic probation.

This status is not meant to be punitive. Rather, it serves to identify deficiencies in educational performance that, if not resolved, may negatively affect promotion or graduation. This status alerts the student that they 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 referral to any other University or external resource.

Students on academic probation may be prohibited from clinical activities, including direct patient care, intramural rotations, and external clerkships. This is to ensure the safety of patients when a student's deficiencies raise doubt about their ability to provide appropriate healthcare. Students on academic probation also may be restricted or prohibited from active participation in extra- or co-curricular activities, to allow more focused concentration on educational obligations. Exceptions to the preceding may be allowed by the Promotions Committee and/or associate dean for academic affairs, as deemed appropriate.

The status of academic probation must be resolved before a student can be recommended for promotion or graduation. However, academic probation is a temporary status and is not part of a student's official permanent record if resolved by the time a student graduates. Specifically, this means that there will be no indication of probationary status on any licensing or credentialing requests for information solicited while a student is on academic probation or after removal from such status. An exception to this policy may be made in unforeseen circumstances requiring that probationary status be disclosed.

The Promotions Committees review student performance outcomes to verify compliance/noncompliance with promotions or graduation guidelines. When needed, the Committees may ask for additional information or clarification to assist their review.

Promotion/Non-promotion: For students found to be in compliance with promotions guidelines, no individual notification of such status is provided by the relevant 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 guidelines, each individual student is notified of the relevant Committee's findings and the corrective actions recommended; in these cases, patient treatment center eligibility may be denied or withdrawn until deficiencies are resolved.

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 academic year. The Committees may, in limited circumstances, authorize remediation/reexamination as an alternative to dismissal or repetition of the academic 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/reexamination 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 years one or two in the four-year DMD or two-year DMD advanced standing programs, due to curriculum restrictions.

Graduation/Non-graduation: For students completing their final years (i.e., the DMD fourth- and DMD Advanced Standing 2 years, the Committee will recommend graduation after review of all recorded final-year grades verifies that graduation guidelines have been met. In addition, the Committee

will establish whether or not patient-care and any other educational activities have been/will be completed before recommending 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 academic year, or 3) Continuation in the program (i.e., “continuing student” status) until completion of all outstanding educational obligations. The Committee may also, in limited circumstances, authorize remediation/reexamination 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 nature and severity of the infraction.

Patient Treatment Center Eligibility/Non-eligibility: The welfare and safety of the School’s patients are of paramount concern. The Promotions Committee 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 Committee determines that the didactic, preclinical, and/or clinical performance raise reasonable doubts about that individual’s ability to adequately care for patients, even under supervised conditions.

Suspension: The Promotions Committee and/or relevant associate dean (e.g., academic, clinical, or student affairs) may impose a temporary suspension from School upon any student for matters involving: the health, safety, or welfare of the student or other students, patients, faculty, or staff; the integrity of the educational process; non-compliance with regulatory and professional rules and regulations; or maintenance of order. Generally, this action is time-sensitive and often requires immediate implementation. As warranted, external agents may be involved (e.g., campus security/public safety). Students on suspension are prohibited from all curricular (didactic, preclinical, and clinical, including direct patient care, intramural rotations, and external clerkships) and co-curricular activities until the suspension is removed.

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 pertaining to individual cases. It should be noted that the conditions for dismissal do not require students to have been placed on academic probation beforehand, either at all or for any specific time period.

Repetition of the Academic Year: If the Promotions Committee determines that a student’s performance is beyond the scope of remediation/reexamination, 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 all of the courses in that year’s curriculum. The associate dean for academic affairs may exempt the student from some courses if previous performance indicates sufficient knowledge, skills, and values to meet entrance requirements for the next program year. The student,

however, may also be required to complete additional educational activities, to support successful outcomes.

If a student is required to repeat any given year, the student will be placed on Academic Probation, if not already in such status, and 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 and meet all other conditions of the student's Academic Probation. Failure to meet this condition will result in the Committee's subsequent recommendation for dismissal from the School.

Repetition of a Specific Course(s), without Repeating the Academic Year: The Promotions Committees may, in limited circumstances, authorize a student to repeat 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. Regarding the latter, curriculum restrictions make this option unfeasible for deficiencies in first- or second-years courses. Applicable examples for repetition of specific courses include: only one or two failed ("F") courses; only two unsatisfactory ("D") courses without any "F" courses; only one "F" and one "D" course. 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 be 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 and every 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 noncompliance with the Promotions Committee recommendation will usually result in dismissal.

Remediation/Reexamination of a Specific Course(s): The Promotions Committees may, in limited circumstances, authorize the remediation/reexamination of unsatisfactory/failed courses. The timeframe for this option is normally between the end of the current academic year and start of the following academic year. This option may be considered, for example, in the case of students achieving two or three "D" or one "F" final grade.

Consideration of remediation/reexamination will occur only after review of all recorded first- and second-semester final grades. If course Remediation/Reexamination is recommended, it is solely the student's responsibility to contact the relevant course director(s) to initiate the remediation/reexamination 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/reexamining 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 usually result in dismissal.

IX. Appeals Process

Students have the right to appeal of Promotions Committee recommendations. Students are notified of their right to appeal in the letter communicating the recommendations of the relevant Promotions Committee. To initiate a formal appeal, the student must send a written letter to the dean requesting a review of the case, including a summary of the reasons for seeking such a review and description of additional factors deemed relevant to the appeal. Appeals to the dean must be submitted within 14 calendar days of the date of notification of the academic sanction or corrective action; late appeals will not be considered.

The dean will decide if the case merits further review and may request additional information, as needed. Generally, the scope of the dean’s review involves evaluating the merits of the appeal and any supportive documentation not previously available to the Promotions Committee. Following review, the dean will uphold, overturn, or modify the original recommendations of the relevant Promotions Committee. The Dean’s decision shall then be communicated to the student and the appropriate School administrator(s) and relevant faculty and staff. Actions to be taken based on the dean’s decision regarding the appeal of a student in the predoctoral program shall be handled by the associate dean for academic affairs, with guidance from the Promotions Committee, as needed.

Students have an additional level of appeal beyond the School’s dean. Students who do not find the dean’s decision(s) to be acceptable have the right to appeal to the provost of Boston University 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 their decision to the student and the 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.

X. Leave of Absence

A student in academic difficulty may request a leave of absence from a program. This request is initiated by the student and does not involve the Promotions Committee. Rather, the request is reviewed and approved by the associate dean for academic affairs, who will establish conditions for the student’s eventual return to School. Leaves of absence are for a minimum of one semester, or remaining portion thereof, but normally are for the remainder of a given academic year.

XI. Specific Considerations, by Class

DMD 1

To be promoted into the DMD 2 Year, students must achieve the following:

- Complete the academic year with no final grade of “F,” no more than one final grade of “D,” and a GPA of 2.0 or above.

- Compliance with all educational, administrative, and regulatory policies and requirements.

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 academic year.

In limited circumstances, however, the Promotions Committee may authorize remediation/reexamination as an alternative to dismissal or repetition of the academic 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. Generally, DMD 1 students determined to be non-promotable are assigned (or re-assigned) to in-state APEX sites, to facilitate the remediation/reexamination process. When notified, the student must contact the relevant course director(s) involved and advise them of the intention to participate in remediation/reexamination, 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/reexamination activities. Students must make individual arrangements to be present at the scheduled times and places for remediation/reexamination. 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/reexamination, 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/reexamined. Successful completion of all authorized remediation/reexamination challenges will result in replacement of the original deficient final grade with a maximum grade of "C-." Unsuccessful remediation/reexamination attempts may result in a new grade that is lower than the original grade. Furthermore, unsuccessful remediation/reexamination attempts will be followed by a Promotions Committee recommendation for dismissal.

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,
- Demonstrate eligibility for entry into the Patient Treatment Center by achieving the following:
 - No final grade(s) of "F" in any course(s) during the academic year
 - No more than one final grade of "D" in any courses during the academic year
 - A GPA of 2.0 or higher
 - No final grade(s) of "F" or "D" in any preclinical laboratory or clinical didactic course
 - Not in a status of Academic Probation; it should be noted that DMD 2 students on Academic Probation are ineligible for entry into the Patient Treatment Center, unless the Promotions Committee recommends otherwise and/or the probationary status is rescinded.
- Compliance with all educational, administrative, and regulatory policies and requirements.

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 academic year.

In limited circumstances, however, the Promotions Committee may authorize remediation/reexamination as an alternative to dismissal or repetition of the academic 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) and advise them of the intention to participate in remediation/reexamination. 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/reexamination, 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/reexamined. Successful completion of all authorized remediation/reexamination 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 academic year. Unsuccessful remediation/reexamination 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.

DMD 3

To be promoted into the DMD 4 Year, students must achieve the following:

- Complete the academic 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. Patient Treatment Center 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
- Compliance with all educational, administrative, and regulatory policies and requirements.

DMD 3 students not meeting the above criteria are recommended for either dismissal or repetition of the Academic Year, except as described below. 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. The student, however, 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/reexamination
- 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/reexamination. 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. Normally, 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/reexamination)
- 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 the Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine (GSDM), DMD 4 Year students must achieve the following:

- Challenge the National Board Dental Examination (either the Part I & II examinations or the integrated NBDE); passing the NBDE is not a requirement for graduation
- Complete the academic 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., locker sign-out)

- Be in good academic standing with all of the previous years' promotions committees
- Must not be on Academic Probation
- Compliance with all educational, administrative, and regulatory policies and requirements.

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/reexamination and must be repeated in their entirety. Graduation will not be allowed until students have repeated successfully the failed course(s). 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 including, but not limited to, 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).

DMD Advanced Standing 1

To be promoted into the DMD AS 2 Year, students must achieve the following:

- Complete the academic 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 Patient Treatment Center by achieving the following:
 - No final grade(s) of "F" in any course(s) during the academic year
 - No more than one final grade of "D" in any courses during the academic year
 - A GPA of 2.0 or higher
 - No final grade(s) of "F" or "D" in any preclinical laboratory or clinical didactic course
 - Not in a status of Academic Probation; it should be noted that DMD AS 1 students on Academic Probation are ineligible for entry into the Patient Treatment Center, unless the Promotions Committee recommends otherwise and/or the probationary status is rescinded.
- Compliance with all educational, administrative, and regulatory policies and requirements.

Students not meeting the above criteria are recommended for dismissal or repetition of the academic year. Due to the overall curriculum structure, scheduling limitations, and patient-care obligations, hybrid DMD AS 1/DMD AS 2 curricula are not feasible for students having to repeat DMD AS 1 courses. In limited circumstances, however, the Promotions Committee may authorize remediation/reexamination as an alternative to dismissal or repetition of the academic 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) and advise them of the intention to participate in remediation/reexamination. 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/reexamination, 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/reexamination 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 academic year. Unsuccessful remediation/reexamination 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.

DMD Advanced Standing 2

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

- Challenge the National Board Dental Examination (either the Part I & II examinations or the integrated NBDE); passing the NBDE is not a requirement for graduation
- Complete the academic 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., locker sign-out)
- Be in good academic standing with all of the previous years' promotions committees
- Must not be on Academic Probation
- Compliance with all educational, administrative, and regulatory policies and requirements.

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/reexamination 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 including, but not limited to, 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).

Approved by GSDM Executive Committee 01-19-2021, as part of a major revision to the GSDM By-laws