



# The University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Graduate Health Sciences College Policies

Document Name: Academic Progress  
Effective Date: November 8, 2004  
Document Status: Approved

## Purpose

This policy describes the requirements for academic progress.

## Policy Details

The minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) needed for successful progress is established and communicated to the student in writing by each program. This GPA level may be higher, but no lower, than 3.0, which is the standard of the College. If, after 18 semester hours of regular class work, a student's cumulative GPA falls below the minimum, or if, in the view of the student's Faculty Committee, the student is not making adequate progress, including research, the student's Faculty Committee (or the program's Graduate Studies Committee, or equivalent, if a Faculty Committee has not yet been formed) will review the case.

Subjective appraisal by the faculty of the student's progress and potential may be considered. Other attributes, primarily those concerned with the level of professionalism expected of a student in a particular discipline, may also be considered.

The Committee will submit a recommendation to the Program Chair or Program Director for resolution of the deficiency or dismissal. After review by the Program Chair or Director, the recommendation will be communicated to the Dean for review. After consideration of the recommendation and other factors relevant to the student's progress, the Dean will decide whether to allow the student to continue in the program.

## Policy Scope

Applies to all enrolled students.



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## Related Policies

Academic Appeals  
Faculty Committee  
Grading

## Definitions

**Dean.** The administrative head of the College, which may be an Associate Dean substituting during an absence of the Dean.

**Faculty Committee.** The appointed and approved committee that oversees a student's progress and certifies the student's completion of degree requirements, as outlined in the "Faculty Committee" policy.

**Grade Point Average.** The calculated value of the sum of the quality points earned for a course multiplied by the credit hours for the course, divided by the sum of credit hours for courses in which quality points are assigned.

**Graduate Studies Committee.** A committee existing at the academic program level that makes decisions or recommendations for the program. This committee also may serve the role of an Admissions Committee, and may substitute for the student's Faculty Committee prior to the appointment and approval of the Faculty Committee.

**Program Chair.** The listed chair of the student's academic program.

**Program Director.** The listed director of the student's academic program.

## Procedures

1. The record of a student deemed not to be making adequate progress is reviewed at the program level.
2. A recommendation is made to the Program Director or Chair and communicated to the Dean.
3. Following review of the recommendation, the Dean will decide whether to allow the student to continue in the program.



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## Document History

Approved by Graduate Studies Council November 8, 2004, as “Grade Point Average Requirements”.

Modified by Graduate Studies Council November 24, 2015 to include subjective measures of progress.

Modified by Graduate Studies Council May 23, 2017 to specify which committee makes the recommendation.