

## **Proposal to Institute a College of Health Sciences Undergraduate Academic Probation and Suspension Policy**

The College of Health Sciences (CHS) is a selective admissions college, with several undergraduate programs all requiring students to obtain a minimum grade point average (GPA) to be eligible for admission. While many students desire to obtain CHS degrees from one of our undergraduate programs, some fall short academically. With the increasing emphasis on academic success, progression toward a degree, and retention at all levels, it is important for students who are not able to overcome academic challenges in the coursework in each CHS major to select another major in which they can succeed in a more timely manner. Thus, this proposal addresses the need to help steer students toward academic success as early as possible.

### **Undergraduate Program Probation**

A College of Health Sciences (CHS) student is placed on *CHS probation* if the student earns a grade-point average (GPA) of less than 2.0 in any given term (semester), even if the student's cumulative UK GPA is 2.0 or higher. Students on *CHS probation* are required to meet with their academic advisor and develop a remediation plan.

There are 2 possible scenarios for the student placed under probation/remediation:

- **Scenario 1:** The student successfully completes the remediation plan, earning a semester GPA of 2.0 or higher AND earns at least a grade of "C" (2.0) in each course required for the major (pre-requisite courses and major courses).
  - At this point, the student is **removed from *CHS probation*** and regains good standing status in the College.
- **Scenario 2:** The student does not successfully complete the remediation plan and fails to meet any or all requirements for removal of probation.

### **Undergraduate Program Suspension from the College of Health Sciences**

A CHS student may be suspended for any of the following reasons:

1. The student fails to successfully complete a probationary remediation plan.
2. The student earns a GPA of less than 2.0 in any given semester AND has a cumulative UK GPA below 2.0, including the first semester at the University of Kentucky.
3. The student earns less than a 1.5 GPA in any semester.

In all cases, the suspended student will be required to select a new major outside of the CHS.

*Note: If a student admitted to a selective admissions program fails to meet the programs academic standards, the programs policies for probation and suspension, if more stringent, supersede the College's Academic Probation and Suspension policy.*

## **Removal from Suspension**

A student suspended from the College of Health Sciences may petition for re-admittance only if he/she has obtained a cumulative GPA in accordance with the respective program's admission standards (see list below) and completed all pre-requisite courses and major courses with a "C" or better. Students who fail a major course and are placed on suspension must petition the program to repeat the major course while on suspension. Students have the opportunity to use the three repeat options that the University allows in order to facilitate the improved GPA required and individual course grades. In accordance with the University policy, courses may only be repeated one time. Any additional retakes will not count if the second attempt does not result in the "C" or better needed for a pre-requisite or major course.

Program	GPA minimum
Clinical Leadership and Management	2.0
Communication Sciences and Disorders	3.0
Human Health Sciences	3.0
Medical Laboratory Sciences	2.5

It is important to note that our college has high admissions standards for each of our selective admissions programs. Thus, this is taken into consideration when making readmission decisions in the College of Health Sciences.

## **Student Affairs Academic Standing Sub-Committee**

An Academic Standing Committee will be formed and comprised of a representative from each of the undergraduate programs, the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, Academic Affairs Chairperson, and an academic advisor. The Assistant Dean of Student Affairs will serve as the chair of this committee. The Academic Standing Committee will meet regarding suspension and probationary status once a semester after final grades are posted. The committee will convene to hear appeals at least twice a year and more often as needed.

## **Appeals**

Students who are placed on suspension may appeal their status to the College of Health Sciences Student Affairs Academic Standing Sub-Committee. The student must submit documentation regarding any circumstances that influenced their academic performance for review by the committee. This includes, but is not limited to, a personal statement explaining their situation and how they plan to rectify this in the future. Students are welcome to submit letters of support

from individuals who have knowledge about their situation and can provide insight into how the student is addressing the issue(s).

All appeals must be submitted electronically by January 10 or July 1 to the Office of Student Affairs. While students are in the appeals process, he/she may maintain their current major in the College of Health Sciences.

## College of Health Sciences (CHS) Probation and Suspension Decision Tree

Student is placed on **CHS probation** by the CHS Assistant Dean, if student earns a GPA of less than 2.0 in any given semester (even if student's cumulative UK GPA is 2.0 or higher)

- CHS Advisor calls a meeting with the student.
- A specific student success contract is negotiated; one copy of plan is placed in the student's electronic file and copies are sent to the students program.
- Student's progress is monitored by student's academic advisor during the probationary period

**Scenario 1:** Student successfully completes remediation plan, earning a 2.0 semester GPA or higher AND earns at least a grade of "C" (2.0) in each course required for major

**At this point, student is removed from CHS probation and regains good standing status in the College.**

**Scenario 2:** Student does not successfully complete the remediation plan and fails to meet any or all requirements for removal of probation.

**At this point the student is placed on CHS suspension and is required to select a new major outside of the College.**

CHS students can be **immediately placed on CHS suspension** by the CHS Assistant Dean under two other circumstances.

- Student earns a GPA of less than 2.0 in any given semester AND has a cumulative UK GPA below 2.0.
- Student earns less than a 1.5 GPA in any semester.

Students who are placed on suspension may appeal their status to the College of Health Sciences Student Affairs Academic Standing Sub-Committee. (Students appealing suspension may remain in their major, until a decision is reached by the committee.)

- Student must submit documentation regarding their academic situation for review by the committee, including a personal statement with their explanation of their situation and how they plan to rectify this in the future.
- Letters of support from individuals who have knowledge about their situation and can provide insight into how the student is addressing the issue(s).