

# Creighton University School of Medicine

## Medical Education Program Policies

POLICY: Suspension, Withdrawal, Dismissal Policy

GOVERNING BODY: Educational Program Committee

APPROVAL DATE: 7/9/2019, 4/26/2022

REVISED DATE: N/A

LCME ACCREDITATION STANDARD REFERENCE: Element 9.9 Student Advancement and Appeal Process; Element 10.3 Policies Regarding Student Selection/Progress and Their Dissemination

### **PURPOSE**

This policy defines the needs and utility of Suspension, Withdrawal, and Dismissal.

### **POLICY**

#### 1. Suspension

In some instances, a student's conduct, actions, or statements may lead to a reasonable belief that the student is a substantial risk to the health or safety of himself/herself or others or the student may lack the ability to safely participate in the University community. In such cases, the School of Medicine and Creighton University will take action that considers the welfare of the individual student and the University community, which may include requiring the student to obtain professional evaluation and treatment, voluntary or involuntary withdrawals from the University or other actions as may be necessary in the circumstances. The student may request review of academic-related disciplinary matters by the University President or review of nonacademic disciplinary matters by the School of Medicine and the Vice President for Student Services.

The Associate Dean for Student Affairs may also temporarily suspend a student who has significant physical or mental illness or whose behavior arouses serious concern. In these special circumstances the student may be required to submit to appropriate medical, psychological, psychiatric and/or laboratory testing/evaluation and to authorize release of the results to the Advancement Committee. The Advancement Committee will confidentially review relevant evaluation results and determine the nature and length of any suspension or whether further disciplinary action is necessary. Refusal to undergo testing/evaluation or authorize release of requested evaluations will result in continued suspension and action by the Advancement Committee.

#### 2. Withdrawal

A student may withdraw from the School of Medicine by completing the Request for Permanent Withdrawal Form and then submitting the form to the Associate Dean for Student Affairs along with a written statement of the reason for withdrawal as well as his/her understanding that the withdrawal is voluntary and final. A student may not avoid disciplinary action or formal dismissal by voluntary withdrawal. If a student chooses to withdraw in the course of disciplinary action or dismissal proceedings, the proceedings will continue, and the results will become part of the student's permanent record.

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### 3. Dismissal

Students are expected to maintain a high standard of excellence in their academic and clinical work. If a student fails to maintain acceptable ethical, professional, academic, or clinical standards, the

Advancement Committee may dismiss the student from the School of Medicine. The following will result in a referral of a student to the Advancement Committee for a recommendation for dismissal:

#### *A. Unsatisfactory Academic Performance*

Failure to meet the academic standards of the School of Medicine, as described in Review of Student's Academic Status Policy.

#### *B. Repeated USMLE Step 1 Failure*

Failure to pass the USMLE Step 1 after three attempts.

#### *C. Unprofessional Behavior*

Failure to maintain the professional standards of the medical education program as defined in the Policy for Assuring a Positive Learning Environment or any pattern of behavior that indicates insufficient aptitude, emotional stability, or moral character to successfully practice medicine.

#### *D. Inadequate Academic Progress*

The Advancement Committee may make the determination that it is impossible for the student to complete the requirements for the M.D. degree as specified in Graduation Requirements Policy.

At any time, the Advancement Committee may review the overall academic performance and professional behavior of a student and recommend appropriate action, up to and including dismissal.

### **SCOPE**

All students who are currently enrolled in, and/or on a temporary withdrawal from, the Medical Education Program.

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## **ADMINISTRATION AND INTERPRETATION**

The Office of Student Affairs is responsible for the administration of this policy. Please forward questions to the Associate Dean of Student Affairs.

## **AMENDMENT**

This policy may be amended by majority vote of the School of Medicine Medical Education Program Educational Program Committee.