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## Policy AC007: Academic Standing – Graduate Students

Recommended for Approval by:

A blue ink signature of Dr. Scott E. Miller, written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Scott E. Miller, VP for Academic Affairs and Provost,  
Pennsylvania Western University

Approved by:

A blue ink signature of Dr. Dale-Elizabeth Pehrsson, written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Dale-Elizabeth Pehrsson, President,  
Pennsylvania Western University

**Effective Date:** 07/01/2022

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### A. Intent

To specify conditions under which a graduate student is placed on academic probation or dismissed from their program.

### B. Definition(s)

Good Academic Standing: A condition where the student maintains a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or higher, has received no more than two grades of "C" or lower, and has met all other grade requirements for the program of study.

### C. Policy

Graduate students can earn a maximum of two grades of "C" or lower while enrolled in their program of study. Repeating a course with a "C" or lower grade and replacing that grade with a higher grade will remove the "C" or lower grade from this count for purposes of determining Good Academic Standing. Individual academic program performance requirements may exceed those specified above for Good Academic Standing.

Academic standing is denoted on the official transcript and is updated at the end of each semester or term, including winter intersession and at the end of each summer term.

Academic standing may impact the student's financial aid eligibility. Academic standing is verified by the Office of the Registrar.

### **Academic Probation**

A student whose level of achievement drops below that required for Good Academic Standing will be placed on Academic Probation. The student will remain on Academic Probation until they achieve Good Academic Standing, provided that the student earns a minimum of a 3.0 GPA in each term while on probation and does not earn their third grade of "C" or lower.

### **Academic Dismissal**

A student will be dismissed from their graduate program if they were on Academic Probation and failed to achieve a minimum 3.0 GPA in a given term, or earned their third grade of "C" or lower. Students who receive a grade of "F" in any graduate course will be dismissed from the program. Students may appeal their dismissal to the academic dean, who will make a decision regarding the appeal in consultation with the department chair, or their designee. If appeal is successful, the student will work with the academic dean and department chair, or designee, regarding requirements for continuation in the program.

Students may also be dismissed from their academic programs under other University or program policies, including but not limited to failing to meet expectations of program-specific dispositional policies or violating the Student Code of Conduct.

#### **D. Procedure(s)**

Not Applicable.

#### **E. Related policies**

Graduation Requirements Policy (AC028)

Repeating a Course Policy (AC032)

Time Limitations for Completion of Graduate Degrees Policy (AC040)

#### **F. Contact Information**

For additional information, please contact the Office of the Registrar or the Office of Academic Affairs.

#### **G. Policy Review Schedule**

All policies will be reviewed every two years or on an as needed basis if a change in BOG, PASSHE or Pennsylvania law would create the need for an immediate change.