

Student Performance and Progression (Academic Standards):

The Academic Evaluation of Students is assessed against standards of academic achievement established by course faculty. To successfully progress through the MMC PA Science Program, each student is required to complete each of the courses listed in each phase of the program, with a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 and must receive a grade of “S” (Satisfactory), “C” or better in all courses. The PA Student Progress Committee (SPC) (https://home.mmc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Academic-Progression-Policy_Final_6.18.2018.pdf) monitors student progress, determines if a student is in good academic standing and recommends continuation of the student in the PA program as outlined in the MMC PA Program Academic Evaluation of Students Policy (https://home.mmc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Academic-Evaluation-of-Students-Policy_Final_2-4-2019.pdf). The SPC, with advisement from the specific course director and the PA faculty, will recommend academic monitoring and/or remediation as outlined in the remediation policy (pg. 9-11) within the MMCPA Academic Progression Policy. A student who does not complete the first year of the program in good academic standing will be required to complete appropriate remedial work before receiving permission to participate in clinical rotations. Failure of a SCPE will require evaluation by the MMCPA SPC, which will determine if repeating the rotation is appropriate. During the clinical year, a failed individual rotation will not delay beginning the next scheduled rotation.

Grading: The faculty of record assigns grades for all courses in the PA Sciences Program Curriculum.

The percentage based grading scale is as follows:

<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
100-90	A
89-85	B+
84-80	B
79-75	C+
74-≤69.5	C
Below 69.5	F

Didactic Phases (I-IV): Requirements for successful completion of the Didactic Phases (I-IV) require that students have met all of the following:

1. Demonstrated compliance with all policies and procedures published by MMC PA Sciences Program.
2. Demonstrated compliance with the MMC PA Sciences Program’s professionalism and student code of conduct expectations.
3. Earned a grade of 70% (C) or higher for all didactic courses. Minimum Cumulative 2.5 GPA.
4. Passed all practical and written pre-clinical examinations (OSCE). The purpose of these examinations is to provide the Program with a measure of each student’s base of medical knowledge and preparedness for the Clinical Phase. Students who earn a grade of less than 70% (C) will be required to remediate area(s) of deficit and may be referred to the PA Student Progress Committee (SPC) (https://home.mmc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Academic-Progression-Policy_Final_6.18.2018.pdf).

5. Achieved minimum competent threshold in required MMC PA Sciences competency domains as established in our Educational Program Objectives and Technical Standards.

PAS1 Summative (Pre-Clinical) Evaluation Students: The MMC PA Faculty will formally conduct a student summative evaluation utilizing the PAS1 summative checklist at the end of phase IV of the didactic curriculum. The purpose of this evaluation is to provide the Program with a measure of each student's base of medical knowledge and preparedness for the Clinical Phase by specifically discussing each student's performance and measuring their medical knowledge, interpersonal skills, patient care skills and professionalism. Students will be required to complete both a written and practical examinations throughout didactic phase I-IV.

Clinical Curriculum (Phase V): Requirements for successful completion of the Clinical Phase (V) requires that students have met all of the following:

1. Demonstrated compliance with all policies and procedures published by MMC PA Sciences Program.
2. Demonstrated compliance with the MMC PA Sciences Program's professionalism and student code of conduct expectations.
3. Earned a grade of 70% (C) or higher for all SCPE courses and maintained a minimum cumulative 2.5 GPA.
4. Passed all practical (mid-year OSCE) and written clinical examinations (PAEA EOR exams). The purpose of these examinations is to provide the Program with a measure of each student's base of medical knowledge and preparedness to continue in the Clinical Phase. Students who earn a grade of less than 70% (C) will be required to remediate area(s) of deficit and may be referred to the PA Student Progress Committee (SPC)(https://home.mmc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Academic-Progression-Policy_Final_6.18.2018.pdf).
5. Achieved minimum competent threshold in required MMC PA Sciences competency domains as established in our Educational Program Objectives and Technical Standards.

PAS2 Summative (Pre-Graduation) Evaluation Students: The MMC PA Faculty will formally conduct a student summative evaluation utilizing the PAS2 summative checklist at the end of phase V of the clinical year curriculum. The purpose of this evaluation is to assess each student's cumulative knowledge and skills prior to completing the Program. Satisfactory completion of the summative evaluation is required for graduation. Failure to complete any portion of the summative evaluation will result in, at minimum, a remediation process with re-evaluation.

Graduation Requirements: (PA Program Graduation Requirements Policy <https://home.mmc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Graduation-Policy-md121118.pdf>)

To qualify for graduation from the MMC Physician Assistant Sciences Program and receive the Master's degree in Physician Assistant Studies, each student must have met the following conditions:

1. Student Progress Committee confirms all requirements for graduation have been met and they recommend the student for graduation
2. Successful completion of the MMC PA Sciences Program Curriculum with a minimum cumulative GPA of at least a 2.50 within the (48) months of matriculation, excluding any and all leaves of absence.

Any student who does not finish within the required timeframe is dismissed from the MMC PA Sciences Program.

3. Compliance with all high standards of professional and moral conduct and adherence to all College rules and codes of conduct.

4. Payment of all financial obligations.

5. Returned all loaned equipment to the respective schools.

6. Successful completion of all required examinations.

7. Students who have completed all of the above requirements within 30 days after commencement and verified by the Student Progress Committee will receive a diploma with the published commencement date. Those completing all requirements greater than 30 days after commencement will receive a diploma with the date of June 30, October 31, or December 31, as applicable.

*Students who graduate will receive a Master's degree in Physician Assistant Studies (MPAS) and are eligible to take the Physician Assistant National Certification Examination (PANCE).

**The Meharry Medical College Physician Assistant Sciences Program has applied for Accreditation – Provisional from the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA). Meharry Medical College Physician Assistant Sciences Program anticipates matriculating its first class in January 2020, pending achieving Accreditation. Provisional Accreditation is an accreditation status granted when the plans and resource allocation is fully implemented as planned of a proposed program that has not yet enrolled students appears to demonstrate the program's ability to meet the ARC-PA Standards.*