

## **Quinnipiac University Physician Assistant Program Deceleration, Withdrawal, and Dismissal Policies**

### **DECELERATION POLICY**

ARC-PA defines deceleration as “the loss of a student from the entering cohort, who remains matriculated in the physician assistant program.” The QU PA Program may decelerate students due to leaves of absence, suspension, overturn of a dismissal or other academic reasons. Students who decelerate for academic reasons must meet regularly with a QU PA Academic Success coach in their first semester back after deceleration and are automatically placed on probation for the semester that they return. Students who decelerate must complete a personal academic success plan to ensure their success upon re-matriculation. The plan will be specific to the needs of the individual student. Deceleration will lead to delayed graduation and may require that the student enrolls in and is financially responsible for additional courses.

### **WITHDRAWAL AND DISMISSAL FROM THE PA PROGRAM POLICY**

#### ***Withdrawal***

Students considering withdrawal from the Physician Assistant Program should meet with their academic advisor or the department chair to explore the available alternatives. If withdrawal is the student’s final decision, it is recommended that they meet with a Dean’s Team member at the School of Health Sciences, the Dean of Graduate Student Affairs, and the Director of Graduate Financial Aid.

Honorable release is granted when all financial obligations to Quinnipiac University have been met. The refund policy is available through One Stop Student Administrative Services (<https://www.qu.edu/one-stop-student-administrative-services/managing-student-finances/policy-information/withdrawal-and-refund-policies/>).

A student receiving aid for education for the Veterans Administration must consult with the registrar and comply with Veterans Administration regulations. A student holding a Stafford Loan or Nursing Student Loan must have an interview in the financial aid office to ensure a clear understanding of repayment obligations. For details, see the One Stop Student Administrative Services website information: <https://www.qu.edu/one-stop-student-administrative-services/>.

If a student plans to withdraw and later is suspended, dismissed, placed on warning for unsatisfactory academic performance (including academic integrity sanctions), or suspended or expelled as the result of a judicial decision, the sanctions take precedence over the withdrawal and stand as a matter of record. Any academic warning becomes operative if the student is readmitted to the university.

All students who are withdrawn or dismissed from the PA program must follow a set procedure as detailed below which complies with Quinnipiac University policy:

- The student will be withdrawn from all courses/clinical rotations in progress. If the student leaves the program while in their clinical year of training, they will be withdrawn from the clinical rotation in progress. Any failed rotations or rotations incomplete due to failures will be considered failed courses and the student will receive a grade of “F” and will not be withdrawn from the course.
- Withdrawal from the Physician Assistant graduate program must be done in writing (with a date and student’s signature) with a copy to the Department Chair/Program Director and the Dean of the School of Health Science.
- **Note:** Except in the case of deceleration, withdrawal from a course is tantamount to withdrawal from the program; therefore, the student **MUST** meet with the Department Chair/Program Director.

Any student requesting readmission will be considered a new applicant to the program and will be required to complete the program application process as a new applicant through CASPA and may be required to repeat course work. Reapplication does not guarantee readmission to the Physician Assistant graduate program. After careful review of the students’ previous academic record and the request for readmission, a decision will be made. Students may be required to repeat selected course work or meet new requirements of the Physician Assistant graduate program that became effective after the student’s withdrawal. A decision will also be rendered as to what program course work will be considered for credit as completed.

### ***Dismissal***

A student may be dismissed from the Physician Assistant graduate program for failure to meet academic and/or professional performance requirements as well as infractions of the policies, procedures, technical standards, competencies and regulations. Dismissed students may not reapply for admission. Dismissal may occur in the didactic or clinical year. Grievance of dismissal may be made through the appeal process outlined in this handbook and in the current ***QU Catalog, QU Graduate Student Handbook and on the Quinnipiac University*** website <https://catalog.qu.edu/university-policies/program-level-academic-good-standing-policy/>