

2025-26 OHS ACADEMIC POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to clarify areas of academic integrity, professional comportment, and ethical conduct expected of the students in the Oral Health Sciences program at Boston University.

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the general [Policies of Graduate Medical Sciences and Boston University](#) as well as the program-specific requirements set forth in this document. You should have already read, signed, and submitted the [GMS Academic Conduct Code & Disciplinary Procedures](#) document.

Academic Integrity:

It is expected students who matriculate to OHS will have completed all required prerequisites for admission. You are expected to provide GMS with your final official transcript(s) as outlined in your letter of acceptance / onboarding materials. Failure to complete your prerequisites prior to matriculation may result in removal from the program.

BU Graduate Medical Sciences also sets standards for Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), which are used to assess federal loan eligibility. The minimum cumulative GPA for SAP in GMS is B- or 2.7. OHS aligns with this standard, and a GPA of 2.7 is required for good academic standing. [Specific details are available here.](#)

Grades

- To receive credit towards graduation requirements, students must receive grades of B- or higher in all required and elective courses.
- To successfully complete the OHS program, students must receive a grade of C or higher in all required courses (OH 732, OH 733, OH 750, OH 751, & MS 640), even though credit will not be given for grades lower than B-.
- When course requirements have not been met during the semester of registration due to extenuating circumstances, a grade of Incomplete (I) may be assigned at the discretion of the Course Director. Please note that a grade of "I" can only be given if the student is otherwise achieving a grade of B- or higher on work within the course. Students should complete the course as soon as possible, and within one calendar year.

Academic Probation

- If a student receives a grade of C+ or lower in 6 or more credits in each semester, the student will be notified and placed on Academic Probation. Students on Academic Probation must meet with the OHS Program Director to develop a plan for academic improvement.
- Information regarding a student's Academic Probation is not included on the student's transcript but may be included in the student's permanent program record.

- Students with a GPA below the required 2.7 SAP will lose any academic scholarships and their financial aid options may be limited.
- If a student fails to pass remediation (details below) in January or June, and continues to have a grade of C for more than 8 credits, they will be automatically [dismissed from the program](#) and GMS according to GMS Academic Policies. Such students have the [right to appeal](#), as stated in the GMS Academic Conduct Code and Disciplinary Procedures.
- If a student develops a pattern of behaviour that does not meet the expectations of [GMS Code of Conduct](#) and OHS Academic Professionalism (details below), the student will be notified and placed on Academic Probation. Students on Academic Probation for professionalism concerns must meet with the OHS Program Director and their OHS Program Advisor to develop a plan for professionalism improvement.

Course Remediation

- For Fall courses that permit remediation (not all courses offer remediation), students may choose to remediate in early January or at the end of the Spring semester. Students should discuss their options with their advisor.
 - A student earning a grade of C or C+ in a Fall course will have the option to remediate one exam in early January, if improving their exam grade can result in a passing course grade of B-.
 - If opting to remediate in January, the student must remediate the one exam in the course for which they received their lowest score.
- If a student has earned more than one course grade of C+ or lower, the student may choose which course to remediate, however, only one exam may be remediated in January.
- For remaining Fall and Spring coursework, options to remediate are dictated by the OHS Promotions Committee at the end of the Spring semester.
 - Based on students' performance throughout the OHS Program, the OHS Promotions Committee will determine whether a student is eligible for remediation of a single exam in a course, or a cumulative exam of the entire course.
 - If remediation is recommended, the student will contact the OHS Program Director and the Course Director of the relevant course(s), for information on the format and content of the exam, and criteria for a passing grade. Remediation should be completed by the end of August of that same academic year.
- Students who remediate any course are not eligible to receive a grade higher than a B- in that course. Note: A student can raise their grade to a C or C+ without passing the course. No grade will be lowered after a remediation exam.
- No more than two courses may be remediated in an academic year without approval of the OHS Promotions Committee.
 - Note: Dental Physiology, even though two courses (OH 732 & 733), is considered only one course for remediation purposes.
- Students may not remediate a course (single exam or cumulative exam) more than once.

Program Completion

- Students must enroll in additional coursework to reach the 32 credits required for program completion for any courses with a grade below passing (less than B-) where: 1) remediation is not offered or 2) the student failed to earn a passing grade of B- upon remediation.

Ethical Conduct and Academic Professionalism

- Students are expected to embody the school's values by consistently demonstrating responsibility, integrity, humility, and a commitment to inclusion.
- Students are expected to always maintain professional behavior and collegiality - on and off campus – including in the classroom, at social events, and in personal settings.
- Students must follow and adhere to all deadlines, including the submission of required documents and forms, addressing compliance issues, registration, and program completion.
- Attendance
 - Course directors have the right to request a doctor's note for extended absences lasting two days or more for illness.
 - Absences for religious reasons are permitted following [Boston University's guidelines](#)
- Students are expected to check, read, and respond to emails in a timely manner. We recommend that students check their Boston University email accounts *daily*. Essential information is sent out regularly, and prompt replies are often needed.

Student Rights & Responsibilities

- Students are expected to maintain high standards of academic honesty, integrity, and personal conduct in accordance with GMS [Student Code of Conduct](#) and [BU's Student Rights & Responsibilities](#).
- It is the responsibility of every OHS student to conduct themselves professionally and responsibly. Students who violate these standards will be held responsible per Graduate Medical Science [Academic Conduct Code and Disciplinary Procedure](#)
- Basic responsibilities include but are not limited to respecting the rights of others, respecting the property of others and the University, and refraining from actions that endanger the health, safety, or welfare of any member of the University community or its guests.

Students who are found to be in violation of these standards will be held responsible according to Boston University's guidelines and will be placed on Academic Probation by the OHS program.

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I acknowledge receipt of the Academic Policies regarding academic integrity, grades, probation, course remediation, program completion, ethical conduct and academic professionalism and student rights and responsibilities in the MS in Oral Health Sciences program.

Print Name

Date

Signature

BU ID Number