



**McGill**

**School of Physical and Occupational Therapy**



**SP&OT**



EXCELLENCE THROUGH GROWTH

**QUALIFYING YEAR FOR M.SC. APPLIED IN PHYSICAL THERAPY:**

**RULES AND REGULATIONS 2020-2021**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

A.	INTRODUCTION .....	3
B.	EVALUATION AND PROMOTION .....	3
1.	<i>Marks</i> .....	4
1.1	Theoretical and practical evaluation. ....	4
1.2	Individual and group evaluation. ....	5
2.	<i>Attendance</i> .....	5
3.	<i>Student standing</i> .....	6
3.1	Satisfactory standing. ....	6
3.2	Probationary standing. ....	6
3.3	Unsatisfactory standing. ....	7
3.4	Promotion periods.....	8
4.	<i>Credit Transfers</i> .....	8
5.	<i>Promotion Periods - Dates and Conditions</i> .....	8
5.1	QY Fall September - December. ....	8
5.2	QY Winter January - April. ....	9
6.	<i>Accommodations</i> .....	9
C.	ASSESSMENTS AND EXAMINATIONS.....	9
1.	<i>Introduction</i> .....	9
2.	<i>Examination regulations and procedures</i> .....	11
2.1	Regulations.....	11
2.2	Procedures.....	12
2.3	Examination regulations – cheating.....	13
2.4	Assignments.....	13
2.5	Guidelines for Academic Writing.....	13
2.6	Midterm exams.....	14
D.	DEFERRED FINAL EXAMINATIONS, REMEDIAL EXAMINATIONS AND SUPPLEMENTAL EXAMINATIONS.....	14
1.	<i>Deferred final examinations</i> .....	14
2.	<i>Remedial examinations</i> .....	17
3.	<i>Supplemental examinations</i> .....	17
4.	<i>Consequences of Failed Remedial or Supplemental Examinations</i> .....	18
E.	PROCEDURES FOR PROMOTION AND REVIEW .....	18
1.	<i>Promotion and review committee</i> .....	18
2.	<i>Review of course marks</i> .....	19
3.	<i>Appeal of decisions made by the PTPRC</i> .....	20

## **A. Introduction**

The goal of the Qualifying Year in the School of Physical and Occupational Therapy is to provide students with the opportunities and resources to develop and demonstrate the skills, knowledge, attitudes and behaviours required to progress to the entry level [Professional Master's degree program in Physical Therapy](#).

The qualifying year is a prerequisite for the professional Master's program and is open to applicants with a previous undergraduate degree. Note that the qualifying year in OT or PT is not open to applicants with a B.Sc. (Rehabilitation Science) with a major in the same discipline (OT or PT) from McGill University.

Based on principles of health promotion from prevention of disability to rehabilitation, courses focus on client-centered and evidence-based practice across the lifespan and across the health care continuum. In addition to fieldwork, the program requirements include courses in advanced clinical practice, research methodology and educational methodology. The master's project prepares the entry-to-practice physical therapist in becoming an autonomous and effective professional, through the acquisition of research skills.

## **B. Evaluation and Promotion**

Students progress through the program by successful completion of successive promotion periods. Students will not be permitted to proceed to the next promotion period unless they have met all criteria of the current promotion period.

Students with incomplete coursework (like failed or deferred courses) may not commence the professional courses (designated POTH, PHTH) in the subsequent promotion periods until the incomplete courses have been successfully completed. This means that the courses must be passed.

Within the School of Physical and Occupational Therapy, student evaluation, promotion and determination of suitability for the practice of the profession is within the jurisdiction of the Physical Therapy Promotion and Review Committee (PTPRC). The PTPRC reviews the performance of students in the PT Program.

The PTPRC exercises final authority to determine a student's competence and suitability for the practice of physical therapy. It will consider all aspects of student progress, including academic performance and professional conduct, and make final decisions on all matters relating to promotion and graduation.

The following guidelines for Evaluation and Promotion are under constant review by the School. The School may make changes to the policies and regulations at any time. In general, such changes will not come into effect during an academic year or promotion period; however, all changes and their effective dates will be communicated to the students of the program with a reasonable amount of prior notice.

## **1. Marks.**

An overall final mark of B- (65%) is required to pass the courses with a designation of PHTH or POTH. Similarly, the passing grade on any supplemental evaluation or examination is B- (65%) for these courses.

Students should be aware that there are specific criteria for promotion for courses with theoretical and practical components or individual and group work.

### ***1.1 Theoretical and practical evaluation.***

In any course that includes both theoretical and practical evaluation components, students must achieve a passing grade B- (65%) in each component, as well as in the overall course, in order to receive a passing grade for the course. If the overall course mark is a failure, the student may be permitted to write a supplemental exam in this course or re-take the course.

If the overall course mark is a pass, but one component is a failure, the course mark is withheld from the record. The student must undertake remedial work in that failed component and successfully pass the evaluation of that additional work. If the additional work is successfully passed, the original final course mark is then recorded.

In the case of a failure a deferred exam or evaluation, remedial work will not be permitted and the student will receive a final grade of F.

Students repeating a course will not be allowed the option of remedial work in the event of a failure and therefore will receive a final grade of F.

Students will have only one opportunity to attain a passing grade through remedial work. Failure in remedial work will result in a final grade of F (failure) for the whole course. No further supplemental exams will be permitted.

Students who fail a component in more than one professional course (POTH, PHTH) may not be allowed to carry out remedial work or a supplemental examination, and if warranted, may be asked to withdraw from the program.

Course failures in the Qualifying Year for the MScA programs carry over to the MScA program. In other words, if you fail a course in the Qualifying Year and fail a course in the MScA, you will be required to withdraw from the MScA program. “Failing a course in a Qualifying Year is equivalent to failing a Course in a graduate program, and counts as a first failed Course if a Student is subsequently admitted to a graduate program in a related field.”(please refer to: [Failure Policy in Graduate Studies](#))

### **1.2 Individual and group evaluation.**

In any course which comprises both individual and group evaluation components, each student must achieve a passing grade of B- (65%) in each component, as well as in the overall course, in order to receive a passing grade for the course. If the overall course mark is a failure, the student may be permitted to write a supplemental exam in this course or retake the course.

If the overall course mark is a pass but one component is a failure, the course mark is withheld from the record. The student must undertake remedial work in that failed component and successfully pass an evaluation of that additional work. If the additional work is successfully passed, the original final course mark is then recorded.

In the case of a failure in a deferred exam or evaluation, remedial work will not be permitted, and the student will receive a final grade of F.

Students repeating a course will not be allowed the option of remedial work in the event of a failure and therefore will receive a final grade of F.

Students will have only one opportunity to attain a passing grade through remedial work. Failure in remedial work will result in a final grade of F (failure) for the whole course. No further supplemental exams will be permitted.

Students who fail a component in more than one professional course (POTH, PHTH) may not be allowed to carry out remedial work or a supplemental exam, and if warranted, may be asked to withdraw from the program.

## **2. Attendance.**

Students are encouraged to attend all teaching activities described in the course outline. Attendance is required at all laboratory and small group sessions, workshops, seminars, site visits and professional activities.

Except in the case of a prior approved absence or an emergency situation with a subsequent approval, students who have missed more than 15% of the above activities will receive 0/10 for participation in the course. If a course does not have a participation mark, then the final course mark will be decreased by 10%.

A short absence (3 days or less) does not require documentation or approval but will be counted towards the 15% excused absences. An absence of more than 3 days (for example, compassionate or medical reasons) must be supported by written documentation, such as a medical certificate (in the case of a medical reason), and submitted to the Program Director or delegate. The Program Director or delegate, at his or her entire discretion, may request additional information before approving the absence.

***\*Please note that during the 2020-21 academic year, this attendance policy remains in place for all mandatory lab activities.***

### **3. Student standing.**

All students' overall standing in the Physical Therapy Program will be reviewed and classified as satisfactory, probationary or unsatisfactory. For acceptance into the professional Master's Program, students must be in satisfactory standing and have a McGill cGPA of 3.0 or better.

#### **3.1 Satisfactory standing.**

- McGill cumulative grade point average (cGPA) of 3.0 or better with no failures or incomplete courses.
- Professional behaviour that meets program standards.

#### **3.2 Probationary standing.**

- A cGPA between 2.7 and 3.0.
- Failure or incomplete in one (1) academic course at any time within the Qualifying Year. Note that a supplemental examination not taken or a failure in a deferred examination will constitute a failure in a course.
- Remedial work and/or a supplemental examination in two or more courses in the same term.

- **Unprofessional behaviour:** Physical Therapy is a health profession and therefore our program has rigorous standards of behaviour. Professional behaviour is expected of students throughout their education, whether in a class or clinical setting. (refer to the [Code of Professional Conduct for Occupational and Physical Therapy students](#)). Lack of professional behaviour will result in the student being placed on probationary standing.
- Students are expected to [read and sign](#) the [Code of Professional Conduct](#) students during the clinical seminars.
- [Academic](#) and [non-academic offences](#) are defined in the [Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures](#), in the virtual [University Policies and Regulations](#). Academic or non-academic offences are also considered unprofessional behaviour.

A student who is placed on [probationary standing](#) is automatically monitored by the Physical Therapy Promotion and Review Committee and may be required:

- To pursue specific remedial activity to address areas of weakness;
- To meet specific performance criteria for subsequent promotion periods;
- To meet on a regular basis with the Program Director and/or delegate;
- To take a maximum of 12 credits per term.

### **3.3 Unsatisfactory standing.**

- cGPA <2.7 at the end of a term.
- Failure of two courses during the program.
- Conditions of admission to program have not been met.
- Repeated unprofessional behaviour or [incompetence](#).
- Falsifying self-declaration of criminal history.
- If a student has two or more failures consisting of course and/or component failures, the student can be considered as having Unsatisfactory Standing, requiring withdrawal from the program.

Students in unsatisfactory standing are required to withdraw from the program and will not be allowed to progress to the Master's program.

### **3.4 Promotion periods.**

Promotion periods are used to track student progress. Due to the sequential nature of the curriculum, students will not be permitted to advance to subsequent promotion periods until all criteria of the previous promotion period are met. The Qualifying Year consists of two (2) promotion periods. Please see [Section 5](#) for promotion period dates and conditions.

In order to be permitted to take a supplemental or remedial examination in any professional course, a student must have a cGPA of at least 2.7 in that promotion period.

## **4. Credit Transfers.**

[Transfer credit](#) is credit toward your McGill program granted for courses taken at another institution. Transfer credit can be granted for a specific McGill course (if the coursework is deemed to be equivalent), or as a block of credits (i.e. for CEGEP graduated).

For more information and to see if you qualify for transfer credit, please refer to [Transfer Credit & Advanced Standing](#)

## **5. Promotion Periods - Dates and Conditions.**

In order to be promoted to the next promotion period, a student must successfully complete all professional courses in each promotion period, as well as all requirements for inter-professional education courses.

The Physical Therapy Program promotion periods are as follows:

Promotion Period 1	QY Fall	September -December
Promotion Period 2	QY Winter	January-April

The following courses have special conditions for evaluation. Please refer to Sections [1.1](#) and [1.2](#) for details of these evaluation conditions.

### **5.1 QY Fall September - December.**

PHTH 550	Physical Therapy Orthopedic Management
PHTH 551	Physical Therapy Neurological Rehabilitation
POTH 563	Foundations of Professional Practice



PHTH 554    Cardiorespiratory Rehabilitation

## **5.2    QY Winter January - April.**

PHTH 560    Integrated Orthopedic Management

PHTH 561    Integrated Neurological Rehabilitation

PHTH 564    Integrated Cardiorespiratory Rehabilitation

A cGPA of 3.0 or greater is required to be admitted to the Master's Applied in Physical Therapy program. In determining eligibility for the Master's program, the School may calculate the cGPA based only on program credits required for Qualifying Year completion, if a student has taken extra credits. Even when the cGPA requirement is attained, the PTPRC may recommend that a student not be admitted to the Master's program if, during the Qualifying Year, (i) he/she has had 3 or more documented performance deficiencies (flags), with or without probationary status; or (ii) the student has not progressed sufficiently towards achievement of the required skills and attributes for entry to practice (see [Essential Skills and Attributes](#)).

Note that the MScA (PT) degree is required for licensure as a Physical Therapist and entry to practice.

If the student meets the promotion requirements, the PTPRC will recommend to Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies that GPS extend an admissions offer for the professional program. The decision as to whether to extend the admissions offer resides with GPS and not the School.

## **6.        Accommodations**

Students must register with the OSD at the beginning of the term if they expect to receive accommodation. Please refer to the [OSD process and flowchart for students](#) for further details.

## **C.        Assessments and Examinations**

Information outlined in this section supplements the 2020-2021 McGill University [Health Sciences Calendar](#), Section 1.6, and the University Student Assessment Policy. For more information please refer to: [University Student Assessment Policy April 20 2016.pdf](#)

### **1.        Introduction.**

All examinations are governed by university regulations (please refer to [Home Page | Exams - McGill University](#)) and by the specific Faculty of Medicine regulations as outlined below.

**Note** Exams in the Faculty of Medicine can be scheduled outside of the standard university dates. The 'University Regulations concerning Final Exams' state that:

The principles enunciated in these regulations shall be applied, appropriately modified, to courses given during the summer, to other courses of less than 13-week duration, and to courses in the Faculties of Law, Medicine, Dentistry, and Education that do not follow the normal University Timetable. For more information please refer to [Final Examinations | Programs, Courses and University Regulations - McGill University](#)

Students are expected to behave in a professional manner at all examinations, including laboratory practical examinations and examinations administered in clinical settings. The regulations outlined below permit the Faculty to ensure that all examinations are administered in an organized, fair and standardized manner for all students.

Any form of communication is prohibited during an exam, including communication via electronic devices. Students are NOT permitted the use of a mobile phones, smart phones, smart watches, and web-accessible electronic devices during an exam.

"All mobile phones, smart phones, smart watches, and web-accessible electronic devices must be turned off and must not be in the student's possession during the exam. Unauthorized items found on the person or desk will be confiscated and turned over to the relevant Disciplinary Officer." For more information please refer to: [Exams regulations](#)

Any electronic devices found during an examination will be removed by an invigilator and returned to the student at the end of the examination or the following working day. These incidents will be reported to the Disciplinary Officer for the School. See procedures in [Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures](#).

Please note that many multiple-choice examinations administered at McGill University are monitored by an examination-security program (Harpp-Hogan). This program is based on documented seating plan in the examinations. The data generated by the program can be used as admissible evidence, either to initiate or corroborate an investigation of cheating under [Section I \(17\)](#) of the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures.

Any breach of these regulations will be reported to the Chief Invigilator, and PT Program Director or delegate. Students exhibiting suspicious behaviour will also be reported. Inappropriate behaviour or disruptive behaviour can be considered as unprofessional behaviour or misconduct. This type of incident can be grounds for withdrawal from the Program.

A student may not miss an examination without justifiable reason. When a student misses an examination, she/he must:

1. Notify the course instructor and Program Director or delegate prior to the exam (circumstances permitting), indicating the reason for absence;
2. Provide appropriate written documentation to justify absence to the Program Director or delegate.

## **2. Examination regulations and procedures.**

### **2.1 Regulations.**

1. All examination information is confidential. Any transmission of examination information, either in writing or verbally, is expressly prohibited. No one is permitted to make written notes or to record, in any way, the contents of an examination. This includes the transmission of core materials (e.g., names of patients) used in oral exams or Objective-Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCE).
2. Candidates must not procure, use, or attempt to use or distribute any improper or unauthorized materials.
3. No candidate for examination may bring into the examination room any books, notes, electronic communication devices with memory capability; like mobile phones, smart phones, smart watches, and web-accessible electronic devices or other material containing information pertaining to the examination, unless the examiner has given permission.
4. Talk or any other form of communication between candidates is forbidden. This includes the use of all types of electronic equipment not specifically requested for the examination, including mobile phones, smart phones, smart watches, and web-accessible electronic devices. All communication devices must be deposited with the invigilators prior to the start of the examination.
5. Candidates are not permitted to leave the examination room until one hour after the start of the examination and in no case before the attendance has been taken. A candidate who leaves before the end of the examination must hand in all completed and attempted work.
6. Every student has the right to submit in English or in French written work that is to be graded. Personal dictionaries are not permitted. However, a French-English dictionary will be available upon request.

7. Students are not to be penalized if they cannot write examinations or be otherwise evaluated on their religious holy days where such activities conflict with their religious observances. However, students should refer to this policy ([Policy on holy days](#)) or Section F of [Important Information for Students](#) as to how to proceed when a conflict is present.

## **2.2 Procedures.**

1. If books, notes, etc., cannot be left outside the examination room, they must be put in a place designated by the invigilator before the candidate takes a seat.
2. Students writing examinations are responsible for arriving at the right time and place and must have with them their McGill student identification cards. Forgetfulness or inadvertently arriving at the wrong time or place, are not acceptable excuses.
3. The doors of the examination room will normally be opened at least five minutes before the starting hour. Candidates will be permitted to enter the examination room up to one hour after the scheduled start of the exam. These students should be aware that a portion of time could be lost while the examination is assigned and instructions are being given by an invigilator. They must enter the room quietly, and time will not be extended for the examination.
4. Candidates must remain seated. A candidate needing to speak to the invigilator (for instance to ask for additional supplies) should raise his or her hand.
5. Questions concerning possible errors, ambiguities, or omissions in the examination paper must be directed to the invigilator, who will investigate them through the proper channels. The invigilator is not permitted to answer questions other than those concerning the paper.
6. All work must be done in accordance with the examination instructions, and must be handed in to the invigilator.
7. At the close of the examination, candidates must stop writing and submit their work at once.
8. Food or a beverage is permitted at the discretion of the Chief Invigilator. Food should be brought in prior to the exam. Students will not be permitted to go to vending machines/cafeteria during an examination.

9. Bathroom privileges: only one student at a time will be allowed to go to the bathroom, and the student may be escorted there and back by an invigilator (at the invigilator's discretion).
10. No student will be permitted to leave during the final 15 minutes of the examination.

### **2.3 Examination regulations – cheating.**

Cheating is an academic offence in the [Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures](#), which states:

- Article 17(a): “No student shall, in the context of an Assessment, obtain or attempt to obtain information from another student or an unauthorized material including from an electronic device or give or attempt to give information to another student or possess, use or attempt to use from any unauthorized material including an electronic device;” (Section I Rules of Conduct Cheating, para. 1).
- Article 21(d): “The chief or senior invigilator at an examination shall have like powers of exclusion over any student undergoing the examination when the chief or senior invigilator has reasonable grounds to believe that the student is breaking, has broken, or is attempting to break a university or faculty examination regulation...” (Section II: Administration of Discipline Disciplinary Officers, para. 5).

Before the commencement of any mid-term or final examination, the above quotations will be read out loud.

### **2.4 Assignments.**

The Faculty adheres to definitions of plagiarism and cheating described in the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures. Any course instructor has the right to require that assignments (including case reports) be submitted in hardcopy format with the student’s signature. Refer to the section on [Academic Integrity – Plagiarism](#). A McGill student guide to avoid plagiarism is also found online: [Keeping it Honest](#)

### **2.5 Guidelines for Academic Writing.**

No paper will be accepted late without the approval of the instructor **PRIOR TO** the original due date. A new deadline may then be arranged between the instructor and student if the request is valid. Failure to conform to this procedure may mean that the student will automatically receive a mark of 0 for the paper.

**Note:** The referencing system for the BSc. Rehabilitation Science (Occupational Therapy) program is the American Psychological Association (APA) for term papers.

- Please refer to the Purdue OWL guides available online:  
<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/1/>

For the MSc. A (Occupational Therapy) program, the referencing system may be other than APA, but will be described in the individual course outlines. Students will be provided with an Endnote workshop in the Premasters Winter term.

Further writing resources can be found at the [McGill Writing Centre](#)

## **2.6 Midterm exams.**

A copy of a valid medical note or appropriate documentation must be provided to the course instructor and the original document to the Program Director for all missed midterm exams. If approved, the instructor may choose one of the following three options:

- Preparing and alternative evaluation for that particular student;
- Shifting the weight normally assigned to the evaluation to the weight assigned to the remaining evaluation;
- Deferring the evaluation or examination to another time.

## **D. Deferred Final Examinations, Remedial Examinations and Supplemental Examinations**

### **1. Deferred final examinations.**

Deferred final examinations are examinations rescheduled because the original examination was missed for valid reasons. Deferring an exam is an exceptional measure and is meant to help students who are severely ill or dealing with unforeseeable, significant extenuating circumstances.

Deferring an exam merely pushes it to the future—to a time when you may have a full course load of other exams to prepare for. You are strongly advised not to defer more than two exams in an exam period, as this could make for an unmanageable deferred exam period and workload for the following semester.

Do not use exam deferral requests to manage your exam schedule or to reduce your exam load. If you request to defer one exam due to illness, then write another exam the same day

or the next, your request may be refused. It is your responsibility to plan how you will meet the academic requirements of your program. Deferred exam requests may not be approved if you attend your exam and partway through decide that you were not well enough to perform at full capacity.

The course with a deferred final exam will show a grade of "L" on your transcript until the deferred exam is written and graded. Both the grade of "L" and your final grade will display on your advising/unofficial transcript.

McGill offers **many resources** to help you avoid having to defer, including McGill [Tutoring Services](#), the [Student Wellness Hub](#), McGill [Counselling Workshops](#), and other [academic resources](#). If you have a disability or a chronic illness, register with the [Office for Students with Disabilities](#) (OSD) to help you manage your accommodation needs.

Permission for a deferred final examination will be granted by the Program Director or delegate for the following reasons: valid health reason, family or personal crises. Note that participation in elite athletic event is not a reason for deferral of a final exam (see Policy on Student Athletes).

Except for cases of emergency on the day of the exams, students must make their request for a deferred exam **PRIOR TO** the scheduled exam. The request must be accompanied by supporting documents (such as a physician's medical certificate). The Program Director or delegate reserves the right to verify all documentation.

In the case of an emergency on the day of the exam, supporting documents must be presented to the Program Director or delegate as soon as possible, and no later than 1 week after the missed examination. These documents must indicate that the student was unable to write the examination for an approved reason on the specific date of the examination. The Program Director or delegate may request further corroborative documentation.

In cases of incidental illness (e.g., a cold, cramps, nausea, etc.) that affected your study time leading up to the exam, but where you recovered on the day of your exam, you are expected to write your exam, and a deferral may not be granted.

If you have made requests due to disability or chronic illness in the past, it is your responsibility to take measures to manage your condition and your course schedule to avoid relying on deferred exams in subsequent exam periods. Please refer to resources available (listed below) and consult with your academic advisor to assist you in this process.

For incidental illness or flare-ups of chronic medical issues, you must submit supporting medical documentation from your health practitioner indicating that you were seen on or close to the original exam date and why you were unable to write the exam on the original date. In the case

of a flare-up of a chronic condition, the note from your health practitioner will need to specify that they observed the flare-up the day of your missed exam, and that you are continuing to be treated and/or followed for your diagnosed condition. Note: a diagnosed anxiety disorder is a chronic issue. However, if your note simply states anxiety, this is considered to be an incidental illness.

In general, an approved deferred examination will be written in the deferred/ supplemental exam period or at the earliest feasible time. Deferred examinations will generally be in the same format as the missed examination. It is your responsibility to be in the contact with course instructor to determine the format and material on the exam, as well as the date and time of the exam.

Supplemental examinations or remedial work for the entire course, or the individual and group or practical and theoretical components of a course are not permitted for students who defer an examination.

### **MEDICAL NOTES**

If an illness or mental health condition is preventing you from completing an assignment, exam or class on time, you may be able to receive a medical note from a clinician.

Medical Notes obtained from McGill Wellness Hub adhere to the following guidelines:

You can receive a medical note by coming to the Wellness Hub in person for an appointment with a medical professional.

McGill's policy on medical notes is as follows:

- Medical notes will only be issued **on the day** of the missed exam, assignment, project, class or conference. Absolutely no medical notes will be written for past illness (i.e. on a weekend, the day before, etc.).
- Medical professionals **do not have the authority to exempt students** from exams, presentations, etc. The final decision will be taken by your professor, faculty and/or department.
- No medical notes or confirmations that you presented yourself at the Hub will be issued once the Hub reaches capacity for the day. Because of the high volume of drop-in patients, please **arrive as early as possible** to ensure you'll be seen on the day of your exam/class/etc.

If drop-ins have reached capacity, please consult [Santé Montréal](#) for a list of off-campus clinics. Please note you may **be charged for this service**.

For medical notes from outside of McGill:



The note must be written, signed and dated by the health professional, with the professional's name and phone number clearly printed.

- The note must include the date(s) of the student absence and the date on which the student was seen.
- It must cite the dates of the absence and expected date of return to studies.

## **2. Remedial examinations.**

In an academic course a remedial examination is required by the PTPRC as a consequence of a failure or unsatisfactory evaluation in a component. A course component refers to theoretical, practical, individual or group evaluations (see Sections [1.1](#) and [1.2](#)).

In clinical courses, the ACCE will determine whether a remedial examination is necessary and the conditions of the remedial examination.

In addition to the remedial examination, a student may be required to carry out additional learning activities, assignments or repeat a portion of a course. Remedial examinations and other requirements will be decided upon by the instructor or ACCE and confirmed by the PTPRC. The timing of remedial examinations and requirements will be determined by the instructor or ACCE. In the situation of a deferred final evaluation or exam, where the outcome is a failure, a remedial examination will not be allowed.

## **3. Supplemental examinations.**

Students who have failed one course required by their department while registered as a graduate student may automatically write one supplemental examination, if the departmental policy permits, or retake that course or substitute an equivalent course. Supplemental examinations may be permitted in some courses. These are examinations taken as a consequence of a failure or unsatisfactory outcome in a course. Students who do not successfully pass supplemental exams administered by the School will receive a final supplemental grade of F (failure).

It should be noted that the supplemental result will not erase the failed grade originally obtained which was used in calculating the cGPA. Both the original mark and the supplemental result will be calculated in the tGPA and cGPA.

Students with any further failures in the failed course, including the supplemental, or a failure in any other course, will be required to withdraw from the program. **Therefore, two failures, one of which can be the supplemental examination, will put the student in unsatisfactory standing and require withdrawal from the program.** Please refer to the

Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies Calendar, Failure Policy online: [Failure Policy | Programs, Courses and University Regulations - McGill University](#)

For remedial work, supplemental evaluations or examinations administered within the PT Program, the timing will be determined by the instructor. Supplemental examinations will cover material from the entire course or a section of a course. The format of the supplemental examination may differ from the original examination.

#### **4. Consequences of Failed Remedial or Supplemental Examinations**

Failure in any remedial or supplemental examination will require the student to repeat the course, if allowed by the PTPRC. Students who are repeating a course or have a deferred or incomplete course will be required to repeat the promotion period, if allowed by the PTPRC. A student may not repeat more than one promotion period during the program. During a repeated promotion period, students are permitted to take optional or complementary courses; however, other courses within the program may only be taken with the permission of the PTPRC. Failure in any course during a repeat promotion period will require the student to withdraw from the program.

### **E. Procedures for Promotion and Review**

#### **1. Promotion and review committee.**

The PTPRC is a standing committee of the School of Physical and Occupational Therapy. It is composed of 4-6 faculty members of the PT Program and the Program Director or delegate (committee Chair). All faculty members are voting members, with the exception of the Program Director or delegate who only votes in the case of a tie.

The PTPRC will track the records of any student in academic difficulty and the records of any student with a documented incident of misconduct. Examples of misconduct are: unethical or unprofessional behaviour, dishonesty, drug or substance abuse, criminal conviction, and academic offences such as plagiarism or cheating. This type of incident could result in the student being withdrawn from the Program.

The PTPRC will require a student, who is considered unsuitable for the practice of Physical Therapy due to poor academic standing or misconduct, to withdraw from the program. The Program Director or delegate, acting on behalf of the PTPRC, can withdraw a student from the Program or from a specific course, if the student fails to withdraw voluntarily within one week of a written request.

A grade is not final until it has been reviewed by the PTPRC and is recorded on the student's official transcript.

## **2. Review of course marks.**

**Step 1:** For academic courses and clinical courses, Physical Therapy students who are dissatisfied with a mark must first discuss the matter with the course instructor or Academic Coordinator for Clinical Education (ACCE) within one calendar week of being informed of the mark. Following discussion of the student's concerns, the instructor or ACCE may leave the mark unchanged or may change the mark.

**Step 2:** The following procedures are to be followed when a student wishes to contest a mark:

For academic or clinical courses, students who remain dissatisfied after speaking with the instructor or ACCE may request a review of the mark by the PTPRC.

**The student's request must be made in writing to the Chair of the PTPRC and must be received within 14 calendar days of notification of the mark.**

Both the student and the instructor or ACCE have the right to state his or her case to the PTPRC committee in person and/or in writing. The proceedings will be conducted in an orderly and respectful manner.

Following the review of the written or oral information presented, the PTPRC will determine the fairness and veracity of a student's mark. If, after deliberation, it is deemed to have been a reasonable assessment of the student's performance, the mark will remain unchanged.

Should the PTPRC conclude the mark under review was not reasonable, the PTPRC will appoint another evaluator to re-read the assignment or examination. Note that "the reread by a second reader is a review of the mark, not the work assigned. It is the second reader's task to determine whether the original mark is fair and reasonable, not to give the work a totally new assessment." ([Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, 2015](#))

- For academic courses the PTPRC will appoint another evaluator to re-read the assignment or examination. The evaluator then provides PTPRC with their conclusion. As a result of the re-read, the mark may remain unchanged, be upgraded or downgraded.
- For clinical course the PTPRC will make the final decision about the contested mark.

**Step 3:** Should the student remain dissatisfied after a review of the mark by OTPRC, the student may request a re-read of written evaluations according to the Graduate Studies Reread Policy [Graduate Studies Guidelines and Policies | Programs, Courses and University Regulations - McGill University](#).

The student may request a re-read of written work worth more than 20% within graduate courses (600 level). At the time the request for a reread is made, the student should have already met with the faculty member responsible for the course to review the mark, or made a reasonable attempt to do so. The time limit for requesting a reread is within 30 days after posting of the final marks for the course. However, in the case of work which has been graded during the course and returned to the student, students must indicate their intention to request a reread by writing to Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies within 5 working days of receiving the graded work. This intention must be confirmed within 30 days of the posting of the final marks for the course. For information on procedures, please refer to this [link](#). A re-read charge ([Additional Services Charges](#)) is applicable and will be charged to your student fee account.

### **3. Appeal of decisions made by the PTPRC.**

Students can appeal decisions of the PTPRC only in the following situations: (i) the decision requires the student to repeat a promotion period; or (ii) the decision requires the student to withdraw from the Program.

When a student decides to appeal a decision requiring repetition of a promotion period, the following procedure must be followed:

1. Within 14 working days from notification of the decision of the PTPRC, the student must submit a detailed written request for appeal to the Program Director or delegate.
2. The Program Director or delegate will immediately forward the request to the Director of the School of Physical and Occupational Therapy.

The Director of the School will determine if one of the following circumstances are present: (i) there is new evidence relevant to the PTPRC decision, which was not available at the earlier consideration; and/or (ii) there has been a breach of natural justice. The Director of the School will proceed with the appeal if at least one of these circumstances is present.

3. If the appeal proceeds, the Director of the School of Physical and Occupational Therapy will convene an Ad Hoc Promotions Appeal Committee.

- The Ad Hoc Promotions Appeal Committee is comprised of four (4) members of the Faculty (School of Physical and Occupational Therapy) and one (1) student from a different academic unit, who have had no previous knowledge of the case under review. Those selected will have appropriate background and knowledge to bring to the Committee. One member will be designated as Chair.
  - One representative from the OPPQ, Faculty of Medicine, or Dean of Students Office may be substituted for a Faculty member.
4. The Director of the School of Physical and Occupational Therapy will communicate to each party, the names of the members of the Ad Hoc Promotions Appeal Committee, the time and place of the review with a minimum 10 working days' notice.
  5. The Director of the School of Physical and Occupational Therapy will call for a detailed dossier from each party which will be circulated to the committee and the parties prior to the meeting. The dossiers should be made available to the committee at least two (2) working days prior to the meeting so they have time to review the materials. The Program Director must be informed of the names of witnesses and advisers at least two (2) working days prior to the hearing.
  6. The Program Director, or delegate, will present the PTPRC's evidence which may include a summary of the student's performance and an explanation for the evaluation and decision. This information can be presented to the Committee in written form and/or verbally. Following the Program Directors' summary, the student will be invited to present their case. The Chair and other committee members may ask questions to the parties.
  7. Both parties (the student and the Program Director) may be accompanied by an adviser if they so wish. Witnesses may be called if needed. As defined by the [Charter of Students' Rights](#), the advisor must be a member of the McGill community (such as a fellow student, a faculty member, or a student from the Student Advocacy Program of the Legal Information Clinic) and not be paid for these services.

The role of the adviser is to advise and help the parties present their case. It is important for the Committee to hear directly from the student and Program Directors. The adviser(s) may speak only at the invitation of the committee Chair.

8. The meeting is conducted in a respectful and non-confrontational manner. No observers are permitted at the proceedings.
9. The Committee will consider all relevant and valid evidence submitted in writing or orally by the parties and their witnesses. The Committee may ask questions of the

- student, the Program Director or the witnesses. The parties may also question each other in order to clarify points.
10. Notes taken during the meeting are for the use of the Committee members in arriving at their decision, and are destroyed after they have completed their deliberations.
  11. When the parties have completed their presentations and the Chair and the Committee members have no further questions, the meeting will be adjourned. The Committee will continue to deliberate in private.
  12. All members of the Committee, including the Chair, vote. A simple majority is required for a decision.
  13. The parties shall be informed verbally by the Chair as soon as the decision has been made. The decision will be confirmed in writing with sufficient detail no later than 10 working days following the meeting. No further appeal is permitted.

When a student decides to appeal a decision requiring withdrawal from the program, the following procedure must be followed:

Within 30 working days from notification of the decision of the OTPRC, the student must submit a detailed written request for appeal to [Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies](#) .