

## **Policy: Progression in OTA Program**

### **PROGRESSION IN THE PROGRAM**

OTA program courses are designed to occur in a specific sequence within the curriculum. Skills are taught once in the curriculum and become the building blocks for the acquisition of other skills until all entry-level competencies of an occupational therapist assistant are successfully achieved. Philosophical, theoretical, and didactic information are similarly presented in a fashion that provides a knowledge framework to support the building blocks of skills.

Students must achieve competency in each OTA course before progressing to the next courses in the sequence. Additionally, all treatment skills must be successfully performed in the laboratory setting before a student can receive a grade for that laboratory course. This ensures that all students who are placed in the clinical education courses have demonstrated successful performance of treatment skills prior to providing care to patients. The criteria for evaluation of lab skills includes clinical reasoning and problem solving, technical skills and competencies, professionalism and interpersonal skills, and reflection and feedback.

- Students must complete competency check offs prior to being allowed to take their lab exams.
- Students are allowed 1 re-take for a failed lab exam, taken 2 days after the initial attempt.
- Students who do not achieve a passing lab exam (80%) after a second attempt, have not met the criteria to move forward to clinical courses and thus will receive a failure (1.0) for that OTA course (regardless of other coursework scores).
- Earning a grade less than 2.0 in any OTA course or an “Unsatisfactory” grade in any clinical course will result in dismissal from the program.
- A withdrawal from any OTA course will result in dismissal from the program. (It is the students' responsibility to be sure that all withdrawal forms are completed to avoid receiving a “0.0” grade on your transcript.)

**\*\*YOU ARE REQUIRED TO SEEK ASSISTANCE FIRST FROM THE INSTRUCTOR AND THEN FROM YOUR FACULTY ADVISOR AS SOON AS YOU BECOME AWARE THAT YOU ARE EXPERIENCING SIGNIFICANT DIFFICULTY IN A CLASS OR RECEIVE A GRADE OF 2.0 OR LESS ON ANY TEST. \*\***