

# Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders

## Audiology Academic Performance Improvement Plan Policy

The University Catalog states the following:

*A student must have, at minimum, a 3.0 GPA in the graduate coursework in order to graduate with a Doctor of Audiology degree. Students may not earn a grade of less than a B in any major didactic course or clinical practicum. The Au.D. Program Director will review each student's grade reports at the end of each semester to identify students who receive less than a B in any graduate level course or clinical practicum or students who have less than a 3.0 GPA for the semester. The course instructor (for didactic courses) or clinical supervisor (for practicum sites) will meet with the Au.D. Program Director and student to discuss steps for the student to remediate the coursework, address areas of weakness in clinical performance, etc. Students falling to maintain a GPA of 3.00 are automatically placed on academic probation. Students on academic probation must independently remediate the coursework or address the deficiencies identified by the course instructor and Au.D. Program Director or s/he will not be allowed to continue the graduate program and will be dismissed. Any student who has less than B in any two didactic or B in any clinical practicum courses will not be allowed to continue in the graduate program and will be dismissed.*

All department non-clinical course syllabi are required to include the formative Learning Outcomes Competencies (LOC) where each learning outcome for the course is explicitly connected to assessment measures for the course. Students and faculty are instructed to track these learning outcomes as they are measured by the specified learning assessments. The Au.D. Program Director and the Department Chair will also review the student's academic progress.

Academic Performance Improvement Plan (APIP) strategies are initiated by faculty if a student falls below a B grade on any of the specified assessment measures. Weekly faculty meetings are held following an agenda that includes a specific line item regarding student academic progress and concerns. The faculty will discuss any student whose grade falls below a B on any of the specified measures of the course(s) LOC(s) and/or any student who is at risk for falling below a 3.0 GPA. Weekly faculty meetings are held following an agenda that includes a specific line item regarding student academic progress and concerns. The faculty will discuss any student whose grade falls below a B on any of the specified measures of the course(s) LOC(s) and/or any student whose is at risk for falling below a 3.0 GPA. Faculty will suggest academic strategies designed to support student success. Supports may include the following:

- Individual support from the instructor
- Referral to a department-specific tutor
- Meeting with CSAD Department Representative to the College of Health and Human Services' Student Success Center
- Referral to the University Writing Center
- Referral to other University-sponsored tutoring supports such as SmartThinking and/or the Peer and Academic Resource Center (PARC)

The course instructor(s) will then meet with the student to develop structured, learning outcome-centered APIP(s). The form includes student and instructor responsibilities and timelines in the process and requires specification of specific supports and benchmarks to be provided to the student. The instructor of the course and the Au.D. Program Director are available to provide additional support as part of the APIP. Satisfactory performance on the APIP will equate to a learning outcome grade of at least B. Non-satisfactory performance on the APIP will equate to a learning outcome grade of B- or lower. Completed, signed APIPs will be placed in departmental student files.

If an APIP is required in more than one class in a given semester or if a student has not passed a previous class, and an APIP is required in a subsequent class, a department-level APIP is required, and will be drafted by the Au.D. Program Director and Department Chair. If a student receives a grade of less than a B in a second course, the student's degree program will be terminated. The Au.D. Program Director will notify the student of this termination. The student will have the opportunity to appeal the decision (for the process, see <https://www.csus.edu/academic-affairs/internal/grade-appeals.html>). A student who has been disqualified from the Au.D. program will not be allowed to enroll in doctoral-level courses in the same program or otherwise continue in the Au.D. program on campus without formal re-application and re-admission.