PURPOSE OF THE POLICY

Students in clinical professional degree programs that lead to ASHA certification must demonstrate competency in each of ASHA’s KASA (Knowledge and Skills Acquisition) Standards. Program Directors cannot sign a student’s KASA form to indicate that KASA Standards have been met until a student demonstrates competency in each KASA standard.

HOW IS COMPETENCY DEFINED?

Competency is defined as 1) a passing grade on each classroom or clinical assignment that covers KASA Standards, or 2) successful completion of remediation for a failed assignment.

HOW IS COMPETENCY VERIFIED?

At Wayne State, competency for KASA Standards is verified in each individual graduate level course. Standards that are addressed in each course are listed in the course syllabus. The method(s) for evaluating competency are determined by the instructor and may include quizzes, examinations, written papers, presentations, in-class discussion and so on.

WHAT HAPPENS IF A STUDENT FAILS TO MEET COMPETENCY CRITERIA?

When a student fails an assignment that tests KASA competency, remediation must be given. At Wayne State University a failing grade in Graduate School is a B- or less. Students must finish remediation work in order to complete the course. Remediation activities will be set by the instructor. Remediation completion will be documented by the instructor as part of the course evaluation and monitored by the department. At the end of every semester, the instructor of each graduate course will notify the Graduate Officer if any student has not passed remediation activities.

A student who needs remediation in a particular topic/skill area will be given two opportunities by the instructor to pass remediation. The student has the right to petition the Department Chair to request a third opportunity to pass remediation. If remediation work has not been successfully completed at the end of the semester, the student will receive an “I” (Incomplete) in that course. Under Wayne State University policy, students have one calendar year to change an Incomplete to a grade. After one calendar year, any Incomplete on a student’s record automatically becomes an “F” and no further grade change is permitted.

In the event that remediation does not lead to competency in a particular area for which ASHA has set a standard, the instructor will place documentation stating which objectives were not met in the course in the student’s permanent file and the Graduate Officer will be notified. The department will not approve the student’s application for ASHA certification if the student has not passed remediation.

WHAT DOES REMEDIATION INVOLVE?

Remediation methods are determined by the individual instructor. No remediation is given for exams that are scheduled during Finals Week. Instructors must make remediation available within 1 week of returning a graded assignment. The length of time allowed to complete remediation is decided by the instructor.

DOES SUCCESSFUL REMEDIATION RESULT IN A GRADE CHANGE?

No, remediation does not change an assignment grade. As a result, it is possible for a student to fail a course even though s/he has successfully completed the required remediation. Providing that a grade other than F has been assigned in each required course in the student’s program, the Program Director can sign the student’s KASA form indicating competency in all KASA standards.