



School of Pharmacy

SOP OP: **400.007 – USE OF THE PHARMACY CURRICULUM OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT (PCOA)**

PURPOSE: The purpose of this policy is to specify the use of the PCOA toward student progressions decisions within the school’s assessment plan.

REVIEW Policy/Procedure: This operating policy will be reviewed during each odd-numbered year by the Assessment Committee, beginning fall 2019.

BACKGROUND

The PCOA is an evaluation of student learning during each year of the didactic curriculum (P1, P2, and P3) and is used as a part of the MUSOP student assessment plan. The PCOA can be administered in any program year, which allows individual student progress to be tracked over time. The PCOA is one methodology to identify students who may benefit from academic intervention. The exam can also be used as a gauge of the School of Pharmacy’s performance relative to other schools of pharmacy. The following policy details how the PCOA exam will be utilized by MUSOP and how poor performance will be identified and handled.

POLICY

1. The PCOA is a required assessment of all MUSOP students in the P1, P2, and P3 program years.
2. The PCOA will be used as a formative assessment for the P1 and P2 students to identify weaknesses and strengths within and between the academic years
3. The PCOA exam will be used by MUSOP as part of the overall progression plan and to help prepare students to be successful in APPE courses (“APPE ready”) prior to the completion of the P3 year.
4. Students in the P3 program year who score 1.5 standard deviations or more below the national scaled mean must work with the Office of Academic Affairs to develop a remediation plan. The initial remediation plan must be completed and executed by the student no later than the end of the first APPE block.
5. Students attaining a PCOA score of the 90th percentile or greater will receive some form of recognition and/or award for his or her achievement.

APPROVALS:

Brian A. Gallagher, R.Ph., J.D. Interim Dean	Date
H. Glenn Anderson Jr., Pharm.D. Associate Dean of Academic and Curricular Affairs	Date
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M. O. Faruk Khan, Ph.D. Chair of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research	Date
Robert Stanton, M. B. A, Pharm.D., BCPS Assistant Dean of Experiential Learning	Date