



COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION POLICY

The comprehensive examination program at FAMU CoPPS, IPH is designed to evaluate the students' level of competence prior to graduation. This examination is administered in the Professional Year 4 (P4). Each student is granted **five (5) attempts** to take the examination to meet the graduation requirement. The level of proficiency that must be achieved is **70 percent or better**. students who do not pass all experiential courses to include APPEs and Clinical Seminar and Research Methods series (PHA 5917L, PHA 5918L, and PHA 5919L) are ineligible to progress to the comprehensive examination until enrolled in their final semester of P4 courses.

Pre-comprehensive Exam

The students will take a pre-comprehensive examination in the summer semester prior to the first comprehensive exam attempt. This will not count as a comprehensive exam attempt.

Final P4 Semester

1st, 2nd, or 3rd Attempt - The first attempt of the comprehensive exam will be scheduled within the first month of the 3rd semester of the student's P4 year (Typically January of the spring semester), and the second and third attempts will be scheduled towards the end of the same semester during the student's P4 year (typically between March and May of the Spring semester). The level of proficiency achieved must be **70 percent or greater**. If a student scores below a 70 percent on any of the first three attempts, the student must meet with a faculty member to discuss areas of weakness, strategies to improve and develop a plan of action to improve performance.

4th and 5th Attempt - If the student does not pass the examination with **70 percent** or better during any of the first 3 attempts, the student will not graduate on time and will be required (at their own expense) to enroll into the in-person DIS program at the Main Campus, Peaden Campus or Distant Pharmacy Practice Center post-curriculum remediation course series which is inclusive of didactic coursework overseen and administered by the course director. This program should have standard operating procedures such as a syllabus and developed curriculum to ensure consistency. After successful completion of the DIS course, the student will be eligible to take the comprehensive exam within a pre-determined time frame.

Students pharmacists who do not pass after the 5th and final attempt will not be able to be certified for graduation from the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. The student will not be allowed to apply for graduation from the PharmD Program at any time in the future. However, he/she will be eligible to apply to other programs within the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Institute of Public Health or at Florida A&M University.

Students have a maximum of 5 attempts to pass the comprehensive exam.

In the rare circumstance that an extreme event arises such as a pandemic, severe illness, or injury during a student's academic career that within reasonable cause affected an individual's performance, the student may file an appeal to the Dean of the College of Pharmacy or designee (with appropriate documentation and following the same guidelines outlined in the PharmD Student Handbook for excuses for illnesses but excluding the timeline requirements.) for approval to enroll at their own expense into the in-person DIS course at the Main Campus, Peaden Campus or Distant Pharmacy Practice Center post-curriculum remediation course series after failing the 5th

attempt. An appeal submitted by email must have the term “appeal” in the subject line and the following individuals must be copied: Executive Associate Dean, and the Associate Dean for Student Affairs. Students who are granted additional attempts must enroll at their own expense into the in-person DIS course at the main campus or distant campus post-curriculum remediation course series which is inclusive of didactic coursework overseen and administered by the course director. After successful completion of the DIS course, the student will be eligible to take the comprehensive exam additional time(s) within a pre-determined time frame.