

**University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
College of Health Professions**

Academic Fresh Start Policy

Applicants to undergraduate programs in the College of Health Professions (CHP) may request consideration under the Academic Fresh Start Policy. This policy does not apply to currently enrolled students in the CHP or to admission to a CHP graduate program.

Under the Academic Fresh Start Policy, applicants to undergraduate programs may request that all academic credits, as well as the grades assigned to them, that they earned more than seven (7) years before the anticipated date of registering for classes in the CHP program to which they have applied shall not be considered by the CHP in determining 1) their acceptance to that program or 2) the prerequisites, electives, or professional courses they have completed. If the request is granted, all courses taken at all colleges and/or universities that are more than seven (7) years old by this date will be removed from consideration irrespective of the grades earned. That is, the Academic Fresh Start Policy may not be applied to selected courses in a given term or terms or to only those with certain grades. Thus, none of the courses excluded by granting such a request may be counted toward completion of any prerequisites, electives, or professional courses.

If the request for academic Fresh Start is granted, only academic work completed less than seven (7) years prior to the date of registration in the intended program will be used in calculating the applicant's grade point average (GPA) and determining transfer credit for admissions. This will be so noted on the CHP academic transcript if the applicant is admitted. Academic Fresh Start may be granted only once to any student. Academic Fresh Start is not to be confused with the prerogative each CHP department has to selectively decline to accept for transfer credit any course or courses taken more than seven (7) years before the intended date of registration on the grounds that the knowledge in the discipline(s) in question, and thus the content of the course(s) as currently taught, has changed so extensively in the interim that it(they) no longer will fulfill the prerequisite or other transfer requirement for the given CHP program.

Applicants seeking consideration under the Academic Fresh Start Policy must complete and submit the *Petition for Admission under the Academic Fresh Start Policy* form to the CHP Admissions Officer prior to the application deadline of the specific CHP program to which the individual is applying. Petitions submitted after the program's application deadline will not be reviewed. Official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended must also be provided. The petition for Academic Fresh Start and the transcript(s) will be reviewed by the CHP Admissions Officer who calculates the GPA for program admissions and determines the courses that meet the degree or certificate requirements. The petition and transcript(s) are then forwarded for approval to the CHP Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and finally to the Dean of the College. Applicants will subsequently receive written notification of the determination of their Academic Fresh Start request.

The *Petition for Admission under Academic Fresh Start Policy* form and official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended should be sent to:

Admissions Officer, College of Health Professions
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
4301 West Markham Street, #619
Little Rock, AR 72205
For additional information: (501) 686-5730

