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2018

MCW Master of Science in Anesthesia

Program Handbook

Last revision 5-11-17



INTRODUCTION

This MSA Program Handbook provides information regarding policies and procedures applicable to students in the Master of Science in Anesthesia (MSA) Program, at the Medical College of Wisconsin's Milwaukee campus. Changes to existing policies or new policies may be adopted and implemented by the program. In such cases, students will receive notification of the policy change. The broader MCW Student Handbook policies also apply to the MSA Program and its students.

MCW Medical School Mission

To be a national leader in the education and development of the next generation of physicians and scientists; to discover and translate new knowledge in the biomedical sciences; to provide cutting-edge, interdisciplinary and compassionate clinical care of the highest quality; to improve the health of the communities we serve.

MCW Master of Science in Anesthesia Program Mission

The MCW Master of Science in Anesthesia Program provides high-quality anesthesia education through student-centered classroom and clinical education/mentorship. The program develops graduates who embrace the Anesthesia Care Team (ACT) model and deliver exceptional value-based care.

MCW Master of Science in Anesthesia Program Vision

Transform health care education through courageous innovation and a dedication to our community.

Anesthesiologist Assistant Oath

I will strive to reduce the suffering of my patients at all times, and never will I use my skills to knowingly cause injury or for any wrongdoing.

I will treat each patient with equal energy, and respect his or her diversity, while safeguarding their privacy and honoring their right of autonomy.

I will work to be an exemplary ambassador of the Anesthesiologist Assistant profession, and will always work to strengthen its place in the healthcare team.

Accreditation

The Master of Science of Anesthesia Program has been awarded accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP), effective 5/20/16 through 5/31/2021.

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs
1361 Park Street
Clearwater, FL 33756
727 210 2350
www.caahep.org

MSA Student Government

Role and Responsibilities

- Facilitates constructive, effective and consistent communication among the student body, faculty and administration.
- Maintains effective communication among students.
- Ensures that student concerns remain visible to faculty and administration, and that students are represented in decision-making processes.
- Focuses diffuse student ideas, concerns, and issues into coherent, well-considered plans of action.
- Facilitates student development as adults and medical professionals.
- Teaches students about process and consensus-building as constructive means of accomplishing goals.
- Empowers students to positively influence their academic environment.
- Works to improve student quality of life by implementing useful programs and support services.
- Represent the student body of the Medical College of Wisconsin in good faith by soliciting and sharing information from a diverse and representative cross-section of the student body.
- Fairly administer and distribute all funds currently designated as Student Activity Fees.
- Maintain a constructive and professional relationship with students, faculty and administration at the Medical College of Wisconsin.
- Work to improve the quality of student experiences at the Medical College of Wisconsin.
- Create its own constitution, bylaws, subcommittees and agenda consistent with the overall mission of the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Committee shall meet throughout the academic year to discuss various program activities. The committee will be responsible for presenting pertinent information to the Program Director and Program Administration, and to the student body through class meetings.

Affiliated Members and Organizations

Two or more representatives of each MSA class will be elected to serve as representatives to the American Academy of Anesthesiologist Assistants. These representatives will facilitate communication between the AAAA, the program, and the student body.

MSA Program Committees

Advisory Committee

- Evaluate the program, make recommendations as to policy changes and program improvement
- Ensure accreditation compliance
- Review educational goals and objectives, course content and sequencing, and instructional methods
- Plan for adequate learning resources necessary to achieve instructional goals
- Establish and review student clinical performance criteria

Admissions Committee

- Interview, review, select applicants for Program matriculation
- Promote the mission and vision of MCW through interview processes
- Reports the proceedings of the Dean and Faculty Council on a routine basis

Curriculum Committee

- Formulate educational goals consistent with Program requirements
- Implement procedures to evaluate Program educational goals
- Use evaluation results to improve educational programs

Academic Standing Committee

- Operate under the guidance and direction of MCW's Academic Standing Committee
- Follow MCW Academic Standing Committee procedures
- Provide input to MCW's Academic Standing Committee for all decisions with regard to 1) the promotion, suspension and discharge of individual students for academic reasons and 2) the determination of whether a student has satisfied the requirements for the MSA degree program

MSA Curriculum

Requirements for the MSA Degree

The following are the requirements for the MSA degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin:

- Successfully complete all required coursework and clinical rotations.
- Successfully pass a comprehensive anesthesia simulation exam prior to advancing to the clinical phase of the program (Semester 4 and 5)
- Demonstrate competence in patient care and anesthetic management as defined by the Master of Science in Anesthesia Global Competencies (*adopted from the NCCAA*).
- Demonstrate integrity in personal conduct, respect for the rights of others and evidence of ethical conduct and mature judgment throughout the course of study.
- Complete the pathway requirement in Quality Improvement.
- Meet the “Technical Standards for Admission and Graduation.” (See Admissions section for policy.
- Attend the commencement exercises.

Course List

Semester 1	
ANE 501	Foundations in Clinical Science
ANE 502	Foundations of Clinical Practice
ANE 503	Foundations in Anesthesia
ANE 511	Physics for Anesthesia
ANE 521	Patient Assessment I: Approach to the Health Patient
ANE 531	Planning and Preparation I: Approach to the Healthy Patient
ANE 541	Implementation and Management I: General Anesthesia and Sedation
ANE 551	Anesthesia Simulation I: The General Anesthetic and MAC
ANE 561	Professionalism I: Introduction to Professional Behavior, Medical Ethics, and Value-based Care
Semester 2	
ANE 522	Patient Assessment II: Approach to the Patient with Comorbidities
ANE 532	Planning and Preparation II: Approach to the Patient with Comorbidities
ANE 542	Implementation and Management II: Care for the Complex Patient undergoing Surgical Care
ANE 552	Anesthesia Simulation II: Managing the Patient with Comorbidities
ANE 562	Professionalism II: Organizations and Evidence-Based Practice
ANE 571	Clinical Anesthesia I
Semester 3	
ANE 581	Subspecialty Practice: Introduction to Patient Assessment and Planning for Special Populations
ANE 583	Advanced Studies in Critical Care
ANE 582	Advanced Studies in Regional Anesthesia

ANE 553	Anesthesia Simulation III: Advanced Techniques and Crisis Management
ANE 563	Professionalism III: Practice management, Professional Issues and Compensation
ANE 572	Clinical Anesthesia II
Semester 4-5	
ANE 661	Professionalism IV: Quality Improvement in Anesthesia
ANE 671	Clinical Anesthesia III
ANE 672	Clinical Anesthesia IV
ANE 681	Seminar in Reflective Practice
ANE 682	Seminar in Reflective Practice

MSA Technical Standards and Physical Requirements

Technical Standards for Admission and Graduation

The MSA degree is a broad, undifferentiated degree attesting to general knowledge in all fields of perioperative medicine and the basic skills required for participation in the anesthesia care team. Technical standards – distinguished from academic standards for admission to the Medical College – consist of the minimum physical, cognitive and emotional requirements to provide reasonable assurance that candidates or students can complete the entire course of study and participate fully in all aspects of the program of study.

The Medical College has an ethical responsibility for the safety of patients with whom the candidates or students will come into contact, both before and after graduation. Therefore, patient safety is a major factor in establishing requirements for physical, cognitive and emotional capabilities of applicants for admission and graduation.

All students of the MSA program must possess those intellectual, ethical, physical and emotional capabilities necessary to undertake the full curriculum and to achieve levels of competence required by the faculty. An avowed intention to practice only a narrow part of clinical medicine does not alter the requirement that all students take the full curriculum.

Technical standards prescribed herein are a prerequisite for admission to and for graduation from the Medical College of Wisconsin. All candidates and graduates must meet all prescribed technical standards, with or without reasonable accommodations.

Physical Requirements

After reasonable training and experience, the candidate must be capable of performing a complete physical examination, including observation, palpation and percussion and auscultation. The candidate must be capable of using instruments, such as, but not limited to, a stethoscope, a laryngoscope and a sphygmomanometer. The candidate must be capable of performing clinical procedures such as, but not limited to, the following: Intubation, drawing blood from veins and arteries and placing arterial lines, peripheral and central intravenous catheters. Basic cardiopulmonary life support, spinal puncture, epidural catheter insertion and other regional nerve blocks. The candidate must be capable of performing basic laboratory tests, using a calculator and a computer, reading an EKG, and interpreting some common imaging tests. The candidate must be able to move in the clinical setting so as to act

quickly in emergencies.

Communication

A candidate must be able to communicate in English, to receive communication from, and to observe patients in order to elicit information, describe changes in mood, activity and posture, and perceive nonverbal affective and gestural communication. These communication skills also must enable the candidate to obtain a medical history in a timely fashion from a wide variety of patients and to communicate effectively, efficiently and sensitively with all members of the health care team, other professionals, patients and their families. Communication includes speech and writing. Also, the candidate must be able to comprehend written material sufficiently well to understand accurately common medical records, laboratory reports and pharmacological prescriptions.

Intellectual-Conceptual, Integrative and Qualitative Abilities

A candidate must have sufficient cognitive (mental) capacities to assimilate the technically detailed and complex information presented in formal lectures, small group discussions, and individual teaching settings and in clinical settings. A candidate must be able to measure, calculate, reason, analyze and synthesize information across modalities, appreciate three-dimensional spatial relationships among structures and logical sequential relationships among events, and form and test hypotheses in order to enable effective and timely problem-solving in diagnosis and treatment of patients.

Behavioral and Social Attributes

A candidate must possess the emotional health, maturity and self-discipline required for full use of one's intellectual and judgmental ability and for successful participation in and completion of the program. Certain characteristics are especially important in the clinical years. These include attendance, integrity, honesty, conscientiousness in work, good knowledge of patients and teamwork. The candidate or student must accept responsibility for learning, exercise good judgment and promptly complete all responsibilities necessary for sensitive and effective relationships with patients and others. The candidate must be able to tolerate physically taxing workloads, to function effectively under stress, to adapt to changing environments and to display flexibility.

Safety

The Medical College of Wisconsin has a responsibility to consider the safety and welfare of patients and others. Should a candidate or student have a condition that would place patients or others at significant risk, that condition may be the basis for denial of admission or expulsion from school.

Evaluation

The Medical College of Wisconsin may require that a candidate or student undergo an occupational skills evaluation at the school's expense for the purpose of determining whether the applicant or student meets the aforementioned technical standards.

The Medical College of Wisconsin does not discriminate against otherwise qualified individuals who apply for admission to the M.S.A. degree program or who are enrolled as students. The designated disabilities coordinator, with regard to applicants with disabilities, is the Director of Admissions. The designated disabilities coordinator for enrolled students with disabilities is the Associate Dean of Student Affairs.

MSA Global Competencies and Terminal Objectives

At the end of their curriculum, students must be able to demonstrate the following competencies (adapted from the NCCAA):

Competency Category 1: Foundational Knowledge

- Foundational Cardiovascular Physiology for Anesthesia Practice
- Foundational Pulmonary Physiology for Anesthesia Practice
- Foundational Renal Physiology for Anesthesia Practice
- Foundational Nervous System Physiology for Anesthesia Practice
- General Physiology and Pharmacology for Anesthesia Practice
- Foundational Physics for Anesthesia Practice
- Foundational Knowledge of Equipment and Technology for the Anesthetic Practice

Competency Category 2 : Team-based Direct Patient Care

Subcategory A: Patient Assessment

Obtain and review current and previous medical/anesthetic records to determine problems and solutions as well as potential risks so that known complications that may result in patient morbidity or mortality are avoided.

Interview patients and/or families, gather pertinent patient history, and confer with OR team and other healthcare colleagues to formulate the care plan.

Identify and assess implications of patient's current medications and other treatments or therapies (for example, supplements, CPAP/BiPap) to provide optimal patient care.

Perform an anesthesia focused physical examination in order to identify any potential concerns that may require additional work up, consultation, or evaluation.

Obtain and analyze pre-operative test results for the purpose of identifying anesthetic considerations that require treatment, intervention or additional consultation.

Determine patient's NPO status with respect to the ASA NPO guidelines/institutional NPO guidelines in order to foster patient safety.

Subcategory B: Planning and Preparation

Contribute to the development of the anesthetic care plan, in collaboration with the ACT, by incorporating results from the patient assessment, which addresses the specific requirements of the procedure.

Review and discuss anesthetic choices, including the explanation of risks and benefits to obtain/verify informed patient consent.

Ensure the availability of personnel and resources (for example, intraoperative monitoring, equipment, blood products, and medications) required for patient management.

Establish communication with the perioperative team to discuss pertinent information (for example, patient care hand-off, lab results, surgical plans, anesthetic concerns) to maximize patient safety.

Verify completion of required documentation related to patient assessment, planning, and preparation of patient care.

Plan for immediate post-operative needs for the patient (for example, post-op mechanical ventilation, direct admission to an ICU) to ensure a smooth and safe transfer of patient care between providers

Subcategory C: Implementation and Management

Perform anesthetic related procedures and utilize evidence-based best practice to optimize patient, anesthetic and surgical care.

Ensure optimal patient positioning with respect to the surgical procedure to prevent injury.

Anticipate and manage common and critical events with consideration of co-existing diseases, to optimize patient outcomes and prevent patient injury.

Communicate concerns to the attending anesthesiologist and to members of the perioperative team, to ensure continuous safe and effective patient care.

Implement and interpret the results of, continuous physiologic monitoring, to evaluate and respond to changes in the patient's physiologic parameters through use of medical equipment and pharmaceuticals.

Perform proper transfer of care with effective hand-off to other healthcare providers, by exchanging all relevant information, in order to ensure safe post-anesthesia care.

Competency Category3 : Clinical Practice Management and Development

Advocate for the practices and principles of the anesthesiologist-directed Anesthesia Care Team to deliver safe and quality anesthetic care.

Participate in quality improvement/assurance activities to enhance safety and effectiveness of patient care.

Integrate evidence-based practice from validated contemporary research and clinical case reviews.

Promote adherence to regulations, standards of care, and evidence-based practice recommendations.

Practice cost effective healthcare that optimizes resource allocation and quality of care.

Practice truthfulness and transparency as they relate to patients, families, healthcare professionals and the public.

Competency Category 4 : Professionalism

Establish a true and transparent relationship of care with patients and families by describing the role of the AAs on the healthcare team.

Demonstrate sensitivity, empathy, accountability, and respect to diverse patient populations.

Accept and adhere to professional codes of ethics.

Participate in professional development activities (for example, continuing medical education, conferences and workshops).

Maintain active membership in AAAA and other anesthesia-related professional organizations.

Apply for NCCAA certification.

Contribute to the anesthesia body of knowledge (for example, participate in peer review process, research, publish scholarly literature, deliver presentations) to advance the delivery of quality care and improve patient safety.

Provide education, mentoring and support to AA students and other healthcare providers.

Identify prospective AA leaders and mentor toward teaching and administrative roles in order to foster the development and promotion of the AA profession.

Advocate for the role and contribution of AAs to the public, healthcare providers, health systems, and policy makers.

Maintain personal wellness (for example, stress management, work/life balance) in order to provide the safest possible patient care).

Demonstration of these competencies is a requirement for Master of Science in Anesthesia degree completion and graduation. If a student cannot successfully demonstrate these competencies, the

student's program may be extended or otherwise altered to ensure successful performance as an anesthesiologist assistant. Changes to the course of study are at the discretion of Program Director and the Academic Standing Committee and may include course repeat, remedial course requirements, and additional clinical rotation requirements.

MSA Academic Standards of Progress and Grading

Introduction

This policy has been developed to ensure that students pursuing the MSA degree maintain an acceptable rate of academic progress toward the completion of that degree and meet the expected academic standards of the Medical College of Wisconsin. This policy will also ensure that the student financial aid program meets or exceeds requirements set forth by federal regulations governing academic standards for financial aid eligibility.

Scope

This policy applies to all students enrolled in the MSA program.

Grading System

The Medical College of Wisconsin MSA Program employs a GPA-based grading scale. A grade of Incomplete can be used only when a student has not been able to complete course requirements for some acute and unexpected circumstances beyond the student's control.

Grading Scale:

A: (4.0)

A-: (3.7)

B+: (3.3)

B: (3.0)

B-: (2.7)

C+: (2.3)

C: (2.0)

The number of competencies is variable by course. See course syllabi for specified competencies in each course.

Fully Satisfactory Performance

Fully satisfactory performance means that the student earns a minimum grade of B (3.0) in every course.

Full-time Student Status

All students in the MSA program must enroll officially through the Registrar's Office. Enrollment must be for full-time study; no part-time or "lightened course load" is allowed in the program.

Transfer and Experiential Credit

The Master of Science in Anesthesia program presents a rigorous and fast-paced curriculum. Therefore, credit for previous coursework or experiential learning will not be offered.

Academic year

Academic year refers to a period of time during which most students complete a standard course of study, such as the freshman year, sophomore year, etc. The duration and term of an academic year varies with the year of study. For MSA students, the first academic year is normally divided into two semesters: August through December, and January through June. Subsequent years are divided into two semesters: July through December, and January through June.

Professional Degree Requirements and Time Limits

To complete the MSA program and be considered for conferral of degree, students must complete all coursework listed in the curriculum and meet the prescribed grading criteria.

Students are expected to complete the requirements for their degree within the following time limits: Standard 28 months, maximum 40 months.

Course Progression

The Master of Science in Anesthesia curriculum has been thoughtfully designed to integrate learning across the curriculum and throughout the student's progression through the program. Therefore, all coursework must be taken in the described sequence. Students will not be permitted to register for subsequent coursework until all courses from the previous terms are completed with at least the minimum passing grade earned. Students may not register for less than the full course in any semester load as described in course list.

Course Retake, Repeat, and Remediation

In the event a student does not earn at least a grade of "B" on initial offering, but scores a "C" or "C+", the student will be offered a competency specific remediation assignment at the discretion of the instructor for the competency(s) that received a grade of less than %70. Upon passing the remediation exam, the student's transcripts will reflect a grade of "B" and will be noted as a "Low Pass". Upon failing a remediation exam, the original course grade will remain and the course must be repeated, if eligible (see Academic Dismissal). Course remediation will not be offered to any student earning a grade below "C", in which case, the course must be repeated, if eligible (see Academic Probation and Academic Dismissal).

A student who fails to complete all coursework in the first year (Semester 1 and 2), either through initial offering or a remediation assignment, will be required to repeat the entire first year coursework. All didactic and clinical coursework in Semester 1, 2, and 3 must be completed prior to advancing to the clinical phase of the program (semester 4 and 5). Failure to complete all coursework prior to the clinical phase will require extension of the program. A student who fails to complete all coursework in semester 3, either through initial offering or remediation, will be required to complete a comprehensive remedial course prior to progressing to the clinical phase of training. There are no remedial courses offered for clinical phase coursework.

All clinical courses must be completed prior to graduation. Each clinical course is comprised of multiple clinical rotations of varying length (two weeks to four months). A student who fails to successfully complete a clinical rotation, regardless of length, will be required to complete an additional one-month clinical rotation, resulting in extension of the program. The additional rotation will occur immediately following the unsuccessful rotation and may occur at any previously scheduled location or any alternate location at the discretion of the program director. If all clinical rotations, including any additional clinical rotation, are not completed by the end of the term, the student will receive a course grade of "I" until all requirements are complete. Upon successful completion of any clinical course where an additional rotation was assigned, the course grade will be "B" and will be noted as a "Low Pass". If a student fails to

successfully complete two assigned clinical rotations or any additional rotations, the student will receive a course grade of "F" and may be placed on academic probation or considered for dismissal. Requirements for successful completion of a clinical course are described in the course syllabus.

Rules for Exam Review and Appeals

Dependent on the individual course director and specific examination, students may have opportunities to review exam performance and submit subsequent appeals. Course syllabi will outline the process for each course.

Academic Probation

Students pursuing the MSA degree at the Medical College of Wisconsin are expected to demonstrate an acceptable rate of academic progress toward earning their degree by maintaining enrollment as a full-time student and by achieving an expected level of academic performance. Students who do not maintain adequate academic progress may be placed on academic probation. Exceptional circumstances will be considered by the Academic Standing Committee. Students may be placed on academic probation due to the following circumstances:

- any grade of "C" or below in an academic year
- failure to maintain full-time status by failing to complete three courses in any academic year
- other patterns of academic difficulty deemed to be of significant concern by the Academic Standing Committee

Once placed on academic probation, a student will remain on probation for the remainder of the program. Students will be notified in writing when placed on or removed from probationary status. Academic probation will not be recorded on the student's transcript.

Academic Dismissal

Students who are on academic probation must maintain acceptable academic progress in all subsequent coursework. If a student who is currently on academic probation or who has previously been on academic probation meets any of the following conditions, he or she will be considered for dismissal. Those conditions include:

- a grade of C or below in any repeated course
- a grade of C or below in any course in a repeated semester
- a grade of C or below in a repeated course
- a grade of C or Low Pass in a clinical course, while on Academic Probation
- any grade of F in a clinical course
- failure to successfully complete two assigned clinical rotations or any additional rotation

Financial Aid Eligibility

Students must maintain acceptable academic progress to be eligible for Title IV financial aid programs, as set forth by federal regulations. Students who fail to maintain acceptable academic progress will lose financial aid eligibility.

Students on academic probation may receive financial aid for one academic year. At the conclusion of that academic year, the student must have achieved compliance with expected academic standards or will lose financial aid eligibility.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

Students who fail to maintain the expected and acceptable rate of academic progress for any reason, whether because they encounter academic difficulties while on academic probation, or because of excessive leaves-of-absence, or because they fail to complete degree requirements within the requisite time limits, will be considered for dismissal from the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Leaves-of-Absence

Students may request a leave of absence for a number of reasons. All requests for leaves of absence must be approved by the Associate Dean for Student Affairs or her/his designee (see Leave of Absence policy). Students may take a leave of absence to pursue additional work (such as research or work toward an advanced degree) if they are in good academic standing. Such leaves of absence do not count against the time for degree completion. Students may take a personal leave of absence in accordance with the Leave of Absence policy. Students will be granted no more than twelve months of leave (including leaves mandated by the Academic Standing Committee, or school policy as a result of academic difficulty) from scheduled academic time during the entire duration of their enrollment at the Medical College. Students who take more than twelve months of leave will no longer be considered to be making satisfactory academic progress.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all in-classroom, simulation, and clinical sessions.

Time Away Request from Didactic Learning Sessions

The process, as outlined below, must be followed, and gives no assurance that a student's request will be granted. Submit a request via email to the MSA Program Manager and the appropriate course director, at least one month before the date of request. Exceptions to this time requirement can be made for extenuating circumstances or dire emergencies, as judged by the Program Director. Pending approval by the course director and program manager, the student is still responsible for the material and concepts that are taught during these session(s).

Time Away Request from Clinical Rotations

The knowledge and experience acquired on clinical clerkships must be the top priority for the rotating MSA student on a clinical service; attendance on a rotation is required for all assigned activities. There are, however, occasions when time away may be necessary. A serious illness, a death in the family, or other circumstances judged by the Program Director as compelling, are examples of reasons to allow time away. In cases requiring substantial time away from the school, the student must contact the Associate Dean for Student Affairs to arrange for a formal leave of absence. The Program Director will evaluate the time-away request individually and has the final approval.

Submit request via email to the MSA Program Manager and the appropriate course director, at least one month before date of request. Exceptions to this time requirement can be made for extenuating circumstances or dire emergencies, as judged by the Program Director. Pending approval by the course director and Program Manager the student is required to notify their preceptor on the service. Any student granted time off a clinical rotation must arrange coverage for night call, care of his/her patients, as well as all clinical responsibilities during the time off. The plan for addressing missed time, once approved by the Program Director, must be implemented with oversight by the Program Director and/or his/her designee.

Additional Program Policies

MSA Background Check and Drug Screen Policy and Procedures

Policy

This Criminal Background Check and Drug Screening procedure applies to new students and current students.

MCW and the MSA Program are responsible for maintaining a safe learning environment for students, faculty, and staff. One method of ensuring this is through student background check and drug screen procedures.

All MSA students are subject to background checks and drug screens as deemed necessary by the Admissions Committee of the MSA Program. Applicants who do not consent to a background check and drugs screen, or that report inaccurate information on the admission application, will not be considered for admission. Current students who do not consent to a background check or drug screen may be suspended from courses or clinical rotations as determined by the MCW School of Medicine's Dean of Student Affairs.

Offers of admission will include a statement that the admission offer is pending the satisfactory completion of the background check and drug screen process.

Procedure

A criminal federal background check will be facilitated by the Department of Veteran's Affairs through Milwaukee's Zablocki VA Medical Center. Specific process information will be communicated to students in D2L, prior to orientation.

MSA students are also required to undergo a Wisconsin Caregiver Background Check. This check will be facilitated prior to any clinical experiences in the MSA curriculum. The MSA Program along with MCW Human Resources will facilitate this process.

MSA students, prior to orientation, will undergo a 10-panel urine drug screen. The screening is facilitate by MCW's Office Occupational Health. Specific process information will be communicated to students in D2L, prior to orientation.

For consistency, Student Affairs will monitor the decisions made in cases of unsatisfactory completion of a background check or drug screen. If the MSA Program Director and MCW Dean of Student Affairs determine a background check or drug screen to present an enrollment concern, the results will be shared with MCW Legal Counsel and the Director of Human Resources. Legal Counsel and Human Resources will be consulted to determine whether a student should be rejected or disqualified from admission or enrollment.

If it is determined that the issue of concern is grounds to deny admission, the Dean of Student Affairs maintains the right to rescind the offer of admission.

MSA Evaluation Policy

Students will be required to complete evaluations of courses, faculty, and the program. While on clinical rotations, students are required to gather daily evaluations from preceptors, using the provided form on their required mobile device. See MCW's Mobile Device Policy for additional information.

MSA Student Immunization Requirements

All students will be required to show evidence of having completed specific immunizations before having patient contact. MCW Occupational Health will facilitate the process and the requirements will be available in D2L prior to orientation day.

There may be exceptions to this policy which can be discussed on a case-by-case basis. There may also be additional requirements specific to certain MSA clinical rotation sites.

MSA Program Attire Guidelines

MSA students are expected to exhibit professionalism in attire. While attending classroom activities, appropriate dress for men includes slacks, shirt or sweater (tie optional); for women, skirt or dress of professional length, slacks, blouse or sweater. Inappropriate items include the following: denim, flip-flops, spandex, tee-shirts, sweat pants, athletic wear, halter or tank tops, short skirts or dresses, leggings with no skirt/dress, midriff tops, or low-cut tops. White coats will be required for visiting lectureships or other educational events as informed by the MSA Program staff. When on clinical rotations, students are expected to dress business professional along with the white coat to and from the hospital. Scrubs will be required during operating room and simulation activities. Each clinical site may have additional specific guidelines for dress which students are required to follow. Piercings are acceptable as long as the clinical site dress code is followed.