

## SCHOOL POLICY

**Section Title:** Academic Matters

**Policy Name:** Quantitative Skills Assessment

**Responsible Executive:** Director of Student Support Services

**Responsible Office:** Office of Student Affairs

**Originally Adopted:** 04/08/2013

**Revisions:** 02/03/2016, 2/26/2020, 07/28/2021

### I. PURPOSE

This policy outlines the Quantitative Skills Assessment (QSA), a short screening test to help identify students who may have a weak math background or lack quantitative preparation. The assessment reviews basic quantitative skills and logic that is required in the core course, Introduction to Biostatistics (PHCO 0504).

### II. ACCOUNTABILITY

The Office of Students Affairs is responsible for implementing this policy under the general direction of the Chair of the Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology.

### III. APPLICABILITY

Students must take and receive a passing score on the QSA before registering for the core course, Introduction to Biostatistics (PHCO 0504). Based upon performance on the QSA, each student will be advised if they need additional preparation prior to registering for the course.

#### A. Attempts

If a student does not pass the QSA on the first attempt, they are allowed a second attempt which must be scheduled at least one week later. If a third attempt is required, it must be scheduled at least one month after the second attempt. If a student passes the QSA before the first meeting of Introduction to Biostatistics (PHCO 0504), they may register for the course (if the course has seats available), otherwise they will need to enroll in that course in a subsequent semester.

#### B. Failure to Pass Quantitative Skills Assessment

Students who fail to pass the QSA after three attempts will be required to take and pass an entry-level college algebra course with a grade of 'B' or better before registering for the core course, Introduction to Biostatistics (PHCO 0504).

#### C. Waivers for Quantitative Skills Assessment

Matriculated students enrolled in the MPH in Biostatistics, MS in Biostatistics, or PhD in Biostatistics degree programs are waived from taking the Quantitative Skills Assessment. These select students may register for the core course (if needed), Introduction to Biostatistics (PHCO 0504), without taking the QSA.

All other students (MPH, MS-HOPE or other doctoral degree programs) must take the QSA before registering for this core course (PHCO 0504).