

## FAQs regarding the Program Grade Point Average (PGPA) Rule

### What is the PGPA rule?

Students with a low cumulative grade point average can raise their **selective admission score** by using the Health Professions Program GPA (PGPA). This means that a student can be scored using only the general education courses that are required for their specific program, including at least one of the required lab-based science courses, instead of their cumulative GPA. A student must have completed a minimum of 15 college credit hours of the specific general education courses required for their program before they can use the PGPA for scoring.

A score is calculated by adding the student's cumulative OR program GPA plus their science GPA and dividing by 2. Please refer to the mandatory PowerPoint, "Get the Facts" which describes the selective admission process:

<http://www.parkland.edu/academics/departments/health>

#### 1. Which programs use an admission "score" as part of their application process?

The following programs use an admission "score" and their scores are as follows:

• Dental Hygiene	2.75
• Nursing – A.D.N	2.75
• Occupational Therapy Assistant	2.30
• Practical Nursing (LPN)	2.50
• Radiologic Technology	2.75
• Respiratory Care	2.20
• Surgical Technology	2.30
• Veterinary Technology	2.30

\*If a student is reapplying to a program he/she has previously been enrolled in, all program courses are used to determine PGPA. Students must contact Program Director regarding possible expiration dates for these courses.

#### 2. How is the time frame on Math and Science courses affected by this rule?

The PGPA rule does not eliminate the time frame rules associated with math and science. They remain the same for all selective admissions: five year limit for science and five year limit for transferable college level math course. Two year limit for developmental math courses or assessment scores. Students should see the department chair for science or math or an advisor to determine if he/she has acceptable credit or assessment scores.

#### 3. Which science courses are eligible for the PGPA rule?

The program science courses listed in the catalog are:

DHG – Bio 121, Bio 122, Bio 123

Nursing (A.D.N) – Bio 121, Bio 122, Bio 123

OTA – Bio 121, Bio 122

Practical Nursing (LPN) – Bio 121, Bio 122

Radiologic Technology – Bio 121, Bio 122, Phy 112  
Respiratory Care – Bio 121, Bio 122, Bio 123  
Surgical Technology – Bio 121, Bio 122, Bio 123  
Veterinary Technology – Bio 111, Bio 121, Bio 122 Bio 123

**4. Are there any science prerequisites that can be used?**

One of the required Chemistry 100 or Chemistry 106 can be used if Bio 121 has not been completed. Once Bio 121 is completed these Chemistry courses cannot be used for PGPA.

**5. What if a program course is repeated and the second grade is lower, can the higher grade be used?**

No. The most recent course grade will be used. In the case of a program science course, if the same course was repeated within 5 years, the most recent grade will be used. For instance if a student took the equivalent of Bio 121 at Parkland last semester, and got a C, the C grade will be used.

**6. If a student has a previous Associate or Bachelor's degree and is satisfied with PSY 101 and SOC 101 grades, but not with other program grades, what can this student do?**

The student can repeat those classes that they wish to increase. The most current repeated course grade will be used for the PGPA rule. Student cannot pick and choose which courses are used. All completed program courses will be used.

**7. If there are more than 15 hours of program courses on the transcript(s), will all courses be used or can the highest grades be used (including one science)?**

If a student has earned more than 15 credit hours, all program courses that apply to his/her program will be used.

**8. Can program courses be pulled from multiple transcripts?**

Yes. All program courses from all transcripts will be used. The PGPA rule is not limited to only Parkland transcripts.