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UNIVERSITY

School of Pharmacy

Evaluating the Success of Remediation During a Pandemic

Jessa M. Koch, Christopher J. Jacobson, Stanley Matsuda, Victoria Maskiewicz,

Alireza Hayatshahi, Justin Kinney, Willie Davis, and Kyle Sousa

Loma Linda University | School of Pharmacy, Loma Linda, CA

Introduction

Academic remediation is a strategy used to ensure students achieve academic and professional competency while minimizing progression delays. More specifically, **remediation is defined as a way of addressing unsatisfactory academic performance** - it provides a mechanism for students to mitigate the effect of a failing grade on an individual assessment through an immediate course correction by the student.

Objectives

To evaluate the success of remediation before, during, and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Methods

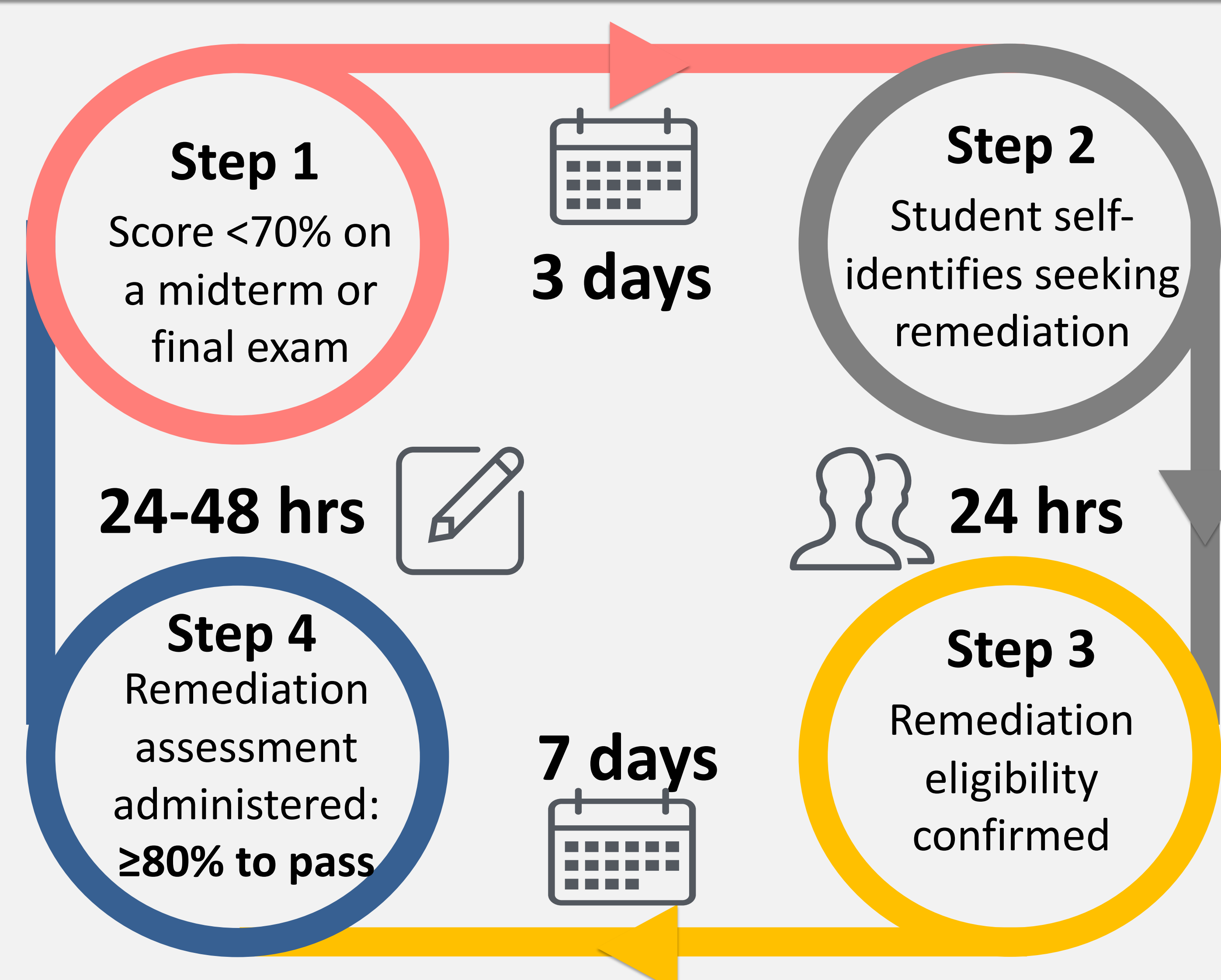
A pilot remediation program was developed, implemented, and assessed over 2019-2022 for 64 students spanning the first, second, and third professional years.

The number of students successfully remediating or unsuccessfully remediating over 3 academic years was tracked and remediation success rates were calculated.

Remediation Eligibility

- A student may only remediate a single assessment (midterm or final exam) in a required didactic course after having earned a score <70%.
- A student may not remediate more than one assessment in a single, required didactic course.
- The maximum number of times a student may remediate is once per block.
- A student may not remediate more than four assessments over the P1, P2, and P3 years.
- A student with any documented or pending academic and/or professional misconduct matter is ineligible to participate in remediation.

Remediation Process



Results/Discussion

Academic Year:	2019 -2020	2020 -2021	2021 -2022
Total # of students remediating per cohort	12 students [n=9 P1s] [n=2 P2s] [n=1 P3s]	25 students [n=9 P1s] [n=11 P2s] [n=5 P3s]	27 students [n=9 P1s] [n=16 P2s] [n=2 P3s]
Total # of students successfully remediating coursework per cohort	11 students [n=8 P1s] [n=2 P2s] [n=1 P3s]	13 students [n=3 P1s] [n=5 P2s] [n=5 P3s]	11 students [n=7 P1s] [n=4 P2s] [n=0 P3s]
Total # of students per cohort who failed remediation	1 student [n=1 P1s] [n=0 P2s] [n=0 P3s]	12 students [n=6 P1s] [n=6 P2s] [n=0 P3s]	16 students [n=2 P1s] [n=12 P2s] [n=2 P3s]
Remediation success rate	92%	52%	41%

- The impacts of COVID-19 contributed to a >2-fold increase in the total number of students requiring remediation, including a 5-fold increase in the number of P2 and P3 students requiring remediation.
- Remediation success rates among P1 students was 88.9% over 2019-2020 and declined to 33.3% in 2020-2021.
- Meetings with remediating students in the Office of Academic Affairs revealed 1) excessive intern hour requirements from employers, 2) poor attendance and engagement in remote instruction, peer-tutoring, and office hours, and 3) physical/mental health issues as contributing factors .