

Policy Title: Grading Policy		
Accountable Dean or Director: Senior Associate Dean for Curricular Affairs		
Reviewed By: Curriculum and Policy Subcommittee	Approved By: Executive Oversight Committee	
Effective Dates: AY 2022/23	Review Dates: 7/8/22	

PURPOSE AND SCOPE:

To provide information about the grading policies for the MD program.

YEARS 1 AND 2:

Grading in Years 1 and 2 is on a Pass/Fail basis. The grade of Pass or Fail is reflected on the student’s transcript. A student who does not complete a course will receive an Incomplete. Types of situations where a student may not complete a course include illness or family emergencies. The Incomplete will change to a Pass or Fail once the student has completed the course and its assessments.

A student who receives a failing grade in a course will follow a remediation plan devised by the Course Director. Successful remediation of a failing grade results in a final grade of Pass which is reflected on the transcript under a separate remediation course. A student who fails a course in Year 1 must remediate the course by August 1. A student who fails a course in Year 2 must remediate the course before the start of Year 3.

The Art & Science of Medicine (ASM) course is a longitudinal course over Years 1 and 2. While assessments occur throughout the course, the final grade is not determined until the end of Year 2.

All Year 1 and 2 grades are released within 6 weeks of the end of the course.

YEARS 3 AND 4:

The grading system for all clerkships and Acting Internships is Honors, Pass, and Fail. For courses, including Introduction to Internship and InFocus weeks, the grades are Pass/Fail. The grade is reflected on the student’s transcript. A student who does not complete a course or clerkship will receive an Incomplete. Types of situations where a student may not complete a course include illness or family emergencies. The Incomplete will change to a Pass or Fail once the student has completed the course and its assessments. An Incomplete will change to Honors, Pass or Fail once the student has completed the clerkship and its assessments.

All course, clerkship, and Acting Internship grades are due in the Office of the Registrar within six weeks of the clerkship's completion. For Year 3 clerkships, each Clerkship Director submits a final grade plus a comprehensive narrative paragraph. The final grades and narrative paragraphs for the third-year clerkships are included in a student's Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE) for residency applications.

Clinical electives are graded on a system of Honors/Pass/Fail. Research electives are graded as Pass/Fail.

For clerkships, a student will receive a temporary grade of Conditional in the event they fail the NBME subject exam if other assessments and clinical evaluations are satisfactory. Upon successful completion of the failed exam at retake, the grade is revised to a Pass or Honors depending on the clerkship grading rubric. If the student fails the exam on the retake, they will receive a failing grade and will need to complete a remediation plan determined with the Clerkship Director and then take the NBME exam again. Students are not permitted to retake a passed NBME subject examination.

A student can fail a clerkship based on not meeting the passing criteria for the clerkship or a second failure on an NBME subject exam. Students who behave unprofessionally during the clerkship are also at risk of failing. If a student is felt to be unprofessional to the point that evaluators do not feel that the student is a reliable, accurate reporter of clinical data and a trustworthy team member, the student will receive a failing grade. A student who receives a failing grade for a clerkship must retake all or part of the clerkship at the discretion of the Clerkship Director and the Promotions Committee.

A failing grade in a clerkship will be reported on the student's transcript. Upon successful completion of remediation, a student will receive a grade of Pass, which is reflected on the transcript under a separate remediation clerkship. The narrative paragraph will describe the remediation.

All students must pass all clerkships in Year 3 to advance to Year 4.