**Policy Title:** Standardized Subject Exams from NBME (Shelf Exams)  
**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:**

### PURPOSE AND SCOPE:
To provide students information about the NBME Shelf Exams and policy for the day before Shelf Exams.

### POLICY:
The Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai uses the NBME Clinical Science examinations to assess student performance on the last day of each clerkship which occur in the third year. These standardized, objective, and discipline-based exams require medical students to solve scientific and clinical problems. Test scores reflect the learning specific to a student’s clerkship experiences, as well as their educational development resulting from the overall medical school experiences. Exams are designed to provide medical schools with an effective evaluation tool and useful examinee performance data that can be compared with a large representative group of examinees at the same stage of training.

Students are required to take the Shelf Exam on the last day of the clerkship as scheduled, and can expect to receive instructions on where to report for this from Blackboard and from the Clerkship Coordinator. The one exception is the Inpatient Medicine Clerkship, which takes the Medicine Shelf Exam in week 11 and the Family Medicine Shelf Exam in week 12 of the 12 week module. The standard Shelf Exam is 2.75 hours in length and online, though students will be required to arrive early to receive instructions.

**Policy Regarding the Day before Shelf Exams**
Students are expected to participate in clerkship activities the day before the Shelf Exam. However, students should not be assigned call responsibilities that day. All clerkship duties should end by 5 pm.