

Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy

Scope

Applies to all Mayo Clinic School of Medicine (MCSOM) students and staff when determining academic progress and graduation requirements.

Purpose

To establish the criteria for satisfactory academic progress and the graduation requirements for the M.D. degree.

To enable students to successfully complete training leading to the M.D. degree within four traditional academic years.

Policy

- MCSOM students are expected to make continuous and successful academic and professional progress toward [graduation requirements](#) for the M.D. degree.
- MCSOM will monitor a students' academic and professional performance through items including, but not limited to:
 - grades recorded
 - student assessments (e.g. performance and narrative assessments)
 - timely passage of United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Step 1, Step 2 CK (clinical knowledge) and Step 2 CS (clinical skills) according to the [USMLE Requirements Policy](#)

Satisfactory Academic Progress

- The Student Promotion and Assessment Review Committee (SPARC) will review students' academic progress (including academic performance and timely completion of all requirements) on a biannual basis, and additionally as needed.
 - For promotion to Year II, students must pass all Year I requirements.
 - For promotion to Year III, students must pass all Year II requirements and take USMLE Step 1.
 - For promotion to Year IV, students must be on track to complete all Year III and Year IV requirements before the graduation date for that academic year.
- Academic deficiencies will be addressed according to the [Deficiencies and Unsatisfactory Progress Policy](#) and the [Warning, Probation, Dismissal and Appeal Policy](#).
- MCSOM students must complete their M.D. degree within four years.
 - Up to a total of an additional 2 years are permitted for personal and/or medical leave of absence with approval from the Office of Student Affairs.
 - Students exceeding 6 total years (inclusive of personal and/or medical leave of absence) will be referred to SPARC for review.

- Time away from the curriculum is permitted for academic leave of absence, with approval from the Office of Academic Affairs according to the [Academic Enrichment Program Policy](#).

Policy Notes

N/A

Related Procedure(s)

[Warning, Probation, Dismissal and Appeal Procedure](#)

Related Document(s)

[Deficiencies and Unsatisfactory Progress Policy](#)

[Grading Policy](#)

[Graduation Requirements \(MCSOM Webpage\)](#)

[United States Medical Licensing Examinations \(USMLE\) Requirements Policy](#)

[Warning, Probation, Dismissal and Appeal Policy](#)

Definitions

[United States Medical Licensing Examination \(USMLE\)](#): a three-step examination for medical licensure in the United States and is sponsored by the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) and the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME).

References

[USMLE Frequently Asked Questions](#)

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