

Policy Name:	NBME Final Exam Grading & Remediation Policy
Original Approval Date:	01-15-2021
Approving Officer/Committee:	MCC
Revision Dates and Notes:	11-19-2021 – wording added to clarify grading process and remediation
Related LCME Element(s) (if any):	

- A. **Policy** – Students must successfully pass the NBME Final Examinations in Module II Courses and Clerkships to meet the requirements for academic progression.
- B. **Purpose** - To outline the criteria for successful completion of the NBME exams and the steps to take to successfully remediate NBME exams.
- C. **Scope** – all School of Medicine students

D. Procedure/Process

Module II courses

Student performance is evaluated by the course director(s) and teaching faculty of each course. The passing score for NBME Final examination is determined by the individual course director based on the class mean on the NBME final exam.

First Attempt

If a student scores more than 2 standard deviations below the class mean AND less than a 70% on the NBME final exam, he/she will be required to remediate the NBME exam regardless of overall performance in the course. The student will receive an Incomplete grade in the course until the NBME final exam has been remediated.

If a student’s score on the second attempt falls within 1 standard deviation of the class mean OR the total percentage score is 70% or greater, he/she will receive a pass (P) in the course and keep the original overall percentage score earned in the course.

Second Attempt

If a student’s score on the second attempt falls more than 1 standard deviation below the class mean, OR the total percentage score is less than 70%, he/she will receive a grade of F in the course and will be required to remediate the course. See policy on Course Remediation.

- A student who fails an end of course NBME final exam in a second course BEFORE remediating the first failure must meet with the Chair(s) of the Academic Success Council to agree upon a plan for the student to complete the Retake Exams.

- If a student must schedule multiple Retake Exams, she/he must pass all of them before progressing to the next semester. All retake examinations must be completed before the first day of the semester that follows the semester in which the initial failed exam was taken.
- A student who fails an end of course NBME final exam in 3 courses during an academic year will be required to repeat the entire academic year.

A passing grade or the successful remediation of a failing grade must be earned in all courses for a student to be promoted and to graduate.

Clerkship NBME Subject Exam Failure/Remediation Policy

The passing score for NBME subject examinations (Shelf Exams) is set by the individual clerkship director and published in the clerkship syllabus.

If the student fails the NBME Subject Examination but has completed all the other requirements of the clerkship, the final clerkship grade is an Incomplete. The student will be referred to the Learning Specialist to create a learning plan and will be provided resources for study skills as indicated.

The student must retake the examination before the end of the semester in which the failing grade was earned. The student must provide his/her desired retake date to the clerkship director at least two weeks in advance.

Once the student chooses a retake date, it cannot be canceled or rescheduled without the approval of the clerkship director. Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the clerkship director.

The final clerkship grade for a student who has failed the first attempt at the NBME Subject Examination and passes on the second attempt can only be a Pass (70%). They will not be eligible for High Pass or Honors.

If the student fails the NBME Subject Examination a second time, their grade will be a Fail, and they will be referred to the Academic Success Council. See policy on Course/Clerkship Remediation policy.