This Handbook contains current policies and regulations of Cooper Medical School of Rowan University. The school reserves the right to change these policies; in such case the changed policy will be applicable at the nearest appropriate time. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this handbook, the school also reserves the right to make changes in response to unforeseen or uncontrollable circumstances.

Updated 8/5/2019
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All policies and procedures in this manual are subject to revision at any time.
Mission Statement

Cooper Medical School of Rowan University is committed to providing humanistic education in the art and science of medicine within a scientific and scholarly community in which inclusivity, excellence in patient care, innovative teaching, research, and service to our community are valued.

Our core values include a commitment to: diversity, personal mentorship, professionalism, collaboration and mutual respect, civic responsibility, patient advocacy, and life-long learning.

Vision

Cooper Medical School of Rowan University will distinguish itself as an innovative leader in medical education and related research with emphasis on developing and validating comprehensive systems of healthcare for underserved populations as a model to address the challenges of accountable patient care in 21st century and beyond.
Goals

**Educational:**

- Produce students who will be exemplary physicians.
- Prepare students with professional and personal skills to competently acquire knowledge, collect accurate information, be good listeners and observers, communicate well, and become lifelong learners.
- Provide an innovative curriculum taking advantage of the strengths of Cooper University Health Care (CUH) and Rowan University (RU), with early exposure to simulation and clinical care.
- Prepare students for Graduate Medical Education.
- Provide more affordable medical education.
- Enhance diversity.

**Research:**

- Create a focus of research on the science of healthcare delivery.
- Create an environment in which medical and other students, graduate students, residents, and fellows can participate as teams in research projects.

**Community:**

- Help to build a healthier community through education and medical care of its members.
A Message from Dean Reboli

Welcome to Cooper Medical School of Rowan University! This is an important journey that you will find challenging, interesting and sometimes arduous, but one that I believe you will find extremely rewarding.

Since our official launch in 2012, CMSRU has been leading an evolution of medical education across the United States. Our innovative curriculum -- including small group, self-directed learning; early exposure to patient care through the student-run clinic and Week on the Wards; and mandatory service learning -- have set CMSRU apart and raised the bar for new and legacy medical schools, alike. CMSRU’s 248 graduates are achieving tremendous success as residents, fellows, and practicing physicians at programs across the country where they’ve been recognized not just for their clinical skills, but for their professionalism and humanism as well.

CMSRU has more than 700 faculty members who are actively involved in cutting-edge research and/or clinical care. And while they are leaders in their professions, our faculty is also deeply committed to educating and preparing YOU. They will provide all the learning opportunities and tools you will need to succeed in medical school. I advise you to get to know these brilliant women and men, and value the knowledge, wisdom and experiences they are willing share with you.

As a member of the CMSRU community, it’s imperative that you understand your rights and responsibilities as a student. I’m pleased to present you with CMSRU’s updated Medical Student Handbook, which offers a detailed guide to academic policies and procedures, as well as resources and opportunities available to you. I urge you to familiarize yourself with these policies early in the year.

I wish you much success this academic year.

With warmest regards,

Annette C. Reboli, MD
Dean and Professor of Medicine
The Origins of Cooper Medical School of Rowan University

Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) was conceptually created by the executive order of Governor Jon Corzine, on June 25, 2009. This act was the culmination of a more than 30-year effort by Cooper University Hospital to become the hospital partner of a four-year allopathic medical school in southern New Jersey. The Cooper Medical School of Rowan University linked two institutions that continue to experience a meteoric rise in prestige in the Delaware Valley. Rowan University and The Cooper Health System both share a commitment to education and research and to enriching the lives of the citizens of our region.

A formal affiliation agreement between Cooper and Rowan University was entered into on September 21, 2010, to support a program of classroom, laboratory, and clinical education meeting the highest academic standards of the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME).

For more about CMSRU: http://cmsru.rowan.edu/about/facts/
About Rowan University

Rowan University is a Carnegie-classified national doctoral research institution dedicated to excellence in undergraduate education. It offers bachelor’s through doctoral and professional programs to 19,500 students through its campuses in Glassboro, Camden and Stratford, New Jersey. Home to Cooper Medical School of Rowan University and the School of Osteopathic Medicine, it also comprises the William G. Rohrer College of Business; the Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering; the colleges of Communication & Creative Arts, Education, Humanities & Social Sciences, Performing Arts, and Science & Mathematics; the schools of Health Professions and Earth & Environment; the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences; and a multidisciplinary honors college. Rowan is collaborating with regional leaders to create research and academic programs in health sciences. The University has earned national recognition for innovation; commitment to high-quality, affordable education; and developing public-private partnerships.

For more about Rowan University: https://sites.rowan.edu/fastfacts/index.html
About The Cooper Health System

Cooper University Health Care is a leading academic medical center and the only state-designated Level 1 Trauma Center in South Jersey. With a network of more than 100 medical offices and four urgent care centers throughout the region, Cooper is home to MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper and the Children’s Regional Hospital at Cooper. Cooper offers signature programs in cardiology, critical care, neurosciences, pediatrics, orthopaedics, and surgical specialties.

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Our Locations

Medical Education Building

Address:
Cooper Medical School of Rowan University
401 South Broadway
Camden, NJ 08103

The CMSRU Medical Education Building is located at South Broadway and Benson Streets in Camden, NJ. This 200,000 square-foot, six-story building house contains state-of-the art educational and research space, as well as student support services and medical school administration.

Cooper University Hospital
1 Cooper Plaza Camden, NJ
(856)342-2000

Cooper University Hospital (CUH) is the main teaching hospital for CMSRU. The facility includes a new state-of-the-art 312,000 square foot, 10 story patient care center with 60 private patient rooms, 30 state-of-the-art critical care beds, an expanded emergency department and 12 operating suites. Cooper now has 660 licensed beds. It is the home of the only South Jersey Level 1 Trauma Center and is well known for its innovative programs in cardiology, cancer, critical care, orthopedics and neurosciences.

Camden Campus Map:
The Glassboro Campus of Rowan University

Rowan University is located in the southern New Jersey town of Glassboro, 18 miles southeast of Philadelphia. The campus is easily reached from the N.J. Turnpike, the Atlantic City Expressway or any of the Delaware River Bridges. The Welcome Gate is located at 257 Mullica Hill Road, Glassboro, NJ 08028.

Student Life

On-Campus Dining

In the CMSRU Medical Education Building, food service is available in the STAT Café adjacent to the Learning Commons on the first floor. This café offers soups, salads, sandwiches, snacks, and beverages throughout the day.

The Cooper Hospital Cafeteria is located in the Kelemen Building on the second floor. It offers both hot and cold meal options, including a salad bar. Full service dining is available at the Oasis Restaurant located on the first floor of the Pavilion building. The Pavilion also houses a small café which offers specialty coffee, salads, pre-made sandwiches and more. A large vending area is also available on the first floor for after-hours food selection.

ID/Access Cards

Students will be issued identification badges during orientation week. These badges must be worn at all times when on school or hospital property. The badges will provide access to hospital and medical school buildings and entrance to and privileges at the library facilities, as well as access to reserved educational spaces. For security purposes, individuals without proper identification should be reported to the Security Office.

Lockers

Lockers are available to all students, it is suggested that students bring their own combination or keyed locks. It is recommended that the locker be kept secured at all times. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen items. An additional locker adjacent to the anatomy lab will be provided once students begin anatomy.

Gym

CMSRU has become an external community partner with Rutgers University, Camden, NJ, which allows students to utilize the Rutgers Gym for a fee. The cost for joining the Rutgers Gym in Camden has been $240 annually, July 1-June 30.

The Rutgers Gym brochures and a membership application can be accessed at https://recreation.camden.rutgers.edu/sites/rec.camden/files/Membership%20Application%202017-18.pdf
Please, when completing the application, be certain to check the External Community Partnerships category and write CMSRU within the Organization Name field. The Rutgers Fitness Center website is located here: [http://recreation.camden.rutgers.edu](http://recreation.camden.rutgers.edu). It provides gym hours and policies/procedures. CMSRU students must have a valid Cooper Medical School of Rowan University Student ID on hand when purchasing the membership AND when accessing the Fitness Center each day.

A full range of equipment and amenities are available daily. The specific courts (basketball, racquetball, etc.) are scheduled on a daily basis and you can either check in person or call prior to arrival to check on their availability, and also request to schedule a court as well.

**Wellness at CMSRU**

The CMSRU Wellness Committee has been active for more than three years and is comprised of students who are committed to the health and well-being of the CMSRU community.

**The CMSRU Wellness Committee Mission:** CMSRU is committed to providing tools to encourage all dimensions of well-being of our students, faculty and staff fostering principles of ‘self-care’ translating to improved education, research and clinical care for patients and for our community.

**The CMSRU Wellness Committee Vision:** CMSRU will distinguish itself as a premier medical school fostering health and well-being through curriculum, research and community outreach in an environment where there is a shared and accepted commitment to all dimensions of personal well-being.

Aligning with the establishment of a culture of wellness at CMSRU, a fitness studio and meditation rooms were retrofitted on the 4th floor of the CMSRU Medical Education Building in April 2014. The 1,690 square foot Wellness Studio is used for instructor-led and/or video recorded fitness sessions. Some small equipment is available such as fitness balls, yoga mats, free weights, weighted bars, jump ropes, resistance bands, medicine balls, and a punching bag. Additionally, a treadmill, elliptical machine, assault bike, and rowing machine are located in the Cardio Room. The Yoga/Meditation Room, located adjacent to the Cardio Room, is for small yoga or fitness classes (4-8 capacity) or for group meditation or prayer. The Private Meditation Room is intended for brief (15-20 minute) individual meditation/relaxation time. It also serves as a quiet retreat for prayer or nursing infants.
Public Safety

Rowan’s Department of Public Safety operates 365 days a year and is available 24 hours a day. Administrative offices are located on the Glassboro Campus, phone number 856-256-4922, and on the CMSRU campus at 856-361-2880. Rowan security officers patrol the inside of the Medical Education Building throughout the day and night, and are available to take students to the parking garage, to public transportation, and to service learning and clinical sites as requested.

On the Camden Campus, the Camden Police Department and EMS services are part of the 911 system. In an emergency, dial 911 from any in-house phone.
Student Selection

Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) seeks students who demonstrate academic readiness, who resonate with our mission, and who possess the special personal attributes required of physicians. More specifically, we are committed to selecting students who demonstrate a record of academic excellence, the ability to deliver competent and compassionate care, a passion for lifelong learning, intellectual curiosity, personal and professional integrity and ethical conduct, inclusivity and tolerance, and community-oriented service. Student selection is based on a holistic review of a candidate’s application and is not influenced by political or financial factors. The final responsibility for selection of students for admission resides with the Admissions Committee, a standing committee of faculty.

Requirements

To be eligible for admission, an applicant must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States of America. Verifying documents of status must be provided at time of application.

A verified AMCAS application is required for consideration of an applicant.

Applicants must take the MCAT and MCAT scores must be submitted through AMCAS. Test scores may not be more than 3 years old (at the time of application) and only MCAT 2015 results will be accepted. The “highest” MCAT score will be based on the aggregate best performance on an individual examination. The Admissions Committee will not compile a composite “highest” score by considering best performance on individual sections from multiple examinations.

Required and Recommended Coursework

To be eligible for admission, an applicant must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States of America. Verifying documents of status must be provided at time of application. All applicants are required to complete a bachelor’s degree from an accredited four-year college or university in the United States or Canada prior to enrollment in the MD Program.

Required Courses

- Biology (any two courses with lab), 8 credits total
- Chemistry (any two courses with lab), 8 credits total
- English or Composition, 3 credits total

Recommended Courses

- Physics (any two courses with lab)
- Organic Chemistry (any two courses with lab)
- Biochemistry
- Behavioral Sciences (e.g. Psychology, Sociology)
- Ethics
CMSRU is seeking to recruit a diverse student body that will add value to our school and contribute to the education of all students. This diversity may include, but is not limited to, groups under-represented in medicine, first-generation college graduates, students raised in Camden, individuals with unique service or professional experiences, and those who may be financially disadvantaged.
The Admission Process

AMCAS application: Candidates for admission to CMSRU are required to complete an application through the online American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) at www.aamc.org. Applicants are required to complete this application and submit an application fee. This initial process requires letters of recommendation submitted through the candidate’s AMCAS application. Letters of recommendation may be obtained from, 1) Undergraduate Pre-medical Committees (preferred); and/or 2) individual from faculty and supervisors, who are well-acquainted with the candidate. At least two letters should be from academic faculty. Additional information about this service can be found on the AAMC website (www.aamc.org/students/amcas/faq/amcasletters.htm). CMSRU will not consider incomplete AMCAS applications and only students with verified AMCAS applications will be considered for secondary applications and interviews. No transcripts or supplementary materials should be forwarded to CMSRU, as admission decisions are based only on the candidate’s verified AMCAS file.

Secondary Application: Upon receipt of verified AMCAS applications, the Office of Admissions will invite selected applicants, based on preliminary screening, to complete a CMSRU-specific secondary application. Preliminary screening of applicants includes an evaluation of academic readiness. Indicators of academic readiness are determined by data analysis from the Office of Assessment, which is annually presented to and approved by the Admissions Committee. Secondary applications are sent only to applicants who demonstrate a high likelihood of success at CMSRU. This screening step was developed to ensure that applicants who fail to meet academic qualifications can be notified of rejection prior to remitting additional application fees. The secondary application includes responses to short-answer questions to help further determine a candidate's match to the CMSRU mission and community. The secondary application also includes several attestations from the candidate, indicating that they meet the requirements described below. The secondary application fee is $100, which may be waived upon submission of the AMCAS Fee Assistance Program (FAP) waiver documents. Applicants not selected to receive a secondary application will be notified of this decision.

Screening for Interview: All candidates who submit a completed secondary application will have their entire application screened manually, by specially-trained individuals, under the authority of the Admissions Committee, to decide which applicants will be invited for an interview. This screening includes a holistic review of the primary and secondary applications to determine academic readiness and mission match. The holistic review includes an assessment of personal qualities, activities, and experiences that will positively contribute to the culture and diversity of CMSRU. In this regard, there are no absolute criteria and each applicant is considered individually. Interview selection criteria will be annually reviewed and approved by the Admissions Committee. Each year, individuals involved in screening of applications will be formally charged by the Dean, so that a consistent approach to screening can be ensured. Because of the volume of applications received, this process may take several weeks to months to complete. Applications will be screened in the chronological order in which they are received.

Interview: Interviews are scheduled on an invitation-only basis. Following screening of their primary and secondary applications, selected students will be invited for an in-person interview at CMSRU in Camden, New Jersey. The admissions process is highly competitive and the likelihood of being invited to interview depends on the overall size and qualifications of the applicant pool. Upon completion of the interview cycle for the current application year, unsuccessful applicants will be notified that they will not be offered an interview (rejection). Once invited, candidates may schedule their own interview date, but must receive
authorization from the admissions office to reschedule their interview date. Applicants interviewing are responsible for making their own travel arrangements.

The interview day consists of an introductory orientation session with the Dean, informational sessions presented by the Offices of Medical Education and Student Affairs, a traditional interview jointly conducted by a member of the Admissions Committee and a “blinded” faculty or student member. The interview day will also include a student-led tour of CMSRU and a demonstration in our simulation center. Upon completion of the formal interview day program, applicants will have an opportunity to informally meet with CMSRU students.

**Admission Committee Presentation and Voting:** Generally, in the week following each interview date, all interviewed applicants are presented to the Admissions Committee for consideration and vote. The presentation to the Admissions Committee is made by the committee member who interviewed the applicant. Following presentation of the applicant, there is an opportunity for further discussion of the candidate by all members of the Admissions Committee. Performance during the actual interview, in conjunction with the candidate’s overall application, are significant factors considered by committee members in the evaluation of each applicant. Following any discussion, an anonymous vote is taken by the full voting membership of the Admissions Committee. Based on the results of this vote, one of the following decisions is applied: 1) Immediate Acceptance, 2) Priority Waitlist, 3) Regular Waitlist, or 4) Rejection. All interviewed applicants will be notified of their updated status, either via telephone call or email, in a timely fashion. As specified by Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) standards, the authority for selection of prospective students rests in the hands of the faculty, under the auspices of the Admissions Committee. All decisions of the Admissions Committee are final.

**Acceptance Offers:** Selected applicants will be offered admission by the Admissions Committee, based on committee vote, on a rolling basis. Possible admissions actions, as described above, are defined and approved annually by the Admissions Committee. A vote of “Immediate Acceptance” indicates that the candidate will receive immediate notification of acceptance to CMSRU. A vote of “Priority or Regular Waitlist” indicates that the candidate is approved for admission and will receive notice of acceptance only if a seat in the class becomes available due to withdrawals from the candidates accepted previously (i.e. delayed acceptance). As indicated, applicants with priority waitlist status will be considered first among those candidates eligible for delayed acceptance. Guidelines for ranking of waitlisted candidates will be developed annually by the Waitlist Subcommittee (see below) of the Admissions Committee. A vote of “Rejection” indicates that a student will receive immediate notification that the Admission Committee will not offer them a seat in the class. The Dean will be notified of the decision of the Admission Committee on each candidate, but the Dean will have no role in admissions decisions.

The Waitlist Subcommittee of the Admissions Committee is composed of faculty members selected from the full Admissions Committee and is chaired by either the Chair or Vice Chair of the Admissions Committee. Up to one-third of the membership of the Admissions Committee can serve on the Waitlist Subcommittee. The Waitlist Subcommittee is responsible for development of criteria for ranking of waitlisted applicants. These criteria are developed and presented to the full Admissions Committee annually for approval. The full Admissions committee grants authority to the Waitlist Subcommittee to extend all new offers of acceptance in accordance with approved criteria. The full committee will receive a final report at the close of the admissions cycle to inform them of the outcome of the waitlist process.
Admitted students must submit an acceptance deposit within two weeks of receipt of an acceptance offer. The deposit will be applied to first semester tuition and is refundable prior to May 1st, if the applicant chooses to withdraw their acceptance. A decision to withdraw after May 1st may result in forfeiture of the $100 deposit. Deposit requirements may be waived in cases of extreme financial disadvantage. Failure to submit an acceptance deposit in a timely fashion may result in rescindment of the original acceptance offer.

**Early Decision Program:** CMSRU participates in the Early Decision Program (EDP). Eligibility requirements to be considered as an early decision candidate include: an overall undergraduate GPA of 3.5 or higher, an overall undergraduate science GPA of 3.6 or higher, and an MCAT score of 507 or higher.
Diversity Statement

Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) is committed to providing an academic and work environment that respects the contributions, talents, and diverse experiences of our students, faculty, and staff. Our core values include a commitment to diversity, collaboration, and mutual respect. We embrace the philosophy that excellence in medical education, research, and clinical practice is best achieved through promoting diversity in its broadest definition and maintaining an academic and work environment free of discrimination. We pledge to build and sustain a learning community where diversity is celebrated, and to foster access to medical education to learners from all segments of society. We consider inclusivity to be a responsibility of everyone in our learning environment.

It is the goal of CMSRU to increase the number of students and faculty members from those groups underrepresented in medicine (URM), as well as in women in positions of leadership and in the higher academic ranks. It is also our goal to create an academic environment that is welcoming and respectful of diversity of all.
Diversity Policy

PURPOSE: Diversity is essential to fulfilling the CMSRU mission of improving the health of our community and in achieving our vision of being a leader in medical education, research, and clinical practice with an emphasis on healthcare for underserved populations. CMSRU is committed to recruiting students, staff and faculty from diverse backgrounds with experiences that best match our mission to serve the needs of our community. Furthermore, CMSRU is invested in providing a learning environment that is enhanced by the exchange of varied viewpoints that increase awareness of health care disparities and increase interest in service and civic responsibility.

POLICY: CMSRU provides opportunities for learners from disadvantaged backgrounds and those who are underrepresented in medicine to gain information about health careers and programming to advance their knowledge/skillset to pursue those professions; these educational programs are inclusive in nature, and extend beyond CMSRU. Included are “pipeline” programs that span elementary school through undergraduate years. In addition to traditional entry pathways to medical school, CMSRU provides alternate routes for individuals from underrepresented in medicine/disadvantaged backgrounds (see definition below) to gain acceptance to CMRSU through partnering institutions and pipeline programs. CMSRU is equally committed to the recruitment, development and retention of qualified faculty/staff from underrepresented backgrounds.

CMSRU is dedicated to providing an academic and work environment that respects the contributions, talent, and diverse experiences of all of our students, faculty and staff. Our core values include a commitment to: personal mentorship, diversity and equity, professionalism, collaboration and mutual respect, civic responsibility, patient advocacy, and life-long learning.

SCOPE: This policy applies to all applicants, students, faculty and staff of CMSRU.

DEFINITIONS:

The following groups who are underrepresented in medicine are the focus of CMSRU’s recruitment and retention efforts to achieve mission-appropriate diversity outcomes among students, faculty, and senior administrative staff.

- Students: Hispanic/Latino, Black/African American and financially disadvantaged
- Faculty/Senior Administrative Staff: Hispanic/Latino, Black/African American, women in leadership roles
- Senior Administrative Staff: Deans, Departmental Chairs, Directors, and Managers

PROCEDURE:

CMSRU incorporates social justice and diversity in all of its functions including admissions, student affairs, faculty affairs, academic affairs, clinical practices, curriculum, research, and community service.

The Office of Diversity and Community Affairs (ODCA) engages faculty, students, and staff to develop and maintain an environment which embraces and respects the diverse educational and larger community. It creates partnerships to establish priorities and ensures that social justice, inclusion, and cultural competence
are promoted within the institution and our larger community. The ODCA collaborates with hospitals, physician practices, universities, community colleges, elementary, middle and secondary schools, nongovernmental organizations, regional and community organizations to develop initiatives that will further improve the healthcare experience for disadvantaged communities, such as the creation of a pipeline to medical professions and community service programs. In addition, collaborations are sought to further our commitment to diversity and decrease health disparities in the community and surrounding region. The ODCA works with the Office of Faculty Affairs to broaden recruitment and retention efforts of diverse faculty members. The Committee for Diversity in the Learning Environment supports the efforts of the ODCA in monitoring achievement of diversity initiatives and contributes information and programming recommendations to guide the diversity strategic planning process.

To ensure diversity, the following are monitored on a regular basis as part of the CMSRU strategic planning process and continuous quality improvement:

- Progress of pipeline participants to graduation/health professions
- Recruitment, acceptance and retention of URM students/staff/faculty as defined above
- Support for diversity programs
- Faculty engagement in diversity and mentoring programs
- Diversity efforts of departmental chairs (URM - resident recruitment, faculty recruitment and retention, faculty promotions)
- Cultural content in curriculum
The Medical Education Program

The educational program at CMSRU was designed to provide each student with a solid foundation in the science of medicine while providing an early and continuous clinical experience. Courses were created to meet CMSRU’s mission and to allow our students to develop skills necessary to practice medicine in the 21st century. This section of the handbook presents an overview of years one and two, known as Phase 1: “Foundation and Integration” and years three and four, known as Phase 2 – the “Application, Exploration and Advancement” of the curriculum.

All courses are built to provide the student with the knowledge and skills needed to become a competent physician and scientist. We have developed nine Institutional Learning Objectives that serve to focus our curriculum and form the basis upon which our system of assessment is built.

This section of the handbook will:

- Show the complete list of Institutional Learning Objectives
- Present the curriculum as an overview
- Give a brief overview of each course in Phase 1 and Phase 2

Note:
This handbook is not intended to present a complete description of each course. The course directors provide complete syllabi prior to the start of each class that includes specific learning objectives, expectations and assessment tools.
## Annual Review of Medical Education Program Objectives

### General Competency: Medical Knowledge
Students will demonstrate knowledge of existing and evolving scientific information and its application to patient care

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medical Education Program Objective(s)</th>
<th>Outcome Measure(s)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrate a strong basic science foundation in the understanding of health and disease</td>
<td>Formative Quizzes, TBL scores (IRAT/GRAT), Faculty Developed Examination Questions, NBME Customized Examination Questions, NBME Subject Examinations, Practical Examinations, Weekly ALG Student Assessments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perform a complete history and physical examination</td>
<td>Foundations of Medical Practice Clinical Skills Examinations, Foundations of Medical Practice Individualized Education Plan, Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 and M4 Mini-CEX Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessment; OSCEs, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognize the various determinants of health, including genetic background, culture, nutrition, age, gender and social issues</td>
<td>Foundations of Medical Practice Clinical Skills Examinations, Scholar’s Workshop Examinations in M1 and M2 related to Societal Health Care Issues, Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, Ambulatory Clerkship Service Learning Reflective Essays, Life Stages TWA Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access and critically evaluate current medical information and scientific evidence, and apply this knowledge to clinical problem-solving</td>
<td>Scholar’s Workshop Projects, Scholar’s Workshop Group Critical Appraisal Project, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apply current knowledge of public health to patient care</td>
<td>Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessment, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment</td>
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### General Competency: Patient Care

Students will demonstrate an ability to provide patient care for common health problems across disciplines that is considerate, compassionate, and culturally competent.

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<tr>
<th>Medical Education Program Objective(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Display appropriate clinical skills, critical thinking, medical decision-making and problem-solving skills in the delivery of care</td>
<td>Foundations of Medical Practice Clinical Skills Examinations, Foundations of Medical Practice Individualized Education Plan, Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessments, OSCEs, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use and interpret diagnostic studies appropriately</td>
<td>Foundations of Medical Practice Clinical Skills Examinations, Foundations of Medical Practice Individualized Education Plan, Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, OSCEs, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessment, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrate relevant procedural and clinical skills, recognizing the indications, contraindications and complications, while respecting patient needs and preferences</td>
<td>Foundations of Medical Practice Clinical Skills Examinations, Foundations of Medical Practice Individualized Education Plan, Ambulatory Clerkship behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessment, OSCEs, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Implement and promote plans of disease prevention, management and treatment using evidence-based medicine</td>
<td>Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, OSCEs, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessment, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives.</td>
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**General Competency: Professionalism**

Students will demonstrate a commitment and an ability to perform their responsibilities with respect, compassion and integrity, unconditionally in the best interest of patients

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<tr>
<td>Demonstrate compassion and respect for others</td>
<td>Foundations of Medical Practice Clinical Skills Examinations, Foundations of Medical Practice Individualized Education Plan, Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, OSCEs, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respect patient confidentiality and autonomy</td>
<td>Foundations of Medical Practice Clinical Skills Examinations, Foundations of Medical Practice Individualized Education Plan, Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, OSCEs, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Show responsiveness and personal accountability to patients, society and the practice of medicine</td>
<td>Foundations of Medical Practice Clinical Skills Examinations, Foundations of Medical Practice Individualized Education Plan, Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, OSCEs, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessment, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Put patients’ interests ahead of their own</td>
<td>Foundations of Medical Practice Clinical Skills Examinations, Foundations of Medical Practice Individualized Education Plan, Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, OSCEs, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessment, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
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**General Competency: Professionalism**

Students will demonstrate a commitment and an ability to perform their responsibilities with respect, compassion and integrity, unconditionally in the best interest of patients

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<tr>
<td>Recognize personal limitations and biases, knowing when and how to ask for help</td>
<td>Foundations of Medical Practice Clinical Skills Examinations, Foundations of Medical Practice Individualized Education Plan, Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist, Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, OSCEs, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessment, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effectively advocate for the health and needs of the patient</td>
<td>Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, OSCEs, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessment, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incorporate the principles of medical ethics into their care of patients</td>
<td>Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, OSCEs, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessment, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognize and address disparities in health care</td>
<td>Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, OSCEs, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessment, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program</td>
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**General Competency: Interpersonal & Communication Skills:**
Students will demonstrate an ability to effectively communicate and collaborate with patients, families and healthcare professionals

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<tr>
<td>Demonstrate effective interpersonal and communication skills with patients about their care, including ethical and personal issues</td>
<td>Foundations of Medical Practice Clinical Skills Examinations, Foundations of Medical Practice Individualized Education Plan, Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, OSCEs, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessment, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrate effective interpersonal and communication skills with the patient’s family, friends and other members of the patient’s community, as appropriate</td>
<td>Foundations of Medical Practice Clinical Skills Examinations, Foundations of Medical Practice Individualized Education Plan, Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, OSCEs, M3 Summative Inpatient Assessments, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrate effective interpersonal and communication skills with all members of the healthcare team and relevant agencies and institutions</td>
<td>Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist, Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, OSCEs, M3 Summative Inpatient Assessments M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintain a professional demeanor of integrity and transparency in all communications</td>
<td>Foundations of Medical Practice Clinical Skills Examinations, Foundations of Medical Practice Individualized Education Plan, Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, OSCEs, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessments, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
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**General Competency: Practice-Based Learning & Improvement:**
Students will demonstrate the ability to investigate and evaluate their care of patients, appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and continuously improve patient care, based on constant self-evaluation and life-long learning

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<tr>
<td>Assess their own strengths, deficiencies and limits of knowledge and engage in effective ongoing learning to address these</td>
<td>Foundations of Medical Practice Individualized Education Plan, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives M1 &amp; M2 ALG and Scholar’s Workshop Peer &amp; Self Assessments, Ambulatory Clerkship Service Learning Group Assessment, Ambulatory Clerkship Service Learning Reflective Essay, and Service Learning Roundtable Discussion Assessment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effectively engage in medical school, hospital and community projects that benefit patients, society and the practice of medicine</td>
<td>Ambulatory Clerkship Service Learning Reflective Essays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify, appraise and assimilate evidence from scientific studies using information technology</td>
<td>Scholar’s Workshop Critical Appraisal Group Project, Scholar’s Workshop Independent Capstone Project, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognize and empower other members of the healthcare team in the interests of improving patient care</td>
<td>Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apply the principles and practices of patient safety and process improvement</td>
<td>Scholar’s Workshop Projects, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessment, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
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**General Competency: Systems-Based Practice**

Students will demonstrate an awareness of responsiveness to the larger context and system of healthcare, as well as the ability to effectively utilize other resources in the system to provide optimal health care.

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<tr>
<td>Work effectively to coordinate patient care within the social context of healthcare</td>
<td>Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessment, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
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<tr>
<td>Incorporate risk-benefit analysis into care delivery</td>
<td>Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist, Assessment, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advocate for high-quality patient care</td>
<td>Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessment, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work in inter-professional teams to enhance patient safety and quality</td>
<td>Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demonstrate an appreciation for and understanding of the methodologies used to reduce errors in care</td>
<td>Scholar’s Workshop Projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognize the value, limitations and use of information technology in the delivery of care</td>
<td>Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apply an understanding of the financing and economics of care delivery regionally, nationally, and globally to optimize the care of patients</td>
<td>Scholar’s Workshop Written M2 Examination</td>
</tr>
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**General Competency: Scholarly Inquiry**

Students will demonstrate an ability to frame answerable questions, collect and analyze data and reach critically-reasoned, well-founded conclusions in order to advance scientific knowledge in general and the care of individual patients and populations.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrate investigatory and analytical skills to seek and apply the best evidence in making patient care decisions</td>
<td>Scholar’s Workshop Written Examination, Scholars Workshop Capstone Project, Scholars Workshop Critical Appraisal Topic Presentation, M3 CLIC Trans disciplinary Examination, M3 CLIC Trans disciplinary Presentation Rubric, Foundations of Medical Practice Written Examination, Foundations of Medical Practice Clinical Skills Examinations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design and execute studies to answer well-structured research questions</td>
<td>Scholar’s Workshop Capstone Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conduct research according to good clinical practices and strict ethical guidelines</td>
<td>Scholar’s Workshop Capstone Project, Scholar’s Workshop M1 and M2 Written Examinations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adhere to the principles of academic integrity in research and scholarship</td>
<td>Scholar’s Workshop Critical Appraisal Group Project, Scholar’s Workshop Independent Capstone Project, M3 Mid-Year and End- of-Year Preceptor Assessments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrate skills that foster lifelong learning</td>
<td>Weekly ALG Student Assessments, Foundations of Medical Practice Individualized Education Plan, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
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General Competency: Health Partnership
Students will demonstrate the ability to deliver high-quality, comprehensive, cost-effective, coordinated ambulatory care and community-oriented health education to underserved urban and rural populations

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<tr>
<td>Recognize the social determinants of health</td>
<td>Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessments, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
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<tr>
<td>Describe the health care needs of patients from diverse populations and develop appropriately tailored care delivery strategies</td>
<td>Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessments, M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop the skills and attitude to work in partnership with members of the community to promote health, disease prevention, and chronic care management</td>
<td>Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments Assessments, M3 Mid-Year and End-of-Year Preceptor Assessments, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessments M4 End of Clerkship/Elective Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appraise the impact of the social and economic contexts on healthcare delivery</td>
<td>Scholar’s Workshop Projects, Ambulatory Clerkship Service Learning Reflective Essays, Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
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General Competency: Learning & Working in Teams

Students will learn to work as a member of a team in the coordinated, inter-professional model of care delivery

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<td>Apply basic principles of inter-professional and multidisciplinary care</td>
<td>Weekly ALG Student Assessments, Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessment, M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
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<tr>
<td>Develop the skills to organize an effective health care team, valuing individuals’ skills and efforts</td>
<td>Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessment M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work with professionals from other disciplines or professions to foster an environment of mutual respect and shared values</td>
<td>Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessment M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
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<tr>
<td>Perform effectively in different team roles to plan and deliver patient and population-centered care</td>
<td>Ambulatory Clerkship Behavior Checklist Assessments, M3 Inpatient Summative Assessment M3/M4/Student Self-Assessment of Program Objectives, M3 and M4 Preceptor’s Assessment of the Student’s Attainment of Program Objectives</td>
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Curriculum Overview

At CMSRU, we believe that medical education should be a seamless continuum over four years, integrating knowledge of basic scientific concepts, early clinical experience and patient care, self-directed learning, teamwork, and medical and non-medical activities for the greater community’s benefit. The curriculum reflects the mission and vision of CMSRU, preparing students to be physicians, educators, and positive contributors to society.

Over the four years, students are exposed to various cases and clinical settings designed to connect clinical practice with basic science knowledge – beginning within the first few weeks of school, and continuing throughout the four years. Similarly, basic science knowledge is reinforced in the clinical clerkships. In order to establish these critical linkages, clinical faculty participate early in the medical school curriculum, working closely with basic science educators to tie basic tenets of scientific study to actual clinical scenarios.

Coursework is divided into two phases: the “Foundation and Integration” (Phase 1) that would then allow for “Application, Exploration and Advancement” (Phase 2). Phase 1 consists of two years in which students develop the scientific background, knowledge, skills, and behaviors to immediately begin integrating that information into clinical practice. Phase 2 consists of the third and fourth years of the curriculum, during which students are supported in the advancement of knowledge and the application to the clinical, social, and ethical aspects of care.

Phases of the Curriculum

Phase 1/Foundation and Integration – Years 1 and 2

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<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 Week</td>
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<td>Orientation</td>
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| Ambulatory Clerkship |
| Scholar’s Workshop |
| Foundations of Medical Practice |
| Selectives |
Year 2

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<tr>
<th>5 Weeks</th>
<th>4 Weeks</th>
<th>3 Weeks</th>
<th>4 Weeks</th>
<th>5 Weeks</th>
<th>1 Week</th>
<th>4 Weeks</th>
<th>4 Weeks</th>
<th>6 Weeks</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cardiovascular</td>
<td>Pulmonary</td>
<td>Endocrine</td>
<td>Gastroenterology</td>
<td>Uro-Renal</td>
<td>Week on the Ward (WOW 2)</td>
<td>Women's Health</td>
<td>ENT/Allergy</td>
<td>Neuro-Psy</td>
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Ambulatory Clerkship

Scholar's Workshop

Foundations of Medical Practice

Selectives

Selectives

Phase 2/Application, Exploration and Advancement – Years 3 and 4

Year 3

Courses in the M3 Year:
- Scholar's Workshop
- Ambulatory Clerkship
- Cooper Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship (CLIC)
- Healer's Art
- M3 Electives

Block Courses in the M3 Year:
- Internal Medicine
- Family Medicine
- Surgery
- Pediatrics
- Obstetrics/Gynecology
- Neurology
- Psychiatry

Sample M3 Year with discipline based blocks and CLIC continuity:
Detail of the core discipline blocks with details of how the six block weeks are distributed between the inpatient setting (H) and CLIC (C):

![Diagram showing block weeks distribution]

**Note:** Students are divided into three cohorts at the beginning of the academic year. Assignments are varied so that all students experience CLIC at different times in the block.

Students complete seven inpatient blocks over the course of the M3 year. Each inpatient block is six weeks in duration. Four of the six weeks are in the inpatient setting within traditional disciplines (Internal medicine, Surgery, Obstetrics/Gynecology, Pediatrics, Neurology, and Psychiatry). The seventh block is comprised of a two week dedicated family medicine ambulatory rotation followed by an additional two weeks in internal medicine. Two weeks in every block are dedicated to the ambulatory Cooper Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship (CLIC). Students are scheduled in cohorts and matriculate through their blocks and CLIC over the course of the academic year. A didactic curriculum is required as part of each inpatient block, supplemented with a Friday afternoon series of transdisciplinary sessions devoted to topics that cross core clerkships such as military medicine, LGBT patient needs and others that are addressed through student case presentations. There are two longitudinal courses in the M3 year that continue from the preclinical curriculum: Scholar’s Workshop and Ambulatory Clerkship. Scholar’s Workshop maintains some didactic sessions in the transdisciplinary sessions and students spend the majority of their time with their mentors completing their capstone research projects. Ambulatory Clerkship requires students to spend one day per month in the CRC, where they provide leadership for M1 and M2 students as they work in interprofessional teams with students from the PharmD program at the University of the Sciences. Lastly, students continue their commitment to service learning via service learning projects connected to the ambulatory clerkship. Students spend at least 40 hours per year in service learning activities during the M3 year. All students participate in Healer’s Art during the fall semester of the M3 year and have opportunities for additional reflection.
sessions in the spring semester. In addition, students take three one-week electives to support career decision making and their personal interests. Study weeks, examination weeks, and winter break are built into the schedule for each cohort.

An example CLIC week:

\[
\begin{array}{cccccc}
  & \text{Monday} & \text{Tuesday} & \text{Wednesday} & \text{Thursday} & \text{Friday} \\
\hline
\text{AM} & \text{SDL} & \text{Surgery} & \text{SDL} & \text{Ob/Gyn} & \text{Surg/OR} \\
& \text{SW** (alt)} & & \text{Service} & & \\
& & & \text{Learning} & & \\
\text{Break} & & & & & \\
\text{PM} & \text{Peds} & \text{APC} & \text{Neuro} & \text{Psych} & \text{Plenary Sessions} \\
& & & & & \text{SDL}
\end{array}
\]

The 35% CLIC ambulatory component of each block permits students to see patients in each core discipline over the course of the clerkship year, providing continuity of care for patients, greater exposure to seasonal conditions, and continuity of experience with attending preceptors. This results in fourteen CLIC weeks over the course of the M3 year. Weekly CLIC schedules for each student includes clinic time in each of the core disciplines, a half day in the operating room with their surgery preceptor, and time for Ambulatory Clerkship, Scholar’s Workshop, service learning, weekly transdisciplinary plenary sessions, and self-directed learning (SDL) time. SDL may be used to follow patients to subspecialist appointments or procedures, exploration of career interests, or other learning activities specific to each student.

A full diagram of all components in the M3 year is provided below:
### Year 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>4 Weeks</th>
<th>4 Weeks</th>
<th>4 Weeks</th>
<th>4 Weeks</th>
<th>1 Week</th>
<th>20 Weeks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Internship</td>
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<td>Interprofessional Care of Patients with Chronic Conditions</td>
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<td>Critical Care Clerkship</td>
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<td>Emergency Medicine Clerkship</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Leadership</td>
<td>Community Health</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Sub-Internships are available in:

- Internal Medicine
- Family Medicine
- Obstetrics/Gynecology
- Pediatrics
- Psychiatry
- Surgery
- Vascular Surgery
- Orthopedics
Phase 1 Course Overview

Courses Spanning Multiple Curricular Years

The Scholar’s Workshop

The Scholar’s Workshop is a continuous course, spanning all four years of the medical school curriculum. The design of the course is based on the recognition that, in order to thrive in 21st Century medicine, two attributes are necessary: the skills of critical thinking and proficiency with enduring a set of tools. The tools help students interact with information and systems. The Scholar’s Workshop kit are the tools of:

- Evidence-based medicine
- Data collection and analysis
- Epidemiology
- Systems theory / engineering
- Quality improvement / patient safety
- Management and leadership
- The scientific method, including the ethics of scientific inquiry
- Healthcare financing and delivery systems

The curriculum of The Scholar’s Workshop is designed to help students develop habits of critical thinking. Faculty guide students – working in teams – though a series of projects aimed at developing their proficiency with the toolkit, as well as their team-building, teamwork, management and leadership skills. The projects are designed to correlate temporally and substantively with the remainder of the school curriculum. Through the Scholar’s Workshop, we endow students with the skills and mindset to lay the foundation for high quality practice in a vast sea of information and ever-changing systems of care.

Ambulatory Clerkship

The Ambulatory Clerkship is a 3-year progressive and continual course that provides students with supervised clinical experiences in various outpatient settings (physician practices, student-run clinic, patient-centered medical home) and allows them to assume increased patient care responsibility as their medical education advances. The course incorporates all 9 student competencies that are at the core of the CMSRU educational mission. The course has been designed around four competency domains: a) humanistic patient –centered care, b) learning about health disparities in real time, c) the science of delivery of care, and d) interprofessional collaborative practice. The course provides the foundation for the practice of medicine, in any specialty or subspecialty.

The central element of the Ambulatory Clerkship is the student-run clinic. The clinic is designed to provide healthcare for members of the Camden community through a coordinated, interprofessional team delivery system. This clinic is organized and staffed by the students, and closely supervised by physician educators. It allows the students to become increasingly proficient with the team-based model of primary care delivery. First-, second- and third-year students, along with pharmacy students (from the University of the Sciences) work in teams to care for patients in continuity. In addition to providing care at the clinic, the students coordinate care for their patients by accompanying them to hospital visits and consultant appointments.
Foundations of Medical Practice (FMP) is a two-year course that assists students in attaining the knowledge, skills, and attributes necessary to serve as health care professionals who will provide compassionate, high-quality care for individuals with acute and chronic diseases. Core components of the course include: Clinical Communication and Interpersonal Skills, Ethical Issues in Health Care, Professionalism and Humanism in Medical Profession, the Student as a Teacher and Learner, and Clinical Practice: Excellence in Clinic.

The course meets twice per week throughout the entire Phase 1 curriculum. It is integrated longitudinally and horizontally with other concurrently running medical school courses. The course is taught via a combination of seminars, small group discussions and standardized patient learning. Upon completion of this course, it is expected that students will be able to communicate effectively with patients, families and other health care professionals, make appropriate clinical judgments, and provide care that is safe, effective and comprehensive. Another primary goal of Foundations of Medical Practice is to instill in students the principle that learning and maintaining medical competence are lifelong processes.

Week on the Wards 1 and 2 (WOW 1 and WOW 2)

Week on the Wards 1 and 2 (WOW 1 and WOW 2) consists of two one-week clinical experiences intended to provide students with an early exposure to the practice of medicine as it occurs in the hospital setting. It complements the students’ prior exposure to the ambulatory patient (Ambulatory Clerkship) and allows observation of various inpatient clinical areas. The experience provides students with an early exposure to medical specialties, an additional context setting for the practice of medicine, an understanding of the concept of the team approach to care in various hospital based settings, and a reflective exchange of ideas about their experiences. In addition, WOW 1 contains a second week of Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt training, which is designed to provide students with an understanding of the process improvement tools that can be applied in patient safety and quality control measures in the health care environment. Students learn how to identify key issues in clinical venues and operations, managing the important aspects of the initiative, measuring and maximizing financial impact, and sustaining change over time. Upon successful completion, students will receive Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt certification.

The Week on the Wards experiences occur at the midway point of the Fundamentals course (year 1) and following the Urology-Renal course (year 2) and allow for direct clinical application of basic science knowledge learned to date. The first-year rotations consist of experiences on the following four inpatient
services: Medicine, Surgery/Perioperative care, Emergency Room/Trauma/Intensive Care Unit, and Pediatrics/Obstetrics and Gynecology. The second year rotation consists of a weeklong immersion experience in a medical specialty or subspecialty, which is selected by students based on areas of interest.

_**Selectives**_

_**Selectives**_ in the Medical Humanities consist of semester-long experiences in which students are able to explore various course offerings relating the humanities to the practice of medicine. Individual _Selectives_ courses meet six times per semester and sessions are designed to be interactive in nature. Students are required to take two _Selectives_ courses during Phase 1. These courses are designed to enrich the educational experience and provide a more well-rounded background to medical students, balancing the art and the science of medicine.

Current individual Selectives courses include the following:

- The Social Mission of Medical Schools
- Medical Cineforum
- The Art of Observation
- Exploring Medicine through Composition
- Theater and the Role of Role-Playing
- Dance and Medicine
- Applied Medical Ethics
- Emotional Intelligence
- The Physician Personality
- Applied Medical Ethics
- Observational Drawing
- Opera and Disease
- Photography and Medicine
- Medical Improvisation
- Writing to Persuade and Convince
- Mindfulness Meditation
- Social Determinants of Health

**Year 1 Block Courses**

_**Fundamentals**_

_**Fundamentals**_ is a 16-week integrated course that provides students with a foundation in the traditional basic science disciplines: anatomy, physiology, biochemistry/cell biology, genetics, immunology, histology, embryology, neuroscience, pathology, microbiology and pharmacology. The course focuses on the normal structure, function and development of the human body, ranging from the cellular/sub-cellular level through tissues/organ systems, to the body as a whole. Discussion of cellular mechanisms of disease, including comparison of normal versus abnormal structure and function, infectious causes of disease, and basic therapeutic intervention is provided by introduction of concepts in pathology, microbiology and pharmacology/therapeutics, respectively. The goal of _Fundamentals_ is to provide a comprehensive framework upon which advanced knowledge can be added during the remainder of the student’s medical school experience and subsequent clinical practice.
The course focuses on the clinical relevance of basic scientific knowledge and is presented in a multidisciplinary format to foster integration. Diverse educational modalities are used throughout the course, including lectures, small-group sessions, tutorials/self-assessment sessions, student presentations and clinical case discussions, as well as practical learning with laboratory experiences in the related core sciences. Student presentations provide an opportunity to develop communication skills. Student small-group learning experiences develop skills in self-directed and lifelong learning and encourage professional behavior and teamwork in a context that promotes use of resources such as the library and information technology. Patient case discussions provide an opportunity for students to apply the information learned and gain clinical perspective.

_Life Stages_

_Life Stages_ is a four-week course designed to provide a clinical context to the basic aspects of human development and aging. The course targets specific health issues and describes the associated challenges related to these issues for the various stages of life (pediatric, adolescent, adulthood, and geriatric). The curriculum includes topics such as: Growth and Aging, Cognitive and Emotional Development, Sexuality and Hormonal Changes, Reaction to Stresses, Injuries and Safety, Ethical and Moral Issues, Domestic and Institutional Abuse, and Suffering and End of Life. The psychological, economic and socio-cultural dimensions of these life stages and their impact on health are discussed. Since people function in complex and dynamic social units, the course emphasizes the relationships between the life stages.

_Life Stages_ is presented through a variety of formats, including lectures, case studies, active learning groups, laboratory exercises, and self-directed learning. Case vignettes introduce the student to the medical fields of pediatrics, adolescent medicine, internal medicine and geriatrics.
Infectious Diseases

*Infectious Diseases (ID)* is a four-week course that allows students to develop a broad-based understanding of microbiological agents and infectious disease processes. The course advances the general principles of microbiology, immunology, and pharmacology that were previously introduced in the *Fundamentals* course. The *Infectious Diseases* course introduces techniques of diagnostic testing for infectious diseases, advanced study of anti-infective therapy, multi-system infectious processes (such as HIV and Tuberculosis), and infections in special populations and circumstances. Organ system-specific infectious diseases are integrated within each subsequent organ system block to demonstrate the role various infections play in the disruption of the normal anatomy and physiology of that system. The major concepts of infection prevention in local and global systems is developed within the public health modules of *Foundations of Medical Practice* and *Scholar's Workshop*.

*Infectious Diseases* is presented through a variety of formats, including lectures, case studies, active learning groups, laboratory exercises, simulation, clinical experiences, and self-directed learning.

Hematology and Oncology

*Hematology and Oncology* is a five-week course designed to provide comprehensive and multidisciplinary instruction to medical students in the disciplines of Hematology and Oncology. Initially, there is an introduction of the normal structure and function (anatomy and physiology) of the hematopoietic and lymphoreticular systems with advancement of basic concepts previously presented in the *Fundamentals* course. Building on this foundation, students learn about the clinical manifestations and pathophysiology of hematologic disorders that may develop secondary to genetic, metabolic, infectious/inflammatory, idiopathic, or neoplastic etiologies. Application of basic science knowledge and correlation with the clinical presentation of hematologic disorders allows students to solve patient case studies and formulate appropriate treatment regimens. The Oncology component of the module similarly advances basic concepts related to neoplasia previously introduced in the *Fundamentals* course. Discussion of the pathophysiology, clinical manifestations, and
treatment of specific types of neoplasia are integrated into the subsequent organ system courses, to which they correspond.

Hematology and Oncology is delivered through a variety of formats, including lectures, case studies, active learning groups, laboratory exercises, simulation, clinical experiences, and self-directed learning. This course introduces the student to the humanistic approach to patients with chronic debilitating or life-threatening diseases, emphasizing empathy, respect, and a code of medical ethics as it relates to clinical research trials.

Skin and Musculoskeletal System

Skin and Musculoskeletal System (SMS) is an eight-week course designed to provide comprehensive and multidisciplinary instruction to medical students related to the integumentary and musculoskeletal systems. Initially, there is an introduction of the normal structure and function (anatomy and physiology) of these systems with integration of basic science concepts of embryology, genetics and cell/molecular biology. Building on this foundation, students learn about basic repair mechanisms and the clinical manifestations and pathophysiology of common dermatologic and orthopedic problems that may develop secondary to degenerative, metabolic, infectious, traumatic, inflammatory, or neoplastic etiologies. Application of basic science knowledge and correlation with the clinical presentation of dermatologic and musculoskeletal disorders allows students to solve patient case studies and formulate appropriate treatment regimens.

The Skin and Musculoskeletal System course is multidisciplinary and includes faculty participation from the departments of Biomedical Sciences, Orthopedic Surgery, Rheumatology, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, and Dermatology. The subject material is presented through a variety of formats, including lectures, case studies, active learning groups, laboratory exercises, simulation, clinical experiences, and self-directed learning. Students begin instruction in the gross anatomy laboratory during the SMS course.
Year 2 Block Courses

Cardiovascular System

The *Cardiovascular System* course is a five-week course that allows students to develop an understanding of normal and abnormal structure and function of the Cardiovascular system. Students learn normal anatomy, histology, embryology, genetics, physiology, and biochemistry related to the Cardiovascular system. With this foundation, they explore the pathology and pathophysiology of a variety of system diseases in children and adults, using a case-based approach. Students understand the applicability of and gain proficiency with, a variety of diagnostic methods including imaging studies, invasive and non-invasive testing, and blood tests. Students learn relevant therapeutics, including pharmacology.

Learning formats include lectures, laboratory exercises, simulation, active-learning group discussion and self-directed learning using print and electronic texts, and other electronic and internet-based resources.

Pulmonary System

The *Pulmonary System* course is a four-week course that allows students to develop an understanding of normal and abnormal structure and function of the Pulmonary system. Students learn normal anatomy, histology, embryology, genetics, physiology, and biochemistry related to the respiratory system. With this foundation, they explore the pathology and pathophysiology of a variety of system diseases in children and adults, using a case-based approach. Students understand the applicability of, and gain proficiency with, a variety of diagnostic methods, including imaging studies, invasive and non-invasive testing, and blood tests. Students learn relevant therapeutics, including pharmacology.

Learning formats include lectures, laboratory exercises, simulation, active-learning group discussion and self-directed learning using print and electronic texts, and other electronic and internet-based resources.

Endocrine System

The *Endocrine System course* is a three-week course and involves reinforcement and advancement of relevant content from the Fundamentals course, particularly metabolism, receptor biochemistry and physiology, and principles of homeostasis. The remainder of the module focuses on the pathophysiology, clinical manifestations, diagnosis and management of patients with endocrine disorders. Particular emphasis is given to diabetes mellitus.

Learning formats include lectures, laboratory exercises, simulation, case-based active-learning group discussion and self-directed learning using print and electronic texts, and other electronic and internet-based resources.
Gastroenterology (GI)

The Gastroenterology (GI) course is a four-week course. The approach for instruction in this course is to understand the progression from the normal development, structure and function of the cell/tissue/organ to the pathology and pathophysiology of the system diseases. The pathophysiology is related to the clinical manifestations which, in turn, informs the diagnostic approach. Students become familiar with the relevant therapeutics, including pharmacology, interventional endoscopy and transplantation.

Learning formats include lectures, laboratory exercises, simulation, case-based active-learning group discussion and self-directed learning using print and electronic texts, and other electronic and internet-based resources.

Urology and Renal Systems

Urology and Renal Systems (Uro-Renal) is a five-week course designed to introduce students to the normal structure and function, as well as dysfunction, of these related systems. In a variety of instructional formats, students’ knowledge is reinforced and advanced in the relevant concepts of anatomy, histology, embryology, immunology, genetics, physiology, and biochemistry introduced in the Fundamentals course. With that as a foundation, students come to understand the role of the kidney in maintaining the homeostasis of the internal environment, by exploring its role in water and electrolyte metabolism, acid-base regulation, bone and mineral metabolism, blood pressure regulation and hematopoiesis.

Students discover, through carefully designed cases, the pathology and pathophysiology of a variety of important renal diseases, both renal-limited and those associated with systemic conditions. Similarly, they become familiar with the pathology and pathophysiology of disorders of the lower urinary and genital tract, and the impact of those disorders on excretory and sexual function. They have an opportunity to discuss and explore the psychosocial and economic impact of urologic and renal disorders. Students develop an understanding of the applicability and interpretation of the variety of relevant diagnostic methods, including blood and urine biochemistry and microscopy, biopsy, endoscopic procedures and imaging modalities. They become familiar with the range of specific therapeutic options, including medications, surgery, dialysis, transplantation, and prosthetic devices, among others.

Learning formats include lectures, laboratory exercises, simulation, case-based active-learning group discussion and self-directed learning using print and electronic texts, and other electronic and internet-based resources.
Women’s Health

Women’s Health is a four-week course that allows medical students to explore the care of the female patient utilizing a multidisciplinary approach. With the conclusion of this 4-week curriculum, the student is able to manage common women’s health issues with minimal supervision, and understand the appropriate need for the interaction of multiple disciplines to achieve these goals.

The early part of the course is devoted to reinforcement and advancement of relevant content in anatomy, histology, embryology, immunology, genetics, physiology, and biochemistry introduced in the Fundamentals course. Particular emphasis is placed on normal sexual development and reproduction. Students become familiar with the range of relevant diagnostic and therapeutic modalities.

Learning formats include lectures, laboratory exercises, simulation, case-based active-learning group discussion and self-directed learning using print and electronic texts, and other electronic and internet-based resources.

Allergy and Otolaryngology (ENT)

The Allergy-ENT course is a four-week course. The main goal of the course is to ensure that all medical school graduates have a sound understanding of basic principles related to otolaryngology and allergy. The allergy module focuses on reinforcing and advancing the basic science taught in Fundamentals by placing this information in clinical context.

Students become familiar with the skills of history taking and examination of patients as they relate to the specialties of ENT and Allergy. Students learn the indications for, and interpretation of, various relevant diagnostic methods, including blood tests, skin testing, laryngoscopy, tympanometry and audiometry. They become familiar with relevant therapeutics, including pharmacology.

Learning formats include lectures, simulation, case-based active-learning group discussion and self-directed learning using print and electronic texts, and other electronic and internet-based resources.
Neurology-Psychiatry

The neurology-Psychiatry course is a six-week course, which provides students with an introduction to the interrelated fields of Neurology and Psychiatry. Students gain knowledge of neurological and psychiatric disorders and how they impact patients and their support systems. This course introduces students to the humanistic approach to patients with chronic debilitating or life-threatening diseases, emphasizing empathy, respect, and a code of medical ethics.

The foundation is set for exploration of these fields by reinforcing and advancing the relevant anatomy, histology, embryology, immunology, genetics, physiology, and biochemistry introduced in the Fundamentals course. Students learn the pathology and pathophysiology of the spectrum of neurologic and psychiatric diseases, and their clinical manifestations. They have an opportunity to become familiar with the range of applicable diagnostic methods – including specific history-taking and physical exam skills and imaging modalities – and therapeutics. Students learn to formulate a thorough biopsychosocial diagnostic and treatment plan.

Emphasis in the Neurology module is on identification, functional significance and connectivity within the neural system to develop a thorough understanding of the complexity of the nervous system. This is used as a platform to examine the variety of pathology found in the nervous system and reason for its resulting impairment.

Learning formats include lectures, laboratory exercises, simulation, case-based active-learning group discussion and self-directed learning using print and electronic texts, and other electronic and internet-based resources.
Sample Phase 1 Curriculum Week

Below is a sample week of our first year curriculum, highlighting the integration of basic scientific principles, professionalism, and clinical care.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module 2 Fundamentals: Week #5</th>
<th>Monday (9/14)</th>
<th>Tuesday (9/15)</th>
<th>Wednesday (9/16)</th>
<th>Thursday (9/17)</th>
<th>Friday (9/18)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>ALG Case 5</td>
<td>ALG Case 5</td>
<td>ALG Case 5</td>
<td>ALG Case 6</td>
<td>ALG Case 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Lecture 23: Lipids I (Williams) (AUD) (R)</td>
<td>Scholars Workshop: Measure of Central Tendency (MPC) (R)</td>
<td>Lecture 25: Lipids III (Williams) (AUD) (R)</td>
<td>Lecture 27: Carbo II (Phadore) (AUD) (R)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>Lecture 24: Lipids II (Williams) (AUD) (R)</td>
<td>Lecture 26: Carbo I (Phadore) (AUD) (R)</td>
<td>Service Learning</td>
<td>Lunch and Learn Series Challenges of Medical School Curriculum (12:40)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>Lunch and Wellness Activities</td>
<td>Lunch and Wellness Activities</td>
<td>Lunch and Wellness Activities</td>
<td>Lunch and Wellness Activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>Self-Directed Learning</td>
<td>App Session 5B: Imaging I Radiology/X-Ray/CT/Ultrasound (HR) (MPR) (S)</td>
<td>App Session 5C: Imaging II MRT/Jeopardy (HR, PG) (MPR) (R)</td>
<td>Self-Directed Learning</td>
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<td>2:00 PM</td>
<td>Self-Directed Learning</td>
<td>Self-Directed Learning</td>
<td>Self-Directed Learning</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td>Stem for Case 6 Open: at 3pm</td>
<td>Self-Directed Learning</td>
<td>Self-Directed Learning</td>
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<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>Self-Directed Learning or Ambulatory Clerkship</td>
<td>Self-Directed Learning or Ambulatory Clerkship</td>
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<td>Formative Learning Quiz Available Online at 1pm in Quiz Folder</td>
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Phase 2 Course Overview

Year 3

Year 3 of medical school has traditionally consisted of a sequence of individual core clerkships, largely inpatient, within different departments. In designing the M3 curriculum for CMSRU, the Curriculum Committee determined that the curriculum needed to prepare students for the team-based, heavily outpatient practice of health care delivery of the 21st century. The CMSRU M3 curriculum emphasizes continuity of care, continuity of supervision, and integration of content across disciplines.

In the M3 year there is a balance between inpatient block rotations in each of the core clinical disciplines (internal medicine, neurology, obstetrics-gynecology, surgery, pediatrics, and psychiatry) and a fully integrated, year-long, outpatient experience: the Cooper Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship (CLIC). In the CLIC, students are paired with a faculty preceptor in each discipline (adult primary care, neurology, obstetrics-gynecology, surgery, and pediatrics). During each six week block, students spend two weeks in CLIC, establishing a cohort of patients they will care for in continuity. In addition, all students rotate through a concentrated 2-week outpatient block of Family Medicine during the M3 year. Students follow their CLIC patients to consultations with specialists, inpatient admissions for acute care, surgical procedures, child birth, and acute and subacute rehabilitation services.

During inpatient rotations, each student admits acutely-ill patients to the hospital. Students follow these patients during their hospitalization and into the ambulatory setting after discharge. Inpatient teaching rounds incorporate learning in medical imaging and pathology. The didactic curriculum in each discipline is delivered in block rotations. These are supplemented by Transdisciplinary Plenary Sessions every Friday afternoon in which each M3 student presents a patient that have cared for; the student leads a discussion with selected faculty experts on issues germane to the case. These issues may encompass the clinical medicine, underlying biomedical science, social determinants of health or medical ethics.

Clinical faculty preceptors and clerkship directors provide students with regular formative feedback throughout the year. Learners complete a mid-year formative Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) to help them assess and develop their clinical skills, and an end-year summative OSCE to evaluate those skills. Students sit for formative NBME subject examinations at the end of each block to assess the medical knowledge they attained in each discipline and to prepare them for the summative exams at the end of the year.

Students maintain an electronic log of their patient encounters and procedures from both the inpatient and outpatient settings to document fulfillment of their required patient encounters and procedural experiences. CLIC preceptors review each student’s patient encounter and procedure logs on a regular basis throughout the
year and provide guidance on fulfilling the requirements. A mid-year formative CLIC preceptor assessment provides the student with key information for improvement.

NBME subject examinations in all disciplines are administered at the end of the M3 year. Grades for each inpatient clerkship are based on students’ work with their preceptor(s) and their subject examination score. CLIC summative assessments are based on students’ work with their CLIC preceptors, their score on the summative OSCE and their scores on examinations related to the Plenary sessions. Both the CLIC and the inpatient block rotations prepare students well for their USMLE Step 2 CS and CK examinations.

Healer’s Art

Healer’s Art is a five-session M3 elective course, designed to provide support for third year medical students by enabling them to appreciate and preserve the human dimension of health care. It encourages students and faculty to experience a collegial relationship that is nonjudgmental and non-competitive and offers a unique professional support and healing community. Topics for individual sessions include: Learning to Remember Our Wholeness, Sharing Grief and Healing Loss, Beyond Analysis: Allowing Awe in Medicine, and The Care of the Soul: Service as a Way of Life. The Healer’s Art course encourages self-reflection through its highly interactive small and large group formats.

Year 4

Sub-internship

Students are required to have an experience as sub-interns in the discipline of their choice: internal medicine, surgery, vascular surgery, orthopaedic surgery, pediatrics, psychiatry, obstetrics and gynecology, neurology or family medicine. In sub-internships, students serve in the role of a first-year resident, providing patient care under the direct supervision of senior residents and faculty physicians. The sub-internships are four weeks long. They include the following learning objectives:

- Gain sufficient understanding of the evaluation and management of patients [specialty-specific] diseases to enable comprehensive primary management of these conditions.
- Delineate relevant findings in obtaining the history and physical examination of patients with [specialty-specific] disease.
- Deliver relevant, accurate, and succinct oral case presentations.
- Prepare organized, timely, and accurate patient progress notes, including results and interpretation of diagnostic studies.
- Articulate an appropriate differential diagnosis for patients with acute and chronic [specialty-specific] conditions.
Emergency Medicine Clerkship

Emergency Medicine is a required Phase II clerkship spanning four weeks. The students’ clinical encounters are in the emergency department (ED) at CUH, where they see patients presenting with conditions such as abdominal pain, altered mental status, chest pain, dyspnea and headache. Among the objectives for the clerkship are the following:

- Demonstrate skill in completing an appropriately tailored, chief complaint driven history and physical exam in the emergent setting
- Demonstrate the ability to synthesize an appropriate differential diagnosis for some of the most common emergency department complaints (chest pain, shortness of breath, abdominal pain, blunt trauma, atraumatic back pain, laceration repair, and altered mental status)
- Present cases in a clear and concise fashion
- Demonstrate an understanding of the use and interpretation of commonly ordered diagnostic studies
- Develop appropriate case management plans and assist with their implementation
- Demonstrate a basic understanding of the role of emergency ultrasonography in patient care
- Use ED patient care experiences along with appropriate educational resources to improve understanding of emergency medicine
- Work in a multidisciplinary team-based setting to provide timely, efficient, and safe care to patients

Clerkship in Critical Care Medicine or Surgery

This required clerkship is a four-week experience. It introduces the student to the systematic resuscitation, evaluation and management of the critically-ill patient. Students may choose among the Clerkship in Critical Care Medicine, the Clerkship in Critical Care Surgery or the Clerkship in Pediatric Critical Care. These clerkships provide the student with the opportunity to apply knowledge gained in the third year to the clinical management of acutely ill patients in a critical care environment. The student is a member of a critical care team, working with faculty and other care providers. The educational experience includes supervised clinical encounters, didactic lectures, case based learning and self-study.

Interprofessional Care of Patients with Chronic Conditions

Research has shown that the typical medical student graduates without understanding the needs of the patients with chronic conditions. In order to ensure that CMSRU graduates are prepared to provide high-quality, compassionate care to individuals with chronic diseases, we require this 4-week clerkship. Through this clerkship, students identify the common essential elements of high quality care of patients with chronic conditions. Of particular importance in this regard is an appreciation for the multidisciplinary, interprofessional nature of care in a variety of settings. The students spend time in one of six settings: geriatrics, physical medicine and rehabilitation, urban/chronic care, collaborative care/transitions in care, inpatient consultative hematology/oncology, and bariatric surgery. Students participate in weekly “Listen and Learn” sessions, in which they share their insights into processes of care common to all the settings. Some of the overarching goals of this clerkship are:
• Acquire knowledge about the types and cultural context of chronic illness, the cultural factors affecting world view and health care system factors.
• Articulate the roles of the interprofessional team members in the evaluation and management of patients with chronic conditions.
• Acquire the technical skills required to provide care for patients with chronic conditions and identify/differentiate acute illness from “acute-on-chronic” exacerbation in patients with chronic morbidity.
• Act as an interprofessional health care team member for patients, reviewing the care plan with them, and identifying appropriate resources in their follow up care plan.
• Develop the attitudes and values that will foster and support well-coordinated, compassionate, interprofessional, patient-centered care;
• Obtain the foundation for high quality interprofessional care of chronic conditions for advanced study during post-graduate training

Leadership in Community Health

Leadership in Community Health is a required course that may be taken as either a week-long intensive or year-long course during the M4 year. This course builds on the foundations of experiential learning via the Ambulatory Clerkship (service learning + the ambulatory clinic) of the M1 to M3 years. It gives attention to the recognition and analysis of social qualities and characteristics of individual and community environments that can affect health status, health maintenance, treatment, and healing. Through this course, students continue to engage in community-based service as their fieldwork practicum. This service heightens students’ understanding of community need, broadens their awareness of the impact of social complexities on patient care, and encourages them to practice solution-based care to help patients address these issues within the context of their acute or chronic care needs. Analysis in this course considers the student’s cumulative experience across clinical disciplines and settings, patient populations, geography, and health systems. Community-based service experience is augmented by assigned readings and written assignments to lead students towards defined learning objectives. Additionally, for this fourth-year course, the community-based service requirement may occur outside the City of Camden.

Electives

All students are required to complete 20 weeks of electives in the fourth year. There are a variety of electives and formats available at CMSRU for students to pursue their personal interests. A catalog of CMSRU offerings is available for student scheduling at [http://cmsru.rowan.edu/students/visiting_students/visitingfiles/4thYearCourseCatalog.pdf](http://cmsru.rowan.edu/students/visiting_students/visitingfiles/4thYearCourseCatalog.pdf)

Up to 16 of the 20 elective weeks may be taken at “away” locations. A majority of medical schools subscribe to the AAMC’s Visiting Student Learning Opportunities (VSLO) site, and CMSRU students are given access to this service prior to the start of the 4th year. For medical schools that do not use VSLO, CMSRU students must contact the school directly to see the requirements for a visiting rotation. The registrar’s office, M4 coordinator, and M4 curriculum director guide students during this process.
Honor Societies

Gold Humanism Honor Society

The mission of the Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS) is to recognize individuals who are exemplars of humanistic patient care and who can serve as role models, mentors, and leaders in medicine. M3 students will be asked to fill out a Peer Nomination Survey nearing the completion of their third year. For each of the survey questions, students will list three students in their class who best fit the described criteria. The students in the top 25% of the ranked survey results will first be evaluated for academic standing. Only students in good academic standing will be eligible for CMSRU GHHS membership. The GHHS Selection Committee will meet to review, discuss, and select the nominees. The total number of GHHS members selected will be no more than 15% of the medical school class.

Chiron Honor Society

The Chiron Society each year inducts the top 25% of students in the rising M4 class based on cumulative academic performance throughout the M1-M3 years. The society is so-named because in Greek mythology, Chiron was a centaur who was very skilled in the medical arts and was the teacher of Asclepius, the Greek God of Medicine. An image of Chiron adorns the CMSRU gonfalon. Election into the Chiron Society then forms the basis for consideration of induction into AOA.

Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society

AOA is a national honor medical society which was initially established in 1902. Students in the top 25% of the class academically (i.e. those in Chiron) are eligible for consideration for AOA. Of the eligible students only one-sixth of the class (16%) can subsequently be elected into AOA. The numbers are specified by the AOA national constitution. Election into AOA is determined at a yearly meeting of AOA faculty at Cooper, who review all eligible candidates and then vote on them. This process normally takes place in August, after all of the third-year grades are available.
Our Medical Education Facility

It is in the spirit of and driven by the CMSRU mission that the educational facilities for undergraduate medical education have been designed and built. Completed in July of 2012, the primary Medical Education Building (MEB), is a 200,000 sq. ft., six-story building designed to support the innovative curriculum.

There is one large auditorium with a seating capacity of 250. This will is used for lectures and panel discussions that include the entire class or, occasionally, multiple classes. There is also a large multi-purpose room that seats 120 and can be divided into two separate smaller classrooms. On the 4th floor of the MEB is a large, multi-purpose lab (MPL) that is used for didactic and wet-lab sessions.

Integral to the curriculum design are twenty-five active learning rooms (ALRs) which seat ten to twelve and are the “home” for each group of eight or nine students and two faculty facilitators for the first two years of medical education. These rooms are on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th floors of the MEB.

Outside each ALR are ten lockers for the students and faculty assigned to the space. Inside there are additional cabinets for use by the students. These rooms are used for formal educational sessions, small group discussion, and, when formal classes are not scheduled, for quiet individual or small group study.

In addition to the educational spaces, the MEB houses the Dean’s offices and other medical school administrative space on the 3rd floor. The 4th and 5th floors are dedicated research space, with faculty offices, core laboratory and bench research space for CMSRU researchers. Additional teaching and research support facilities are located on the 6th floor.

The Learning Commons is located on the first floor, and provides a casual space for studying, collaboration, and relaxation for students, faculty, and staff. Food service is located immediately adjacent to this area, providing beverages and food. The CMSRU Learning Commons Food and Beverage policy permits the bringing in and consumption of beverages from containers with lids and dry snack food items only. Any other food and beverages are not permitted in the Learning Commons. If a utensil is needed to consume the food it is not permitted in the library. Students may possess closed, concealed lunch bags/containers while utilizing the Learning Commons area, but are encouraged to eat on the second floor breezeway.

Examples of Acceptable Items:
- Beverage containers with lids, including pop-top cans. Lids should be kept on bottles and containers except when drinking.
- Individual “snack size” containers of chips, cookies, candy, and other snack foods; small amounts of finger foods (e.g., pretzels, chips, dried fruits and nuts); candy bars, granola bars, muffins),
power bars, etc.; and other non-messy, individual snack foods.

Examples of Unacceptable Items:
- Beverage containers without lids, such as open topped coffee mugs, disposable coffee cups without lids, and soda cups without lids.
- Food items such as hot entrees, burgers, French fries, pizza, noodles, subs/hoagies, sandwiches, wraps, burritos, tacos, salads, soup, and other hot, fragrant or messy items.
- Any wet food items (such as yogurt, fruit, oatmeal) or strongly scented food items (such as hard boiled eggs, some cheeses).
- As is with all NJ state educational institutions, no alcohol of any type is permitted.
Medical Education Building
Hi-Def SIM Rooms

Laerdal adult

METI HPS

METI child

Gaumard birthing simulator (Noelle)

Laerdal baby

Active Learning Room
Policies Related to Student Affairs

Academic and Career Counseling

PURPOSE: This policy delineates the activities and processes of the CMSRU career guidance system. CMSRU is committed to assisting students in achieving their academic, personal and career goals.

POLICY: Academic and Career Counseling

SCOPE: This policy applies to all medical students.

DEFINITIONS:

MSPE – The Medical School Performance Evaluation (MSPE) is an evaluative tool indicative of a residency program applicant’s entire medical school career created by the applicant’s medical school.

Advisory Colleges – The four academic and career counseling units of CMSRU made up of assigned medical students and directors.

Advisory college directors – A CMSRU faculty member who is neither a course director, an associate dean, nor a departmental chair.

PROCEDURE:

A. Advisory Colleges
   1. Upon acceptance to CMSRU, students will be assigned to one of the four advisory colleges for their four years of school.
   2. The four advisory colleges are overseen by the Office of Student Affairs.
   3. The medical education and student affairs deans are able to address any and all academic and other issues; however, the advisory college system gives students several options for guidance depending on the nature of the issue.
   4. Each advisory college will be assigned an approximately equal number of admitted students. Each student will have an advisory college director who is responsible for overseeing issues related to the students in that college, including:
      - General academic advisement
        - Identification of students in need of tutoring/academic counseling
        - Career counseling
      - Specialty academic advisement
Residency guidance

- Mentoring
  - Peer Advisory Liaison (PAL)
- Psychological Component
  - Stress management
  - Anxiety counseling/management
  - Situational counseling (grief counseling/relationship issues)
  - Prevention of burnout
- Student Oriented Social Activities

5. Students during Orientation are paired with a Peer Advisory Liaison (PAL) (a 2nd year student) who can provide support during transition into each curriculum year; insight into career choices; and assists in stress management, time management, and overall attention to physical and mental well-being.

6. All student PALS are within the same advisory college and serve as student mentors throughout all years creating “families” within each college. In this system an M1 may have the guidance of an M4 as well.

7. Specialty faculty mentors are assigned through the college system and the assistant dean for student affairs at a student’s request.

8. Guidance in choosing intramural and extramural electives will be given by the student’s advisory college director and their specialty advisor.

B. Residency and Career Counseling

Multiple opportunities for students to receive counseling regarding residency and career choices will be provided by the school throughout the students’ medical school experience.

1st and 2nd year

- Through the Careers in Medicine program regular panel presentations featuring physicians of different subspecialties of medicine are made available to all students in Phase I to allow students to explore different career paths.
- Students will be introduced to the AAMC Careers in Medicine database in year one and will be guided through this by their advisory college director.

3rd and 4th year (Phase II)
- Students will work with their advisory college directors to narrow down their career interests and ensure their elective selection is appropriate for the residency they wish to pursue. If the student wishes to develop a relationship with an additional mentor in a particular specialty, the director will help to arrange that.
- Advisory college directors will also work closely with their student to ensure they have appropriate faculty resources to write recommendation letters and help with selection of residency programs to which they apply.
- The deans for medical education and for student affairs will hold 4th year planning meetings throughout the spring term of the M3 year.
- Advisory college directors and the medical education faculty and staff will advise on the selection of residencies and guide the student in evaluating individual programs.
- The Registrar, the assistant dean for student affairs, and their advisory college directors will assist in navigating the ERAS system or other residency application services, where applicable.
- All who advise students will counsel students to consider a sufficient number of residency programs to which to apply and assist in reevaluation of that number based on interviews granted.
- The MSPE will conform to AAMC Guidelines and NRMP requirements (see MSPE Policy).
- Advisory College Directors and the assistant dean for student affairs will assist students in finding residency programs through MATCH and other services, Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program (SOAP) and post-SOAP.
- A resource guide will be provided to all students who do not match to residency and the Office of Student Affairs and advisory college directors will assist the student with career planning.
FERPA: Student Records

PURPOSE: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA – 20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99) is a law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to the all medical education records of students who are or have been in attendance at the CMSRU.

POLICY: Cooper Medical School of Rowan University will comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and all subsequent amendments (FERPA) providing students with the right to inspect and review their education record. CMSRU will respond to student requests to review records within 5 days of the day that CMSRU receives the request and provide guidelines for the correction of records, rather than the 45 day statement within the FERPA act of 1974.

SCOPE: This policy is a summary outlining CMSRU compliance to all provisions of FERPA.

DEFINITIONS:

Educational Records: any records (with limited exceptions), maintained by the institution that is directly related to a student or students. The records can contain a student’s name(s) or information from which an individual student can be personally (individually) identified. Education Records do not include: sole procession notes; law enforcement unit records; records maintained exclusively for individuals in their capacity as employees (individuals who are employed as a result of their status as students, medical & treatment records; and alumni records.)

School Officials: persons employed by the institution in an administrative, supervisory, academic research or support position including law enforcement, health staff personnel, a trustee, outside contractors and persons servicing as a student representative on an official committee (such as disciplinary or grievances committee), or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. School officials may obtain information from a student education records without prior written consent for legitimate educational interest. Legitimate educational interests must demonstrate: need to know by those officials of the institution who act in the student’s educational interest (faculty, administrators, clerical and professional employees, and other persons who manage student information). A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official need to review is in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Directory Information: CMSRU reserves the right to disclose directory information without prior written consent, unless notified in writing to the contrary by a student by the deadline date established by CMSRU. CMSRU has designated the following items as Directory Information: student name, CMSRU- issued identification number, addresses (including electronic), telephone number, date and place of birth, field(s) of study or program(s), participation in officially recognized activities, photographs, enrollment status, dates of attendance, degrees, awards and honors received, previous schools attended, and graduate medical/education placements.
STUDENT RIGHTS AND PROCEDURES:

A. In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and its subsequent amendments (FERPA) current and former CMSRU students have the right to review and inspect their education records within 45 days of the date that CMSRU receives the request for access. CMSRU will respond to requests within 5 days of the date that CMSRU receives the request for access.

B. CMSRU is required by FERPA regulations to provide students with annual notification of their FERPA rights (EXHIBIT A). CMSRU may promulgate, electronically or in a hard copy format, an annual notification in such publications as school bulletins or student handbooks, or in separate statements in registration or orientation packets, or on a web site.

C. Access to Education Records

1. Procedure to Inspect Education Records
   a. Students may inspect and review their educational records upon request to CMSRU. Students shall submit to CMSRU a written request to the registrar that identifies as precisely as possible the record or records s/he wishes to inspect.
   b. CMSRU will make the needed arrangements for timely access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. Access must be given within 45 days from the receipt of the request.
   c. When a record contains information about more than one student, the student may inspect and review only the records that relate to him/her. Review of records may take place only under the supervision of the CMSRU registrar or an administrative representative from the Office of Student Affairs or the Office of Medical Education.

2. Right of CMSRU to Refuse Access. CMSRU reserves the right to refuse to permit a student to inspect the following records:
   a. the financial statement of the student’s parents;
   b. letters and statements of recommendation for which the student has waived his or her right of access, or which were placed in a student file before January 1, 1975;
   c. records which are part of a previous application to CMSRU if that application was unsuccessful and the student subsequently applies and is admitted;
   d. those records that are excluded from the FERPA definition of education records.

3. Right to Obtain Copies of Education Records
   a. With the exceptions listed below, a student may obtain copies of their education records from the CMSRU registrar upon submission of a written request and payment of a standard fee to cover duplication, reasonable labor costs and postage, if applicable.
   b. CMSRU reserves the right to deny copies of transcripts or education records in the following situations:
      • the student has an unpaid financial obligation to CMSRU; or
      • there is an unresolved disciplinary action against the student.
D. Disclosure of Education Records

CMSRU may disclose information from a student's educational records only with the written consent of the student, except:

1. to those CMSRU officials who have a legitimate educational interest in the records;
2. upon request, to officials of non-CMSRU schools in which a student is enrolled or seeks or intends to enroll, or with which CMSRU has an academic or clinical affiliation. Such officials must have a legitimate educational interest;
3. to the comptroller of the United States, the secretary of the U.S. Department of Education, state and local educational authorities or to the attorney general of the United States, when the attorney general of the United States seeks disclosures in connection with the investigation or enforcement of federal legal requirements applicable to federally supported education programs;
4. in connection with a student's request for or receipt of financial aid, as necessary to determine the eligibility, amount or condition of the financial aid or scholarship, or to enforce the terms and conditions of the aid or scholarship; if required by a state law requiring disclosure that was adopted before November 19, 1974;
5. to organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of CMSRU;
6. to accrediting organizations to carry out their functions;
7. at the discretion of CMSRU officials, to parents of an eligible student who claim the student as a dependent for income tax purposes;
8. to comply with a judicial order or a lawfully issued subpoena, provided that CMSRU makes a reasonable effort to notify the student of the order or subpoena in advance of compliance, when the order or subpoena does not prohibit such notification;
9. to appropriate parties in a health or safety emergency;
10. to an alleged victim of any crime of violence or sex offense, the results (if the results were reached on or after October 7, 1998) of any University disciplinary proceeding against the alleged perpetrator with respect to that offense. Disclosure under this section shall include only final results of disciplinary proceedings within CMSRU, limited to the student’s name, the violation committed and the sanction imposed. Disclosure of final results pursuant to this section may be made regardless of whether CMSRU determined that a violation has occurred. CMSRU may not disclose the name of any other student, including a victim or witness, without the prior written consent of the other student;
11. to parents of students aged 18-21 who have been determined by CMSRU to have violated any CMSRU policy governing the use or possession of alcohol or a controlled substance, or who have violated federal, state or local law governing such use or possession;
12. to a court, with or without a court order or subpoena, education records that are relevant for the University to defend itself in legal action brought by a parent or student, or education records that are relevant for CMSRU to proceed with a legal action CMSRU initiated against a parent or student;
13. to a court when relevant for CMSRU to proceed with legal action which involves CMSRU and the student as parties.
E. Record of Requests for Disclosure of Education Records

The registrar at CMSRU will maintain a record of all requests for and/or disclosures of information from a student's education records made by individuals not associated with CMSRU. The record of requests for educational records will indicate the name of the party making the request and the legitimate interest the party had in requesting or obtaining the information. Such listing of those given access to a student's record may be reviewed by the eligible student.

F. Corrections/Challenges to Content of Education Records

1. A student has a right to a hearing to challenge education records which the student believes are inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student, but a student does not have a right to a hearing on matters of academic judgment.

2. Following are the procedures for the correction of education records:
   a. The student clearly identifies the part of the education record they want changed and specifies their reasons why it is inaccurate or misleading.
   b. If a satisfactory solution of an issue cannot be reached informally, CMSRU must hold a hearing within 60 days after receiving a student's written request for such a hearing. The hearing shall be before a University official, designated by the associate dean for student affairs or designee.
   c. A CMSRU official will prepare a written decision based solely on the evidence presented at the hearing within 21 days of such hearing. The decision will include a summary of the evidence presented and the reasons for the decision.
   d. If CMSRU decides that the challenged information is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student's right of privacy, it will amend the record and notify the student, in writing that the record has been amended.
   e. If CMSRU decides that the challenged information is not inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student's right of privacy, it will notify the student that they have a right to place in their education record a statement commenting on the challenged information and/or a statement setting forth reasons for disagreeing with the decision; the student’s statement will be maintained as part of the student's education records as long as the contested portion is maintained. If CMSRU discloses the contested portion of the record, it must also disclose the student’s statement.

G. Questions about FERPA and this policy concerning the release of student information should be directed to the Office of the Registrar.

H. Students have a right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by CMSRU to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:
REFERENCES:

http://www.rowan.edu/provost/registrar/ferpa.html

FERPA Information for Faculty and Staff
As a CMSRU faculty and or staff member, you may have access to student records, provided you have a legitimate need to review records to fulfill your job requirements. A faculty and staff member granted access to the Banner Student Information System must complete FERPA training before given access and assume full responsibility for protecting the confidentiality of records.

Faculty and staff members who do not have access to the Banner Student Information System and need documents from student confidential files to fulfill official duties must submit a request in writing to the registrar clearly defining the purpose of the request.

Who can release student information?
An institution may disclose personally identifiable information without the student's written consent to "school officials" whom the institution has determined to have a "legitimate educational interest."

Obligation to release record information
An institution is not obligated to release directory information to anyone. FERPA only says that an institution MAY release information, but there is no obligation to do so. When in doubt, do not release information.

Student workers
FERPA does not preclude an institution from identifying students as "school officials" with a "legitimate educational interest' for specific purposes. The same requirements and responsibilities for a full-time school official exist for student workers. The student workers must be trained on FERPA just as if they were faculty or staff.

Subpoenas
At Rowan, all subpoenas are first reviewed by the Office of General Counsel to determine the appropriate course of action.
Crisis situations/Emergencies
If non-directory information is needed to resolve a crisis or emergency situation, an education institution may release that information if the institution determines that the information is "necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals." Factors to be considered or questions to be asked in making a decision to release such information in these situations are: (1) the severity of the threat to the health or safety of those involved; (2) the need for the information; (3) the time required to deal with the emergency; (4) the ability of the parties to whom the information is to be given to deal with the emergency.

Who to contact with questions/concerns
Registrar
Cooper Medical School of Rowan University 401
Broadway
Camden, NJ 08103
Phone: 856-361-2886
Fax: 856-361-2828

General questions may also be directed to the Office of the Registrar, as appropriate. Comments or suggestions should be addressed to the Rowan University Registrar's Office, registrar@rowan.edu, (856) 361-2828.

FERPA waivers should be accepted only in the form of original, signed hard copies. Scanned versions may be submitted directly by attorneys but should not be accepted from other parties.

FERPA waivers provided to faculty, advisors, and other academic or professional staff should be forwarded to General Counsel.

On-Line Training for Faculty and Staff:
http://www.rowan.edu/provost/registrar/facultypasswordforms/FERPA%20Training.ppt%20Sept%202013%20Wheatcroft.ppt
Graduation Policy

POLICY: Graduation at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) is considered to be the successful completion of all academic requirements of the medical education program and compliance with the professional standards of CMSRU.

PURPOSE: This policy outlines requirements for students to graduate.

SCOPE: This policy applies to students in their final year of matriculation at CMSRU who are in good standing as certified by the Academic Standing Committee (ASC).

PROCEDURE:

Course Requirements and Sequencing

- Standard Four Year Curriculum
  - All required courses of all curricular years, including the required number of elective weeks, must be completed satisfactorily in the prescribed sequence before a student can be certified for graduation. Students who perform scholarly work or enroll in dual degree programs (e.g., MD/PhD) may extend the degree completion limit from six distinct academic years to ten distinct academic years upon the recommendation of the Academic Standing Committee to the Dean. Any requests to extend the academic program beyond the time limits noted above and for any reason, must be recommended by the Academic Standing Committee and approved by the Dean or designee. Appeals of these decisions may be made to the Ad Hoc Committee for Student Appeals.

- Accelerated Three Year Curriculum (PC3)
  - The curriculum of this program is divided in three curricular years that must be completed in the prescribed sequence. All required courses of this curricular track must be completed satisfactorily before a student may be certified for graduation.

- Students must be in good standing to graduate. If a student is in the probationary process or is on probation they are not qualified to graduate.

- If a student is on probation they will not be permitted to graduate until:
  - All the probationary conditions are satisfactorily met and
  - The student is removed from probation and
  - The student is approved to graduate by the ASC and the executive council of chairs

Application Requirements

Students must complete the Rowan University online graduation application by the prescribed deadline in order to be reviewed for graduation and, if approved, awarded a medical degree. The application can be accessed through Self-Service Banner (SSB) (via www.rowan.edu/selfservice) and then by selecting “Apply
to Graduate.” Submitting an online application will trigger a graduation application fee to be billed to a respective student’s Rowan University account shortly after submission.

Commencement Participation
At Rowan, the meaning of “commencement” is different from graduation. Commencement is facilitated as individual program/college ceremonies to honor students completing graduation requirements, occurring annually in May. Students who have completed their degree/program are invited to participate.

Students will be permitted to participate in the Convocation and Commencement ceremonies in May if it is anticipated that they will complete their degree requirements by May 30th. Students who are participating in the PC3 curriculum and expected to graduate in mid-June may participate in the Convocation and Commencement.

Graduating fourth year medical students are required to return their Cooper University Health Care and CMSRU badges, as well as their rented Commencement Regalia. If these items are not returned as requested, a restriction (hold) will be placed on the student’s account which would delay receipt of the Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) diploma and transcript until these requirements are satisfied.

Graduation Dates
The Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) degree is typically awarded in May after completion of the final curricular year. CMSRU confers degrees in May of every academic year. Under the egis of Rowan University, CMSRU abides by the Rowan University standard graduation dates, which include:

- May 30
- August 30
- December 30

All students enrolled in the PC3 program will follow all guidelines above for course requirements and sequencing and will graduate in mid-June.

Alternate Graduation Dates
A student who will complete all of their degree requirements after the month of May can be awarded the M.D. degree at a later time in limited, special circumstances and as approved by the ASC and the CMSRU Dean. If granted approval, students may graduate in August or December.

In limited circumstances, students, in their final year of matriculation, may need to extend their expected date of graduation. Students will remain active in the Rowan University system up to 18 months after their expected graduation date. No medical degree will be conferred more than 18 months past the student’s expected graduation date, determined in the student’s fourth and final year, unless the student is on a medical leave of absence. If the student does not meet all requirements for graduation within this 18 month period, the student will no longer be eligible to receive the CMSRU Medical Degree (M.D.)
Awarding a Medical Degree Posthumously

Cooper Medical School of Rowan University seeks to recognize the academic achievements of its students. This policy establishes guidelines for the posthumous awarding of a M.D. degree in the event a student dies before completing all of the requirements for the M.D. degree.

Consideration is given to academic and institutional integrity according to the following criteria:

- The student was enrolled in the second half of their final year of study at CMSRU at the time of death.
- The student successfully completed the core clinical rotations.
- The student was in good standing and would likely have completed all of the degree requirements had they not died.
Honor Code

PURPOSE: This code of behavior is designed to assist in the personal, intellectual and professional development of the medical student on the journey to becoming a physician and member of the medical community. All members of the medical community must be accountable to themselves and others.

POLICY: Honor Code

SCOPE: This policy applies to all CMSRU medical students and visiting medical students.

DEFINITIONS: The objective of the Honor Code is to foster an environment of trust, responsibility, and professionalism among students and between students and faculty. Its fundamental goals are to promote ethical behavior, to ensure the integrity of the academic enterprise, and to develop in students a sense of responsibility to maintain the honor of the medical profession.

PROCEDURE: Students will abide by the CMSRU Honor Code which aims to foster an atmosphere of ethical and responsible behavior and to reinforce the importance of honesty and integrity in the examination process and throughout the medical school experience.

Student Responsibilities

Students will not:

- Give or receive aid during an examination.
- Give or receive unpermitted aid in assignments.
- Plagiarize any source in the preparation of academic papers or clinical presentations.
- Falsify any clinical report or experimental results.
- Infringe upon the rights of any other students to fair and equal access to educational materials.
- Violate any other commonly understood principles of academic honesty.
- Lie

No code can explicitly enumerate all conceivable instances of prohibited conduct. In situations where the boundaries of proper conduct are unclear, the student has the responsibility to seek clarification from the Office of Student Affairs and or the Office of Medical Education.

Each student has the responsibility to participate in the enforcement of this Code. Failure to take appropriate action is in itself a violation of the Code.

The student must agree to participate in the enforcement of this Honor Code, and prior to matriculation, must sign a statement agreeing to uphold its principles while enrolled at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University.
Preferred Names

A preferred name is the name by which a person wishes to be known because it affirms the individual’s gender, culture, and other aspects of social identity. CMSRU recognizes that many individuals are known by a name other than their legal name due to gender identity, cultural background, or other aspects of their social or personal identity and adheres to Rowan University’s Preferred Name Policy.

Students, staff, and faculty who wish to have their preferred name recognized in the Rowan University system will follow the procedure outlined in the University’s Preferred Name Policy.

Rowan University’s Preferred Name Policy can be found online at: https://confluence.rowan.edu/display/POLICY/Preferred+Name+Policy
**Professional Appearance**

**PURPOSE:** This policy is part of the overall emphasis on the importance of professionalism and defines appropriate attire and appearance within that context.

**POLICY:** Professional Appearance

**SCOPE:** This policy applies to all CMSRU medical students and visiting medical students.

**PROCEDURE:** This policy is based upon safety, concern for the patient, respect for others, an awareness of cultural competence, and the central importance of professionalism in medicine. Recent trends in clothing, body art, and body piercing may not be generally accepted by your patients, and should not be worn by medical students. Clothing should be clean and neatly pressed. Note that CMSRU ID badges are to be worn at all times.

The following will outline the expectations of CMSRU in matters of professional appearance:

**Phase I** - During most of the first two years of the curriculum, students will spend their time in lectures and small group activities where attire should be comfortable, neat and not distracting. Avoid dress or attire that could be perceived as offensive to others. During the WOW weeks, Ambulatory Clerkship, and when interfacing with patients at any CHS facility students must follow the Dress Code Policy of Cooper University Health Care stated below.

**Phase II** - During the last two years, all students will adhere to the Dress Code Policy of Cooper University Health Care (8.604 Employee Relations-Employee Dress Code):

**POLICY:** It is the policy of Cooper University Health Care to establish standards of dress, grooming and appearance. Personal appearance should reflect a neat, professional, businesslike image and should be appropriate for the student's work situation. While Cooper understands that dress and appearance are often a matter of personal taste, Cooper must be mindful of patient and student safety as well as Cooper’s professional image. Therefore, Cooper maintains the right to establish and enforce standards of dress, grooming and appearance as dictated by business need, interactions with customers and other visitors. In addition to the traditional work setting, this policy applies to work related functions and events, such as education programs and job fairs that a student attends as a representative of CMSRU.

**PURPOSE:** To set forth the standards of appropriate dress, grooming, and appearance for students.

**PROCEDURE:** Dress code guidelines may vary by department, job function and location. Department dress codes may be more restrictive. Cooper recognizes three (3) types of dress: business, business casual and uniforms. Management at all times reserves the right to take appropriate action toward any employee whose grooming or dress violates the letter or the spirit of this policy. Students who are inappropriately dressed will be sent home and directed to return in proper attire. Under such circumstances disciplinary action may be taken.
A. General Guidelines

1. The Cooper identification badge is required to be worn at collar level with student name and photo facing forward and clearly visible at all times while working at any Cooper location. Badges must be free of obstacles so patients and others can view the student’s picture, name and job title. Lanyards should not be used unless they have a mechanism to “break” in the back in the case of a safety issue. Lanyards must hang to allow visibility of the badge in the upper chest area. Lanyards that are longer than upper chest area are not permitted. When off duty, the ID badge cannot be worn at any Cooper location unless the student is in compliance with the dress code.

2. All clothing should fit properly. Garments cannot be transparent, low cut at the neckline, or form fitting. Clothing should not be unduly revealing or cause distracting or disruptive attention or reaction on the part of others.

3. Dresses and skirts cannot be excessively short, no more than 4 inches above the knee. Dress/skirt slits must not be excessive.

4. Shirts/Blouses with lettering or graphics that advertise or promote a product or service or causes distracting attention or reaction on the part of others will not be permitted. Only shirts/blouses with Cooper logo or approved graphics or lettering are permitted.

5. Shoes must conform to safety and infection control standards by providing safe footing, protection against hazards, and be quiet for the comfort of patients. Examples of inappropriate footwear: canvas tennis shoes, sandals (i.e. open shoes with straps including heels and flats), swim or beachwear, and shoe covers. Leather sneakers may be worn only in direct patient care areas. Socks or stockings must be worn in areas where we deliver direct patient care. Footwear must be clean, polished and in good repair. Color and style of the shoes should be professional (neutral and/or in coordination with clothing). In patient care areas, including ambulatory sites, open-toe shoes are not acceptable. In non-patient care business areas, open-toe business style shoes are acceptable.

6. Hair, including facial hair, must be clean, neat, professional, and maintained in a manner that does not interfere with patient safety, infection control or equipment operation. Hair that is extreme or unnatural in appearance, style or color shall not be permitted. For purposes of safety, infection control, operation of equipment and personal protective equipment, facial hair must be of a reasonable length to enable the performance of job functions.

7. Fingernails must be clean. For purposes of safety, infection control, and operation of equipment, fingernails must be of a reasonable length for the performance of job functions. Students having direct hands-on patient care may not have fingernails in excess of ¼ inch in length and may not wear artificial fingernails, which is inclusive of gel nail polish, wraps, acrylics, silks, etc.

8. Tattoos must be modest and may need to be covered while at work in a manner that does not
interfere with patient safety, infection control or equipment operation. Tattoos shall be prohibited if they contain nudity, foul language, gang symbols, convey an expression of hate, violate Cooper’s Harassment-Free Workplace Policy and/or are inconsistent with a professional environment.

9. Earrings can be worn on the ears and generally should be no larger than one inch in diameter. Ear piercing will be limited to a maximum of three (3) earrings per ear. Nose jewelry is discouraged and if worn, must be limited to one small stud no larger than three (3) millimeters in diameter. Pierced jewelry and rings are not permitted on any other visible body part (including but not limited to, eyebrows, lip and tongue). No ear gauges/expanders permitted.

10. Jewelry will be professional and kept to a minimum. Loose fitting jewelry that potentially poses safety issues is not permitted.

11. The wearing of Cooper issued buttons or pins on a uniform is to be kept to a minimum and cannot be attached to or conceal the Cooper identification badge.

12. Fragrances, perfumes, colognes, hair sprays, etc. should be kept to a minimum and may be prohibited if they pose a health concern to others.

13. Head coverings (hats, caps, scarves, etc.) may be worn as part of the uniform when authorized or when required by specific department standards or when required for safety or hygienic conditions. Students whose religious, cultural or ethnic beliefs require head covering, or students who have special needs, may request an exemption and such request will be given consideration for reasonable accommodation.

14. Sunglasses may not be worn indoors unless medically necessary.

15. The following are not considered appropriate dress:
   a. Denim clothing of all colors
   b. All types of shorts
   c. Leggings/Spandex pants (unless worn under an appropriate dress)
   d. Sweat jacket, pants, hoodie
   e. Sweat shirts
   f. Fleece jackets
   g. Athletic clothing
   h. Miniskirts
   i. Beachwear
   j. T-shirts
   k. Tank tops or spaghetti strap shirts
   l. Flashy, “loud” clothing
   m. Lingerie-like clothing
n. Flip-flops/thong shoes
o. Pool shoes

16. Students who require accommodation for medical or religious reasons should the Office of Student Affairs.

B. Guidelines for students who provide direct patient care, have direct patient contact or who work in patient care areas:
   1. Open toe shoes are not permitted. Heels must be of a reasonable height to perform assigned duties. Footwear is of sturdy construction, well fitted and maintained in good repair. Flexible, non-slip soles are recommended in work locations where use of liquids may increase the risk of falls.
   2. Sleeveless shirts, blouses, and dresses are not permitted unless covered by a jacket or sweater.
   3. Stockings or socks must be worn.
   4. The length of pants/trousers must extend to the ankle.
   5. When clothing is soiled with blood or body fluids, the clothes must be changed as soon as possible.

C. Types of dress
   1. Business Attire
      In order to meet the expectations of patients and their families, Cooper must project a professional, business-like image. Therefore, business attire is expected to be worn except where department specific dress requirements, casual business attire or uniforms apply as outlined in sections 2 and 3 below. Business attire includes such clothing as suits, ties, dresses, dress skirts and dress pants.
   2. Business Casual Attire
      A more casual or relaxed dress code will be permitted during the summer and on Fridays. Business casual attire must still follow the guidelines outlined above and must be appropriate.
   3. Uniforms
      Uniforms may be required in specific areas. They will constitute regular business attire when approved by management. Students should consult with their individual department director for specific guidelines on uniforms. Scrub uniforms may be worn with departmental approval. Denim like scrubs are not permitted. Uniforms owned by Cooper must be returned upon separation of employment.
Professional Conduct

PURPOSE: This policy is applied to student conduct relating to professional behavior in all areas and at all times while the student is enrolled at CMSRU. It is expected that every student will follow the tenets of professional behavior both in and out of the classroom. Professionalism is one of the CMSRU Core Competencies for students. It is also a code of behavior.

POLICY: Professional Conduct Policy

SCOPE: Candidates for the Doctor of Medicine degree

DEFINITIONS:

Professionalism is broadly defined. It is expected that the tenets of professionalism will be applied beyond the elements of the curriculum. It is expected to be a way of life for the health care professional. Student behavior and actions that are considered unethical, unprofessional, or illegal will be considered by CMSRU in the overall evaluation and promotion of a student.

Core Competency: Professionalism: (as addressed and assessed within the curriculum)
Students will demonstrate a commitment to the profession of medicine and its ethical principles.

- Demonstrate humanism, compassion, integrity, and respect for others
- Demonstrate a respect for patient confidentiality and autonomy
- Show responsiveness and personal accountability to patients, society and the practice of medicine
- Demonstrate the ability to respond to patient needs superseding self-interest
- Demonstrate sensitivity to broadly diverse patient populations
- Demonstrate the ability to recognize personal limitations and biases; know when and how to ask for help and do so effectively
- Demonstrate the ability to effectively advocate for the health and the needs of the patient
- Show an understanding of the principles of medical ethics
- Demonstrate the ability to recognize and address disparities in health care

Professionalism Intervention Reports
Professionalism is assessed in all four years of the medical education program. Accordingly, course and clerkship directors will evaluate each student’s professional attitudes and behaviors. Anyone may submit a written report describing any incident that might reflect either an unprofessional action (s) or behavior or exceptional professionalism. A copy of the report forms are available in the student handbook.
Professionalism Report for Exemplary Behavior
This form may be filed by anyone, including another student, when an incident of exemplary professional behavior is noted involving a CMSRU student.

Hearing Body for Student Rights
Hearing Body for Student Rights, a standing committee of CMSRU, will hear matters of dispute regarding professionalism that is unrelated to a course or clerkship, upon referral from the director of professionalism. The committee consists of ten members. Three members are appointed from the faculty; three members are appointed by the dean. One M2 student representing Phase 1 and one M3 student representing Phase 2, shall be elected by their peers; an M2 student shall be elected annually; the M4 president of student government shall serve as a member; the CMSRU Ombudsperson and one member of the Office of Student Affairs are appointed by the Dean and shall serve ex-officio. The term of office shall be three years, with elected faculty serving a maximum of two consecutive terms; student members will serve a maximum term of two years. The SGA president serves a term of one year. The Chair is appointed by the Dean.

GUIDELINES:
• By enrolling in CMSRU, a student accepts the professional standards of the school at all times.
• Each student must demonstrate appropriate standards of professional and ethical conduct, attitudes, and moral and personal attributes deemed necessary for the practice of medicine.
• These behavior traits include, but are not limited to: honesty; integrity; willingness to assume responsibility; strong interpersonal skills; compassion; good judgment; the absence of chemical dependency; and appropriate social, moral and personal behavior.
• Failure to meet these standards and requirements may cause CMSRU to impose sanctions that may include, but are not limited to mandatory counseling, expulsion, disciplinary suspension, or lesser sanctions.
• Students may face disciplinary action by CMSRU if they abuse alcohol or drugs, consume illegal substances, or possess, distribute or sell illegal substances.
• Students involved in criminal matters before local, state, or federal courts may be found to be unfit for the medical profession and be expelled by CMSRU or face lesser disciplinary sanctions.
• Students are expected to comply with the laws of the United States, the State of New Jersey, county, and city ordinances and the lawful direction and orders of the officers, faculty and staff of CMSRU who are charged with the administration of institutional affairs.

PROCEDURE:
• Issues related to professionalism that relate to a course or clerkship are managed as per the Grading, Promotions and Appeals Policy (GPA).
• Issues related to professionalism that occur outside of the curriculum that are unrelated to a course or clerkship include but are not limited to:
  o Unprofessional behavior at a CMSRU sponsored social event or activity
  o Student to student mistreatment at social events or outside of CMSRU
Vandalism or theft of CMSRU/Cooper University HealthCare (CUHC) property or at an affiliate hospital, physician practice or ambulatory clinic

- Issues related to professionalism that occur outside of the curriculum, including the filing of a Professionalism Intervention Report for Breach of Professional Conduct that is unrelated to a course or clerkship, will be managed as follows:
  o All matters will be reported to the Chief Student Affairs Officer (CSAO).
  o The CSAO will counsel the student and may refer the issue to the director of professionalism.
  o If the issue is referred to the director of professionalism, the student will be notified and a meeting will be scheduled with the student by the director of professionalism.
  o The director of professionalism will investigate the issue and may provide a decision/remediation plan to the student directly. Remediation plans of the director of professionalism are not appealable.
  o The director of professionalism may recommend to the Dean or designee that a student be placed on immediate leave for an issue related to professional behavior pending further investigation.
  o Depending on the severity and nature of the issue, the issue may be referred to the Academic Standing Committee (ASC) (Refer to GPA Policy: Probation – Non-Academic).

- If a student objects to the decision of the director of professionalism surrounding an issue that has been determined as not rectifiable by a remediation plan, or that has not been referred to the ASC, the student may appeal the decision to the Hearing Body for Student Rights. This request is made through the director of professionalism.
  o The Hearing Body for Student Rights will be convened at the request of the director of professionalism.
  o The student shall be given at least 72 hours’ notice of the time and place of the committee’s hearing.
  o At the discretion of the student making the appeal, one individual may accompany the student during the hearing in the capacity of advisor and/or advocate.
  o The advisor/advocate does not have “voice” at the hearing. All other advocacy efforts must be in the form of written communications to the committee, and must be received by the committee no later than 24 hours preceding the time scheduled for the start of the appeals hearing.
  o The chairperson will communicate the advice of the Hearing Body for Student Rights to the director of professionalism and the Dean within 10 working days.
  o If the recommendation of the Hearing Body for Student Rights is dismissal, the student will be referred to the ASC.
  o The director of professionalism will communicate the final decision to the student and carry out the conditions set forth by the Hearing Body for Student Rights, unless there is a student appeal.
Request for appeal of decision of the Hearing Body for Student Rights:

- A student may appeal the decision of the Hearing Body for Student Rights by requesting that the director of professionalism convene an Ad Hoc Committee for Student Appeals. The appeal is made through the assistant dean for student affairs. The process is monitored and documented by the CSAO.
- The director of professionalism convenes an Ad Hoc Committee for Student Appeals that shall be comprised of five members of the faculty who are not members of the Hearing Body for Student Rights, the Academic Standing Committee or the Advisory College Directors. The committee chair will be chosen from among the Ad Hoc Committee for Student Appeals committee members.
- The Ad Hoc Committee for Student Appeals shall hear the appeal and provide a decision to the director of professionalism and the Dean within ten working days of receiving written notice of intent to appeal.
- The student shall be given at least 72 hours’ notice of the time and place of the Ad Hoc committee’s hearing.
- At the discretion of the student making the appeal, one individual may accompany them during the hearing in the capacity of advisor and/or advocate. The advisor/advocate does not have “voice” at the hearing. All other advocacy efforts must be in the form of written communications to the committee, and must be received by the committee not later than 24 hours preceding the time scheduled for the start of the appeals hearing.
- The advice of the ad hoc committee shall be communicated verbally and in writing to the director of professionalism and the Dean and will be final. The director of professionalism shall communicate the final decision to the student.
Recording Room Policy

PURPOSE:
Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) offers a wide array of computing, networking, and instructional resources and services designed to enable high-quality services and maximize productivity while protecting the rights of all members of the community. The recording room located in Room 419, supports teaching and learning at the Cooper Medical School of Rowan University. This policy outlines procedures and responsibilities of those who use computing and instructional facilities or support at CMSRU.

POLICY: CMSRU Recording Room Policy (Room 419).

SCOPE: Under the direction of the President, the Chief Information Officer and the University's Director of Information Security shall implement and ensure compliance with this policy. The Executive Vice President for Administration and Strategic Advancement, Provost, Vice Presidents, Deans, and other members of management will comply with this policy. Direct implementation will be enforced by the CMSRU Director of Information Technology.

PROCEDURE:
1. No food or beverages are permitted.
2. The recording room is reserved for faculty/academic use only.
3. Room reservations will be given priority to course related requests such as lecture recordings.
4. Room reservations request must be made with CMSRU IT.
5. Technical support is provided by CMSRU IT.
6. Replacement and upkeep of all IT/AV equipment will be facilitated by CMSRU IT.
Religious Observances

PURPOSE: CMSRU respects the diversity of faiths and spiritual practices in its community and recognizes the right for students to observe religious holidays.

POLICY: Religious Observances

SCOPE: This policy applies to all CMSRU medical students and visiting medical students.

DEFINITIONS: Observance in this policy means a student being absent from a CMSRU class/activity in order to observe a religious holiday.

PROCEDURE:

CMSRU recognizes and respects the religious beliefs and practices of its students and seeks to accommodate them reasonably within the requirements of the academic schedule. As a result, CMSRU will not penalize a student who must be absent from a class, examination, study or work requirement for a religious observance. Students who anticipate being absent because of a religious observance must, as early as possible and in advance of an anticipated absence of a day, days or portion of a day, inform their course/clerkship director, preceptor, education coordinator and chief student affairs officer as soon as possible, but not less than seven days prior to the scheduled day of observance. CMSRU recognizes that travel intended for religious observances may be required in limited circumstances. Excused absences for travel related to a religious observance will be evaluated on a case by case basis by the chief student affairs officer or designee.

Whenever feasible, faculty should avoid scheduling examinations and assignment deadlines on religious holidays. A student absent from a class because of religious observance shall not be penalized for any class, examination, or assignment deadline missed on that day or days and a reasonable accommodation shall be made. In the event an examination or assignment deadline is scheduled on a day of religious observance, a student unable to attend class shall be permitted to make up an examination or to extend any assignment deadline missed. No adverse or prejudicial effect shall result to any student who takes advantage of the provisions of this policy.

If a student believes that he or she is not being granted the full benefits of the policy, and has not been successful resolving the matter with the course director, the student may confer with the assistant dean of student affairs. For your convenience, please follow the link to an interfaith calendar of religious holidays:
http://www.interfaith-calendar.org/
Smoking

PURPOSE: To establish rules which prohibit tobacco smoking in the workplace.

POLICY: CMSRU, in compliance with PL 1981, Chapter 320, and consistent with the policy of Rowan University, bans smoking inside and within 50 feet of all academic, residential, service and administrative buildings on campus.

SCOPE: This policy applies to all CMSRU medical students, visiting medical students, faculty and staff.

DEFINITIONS: Under PL 1981, Chapter 320, smoking is the burning of a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe, or any other matter or substance which contains tobacco.

PROCEDURE: New Jersey statutes state that the right of the non-smoker to breathe clean air supersedes the right of the smoker to smoke. CMSRU has adopted a policy to ban smoking inside and within 50 feet of all academic, residential, service and administrative buildings on campus.
Social Media Policy

PURPOSE: This policy sets forth the acceptable uses regarding the access and use of social media for University-affiliated communications. It also includes professionalism requirements for CMSRU medical students who, as medical professionals in training, must uphold the highest standards of the medical profession and protect the privacy and confidentiality of patients.

ACCOUNTABILITY: Under the direction of the Vice President for Student Affairs, Social Media Officials and other University officials shall implement and ensure compliance with this policy.

APPLICABILITY: This policy applies to all members of the University community who use social media for University-affiliated communication and those who use the University name in association with social media accounts.

DEFINITIONS

1. See Attachment 1 - Definitions

REFERENCES

1. See Attachment 2 - References

POLICY

1. The University expects members of the University community will access and use social media in a manner that:

   a. Does not compromise the confidentiality, integrity, or accessibility of those assets; and

   b. Complies with all applicable University policies, procedures, and guidelines and is in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations governing the use of computers and the Internet; and

   c. Protects the University’s reputation and promotes its educational mission; and

   d. Conforms to all policies and procedures set forth by the University. Nothing in this policy supersedes standards set forth by Information Resources & Technology, the Department of Public Safety, the Office of Emergency Management, and Student Life/Student Affairs; and

   e. Recognizes the rights of the members of the University community guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States and the State of New Jersey, including but not limited to freedom of speech, inquiry, and expression; and

   f. Complies with all terms set forth by each respective social media network.

2. These obligations apply regardless of where access and use originate.

3. All University-affiliated social media, including but not limited to the account itself, content and audiences, are the property of the University. Account creators and administrators have no ownership rights whatsoever.
4. The content contained herein is not intended to be comprehensive, as the evolution of technology precludes the University from anticipating all potential means of storing, capturing and transmitting information. This policy will be monitored and revised as deemed necessary.

5. Requirements

a. University affiliated social media account administration.

i. Any member of the University community engaging in University-affiliated social media must do so using an administrative or resource University email address to which more than one member of the University community has access.

   1. A unique email must be created expressly for this purpose by submitting a request at support.rowan.edu.

   2. No member of the University community should be required, asked, or permitted to use a private, personal account for the purpose of creating social media account(s) on behalf of the University.

   3. If, for any reason, a social media account is presently linked to an individual person’s email account, that person relinquishes all rights to the account.

ii. Social media contacts shall acknowledge that:

   1. They have obtained permission from their supervisor/management to use social media in an official capacity for their unit; and

   2. They must maintain access to and security of all social media usernames and passwords; and

   3. They must monitor and maintain the account(s) on a weekly basis. Inactive accounts may be subject to deactivation or deletion; and

   4. Resources will be made available for their reference at www.rowan.edu/socialmedia; and

   5. Other social media users may have different interests, attitudes, and opinions than those of the University. Social media contacts reserve the right to remove content, block users, or refrain from interacting with anyone for content deemed to be unlawful. Social media contacts do not reserve the right to remove content deemed to be a difference of opinion; and

   6. Social media contacts’ administrative access to social media accounts will be terminated upon exit from the University or assignment to another job.
iii. All University-affiliated social media should be explicit regarding the relationship of the platform to the University.

iv. All social media graphics and naming conventions must abide by the University’s Graphic Standards policy.

   1. University trademarks and logos, including but not limited to the University seal, torch, and athletics logo, may not be used without approval.

   2. Rowan University’ or ‘Rowan’ should be used within the social media username and prepend any qualifiers. ‘RU’ and other acronyms should not be used within the username unless the expanded versions do not adhere to unique platform restrictions.

   3. Units that have multiple social media accounts should use the same photo and name across all platforms.

b. Personal Use of Social Media

   i. Members of the University community may not use the University name, email addresses, or University logos/trademarks on social media to post information in a manner that may be interpreted as representing an official position of the University, or which may misrepresent the University's viewpoint. All accounts and posts in which a user identifies him/herself as a member of the University community should clearly communicate: "The views and opinions expressed are strictly those of the author. The contents have not been reviewed or approved by Rowan University" or “Views/opinions are my own.”

   ii. Members of the University community may not access social media in a manner that interferes with or delays completion of their professional responsibilities.

   iii. The University name and University email addresses may not be used on social media sites and online forums for personal communication.

   iv. Members of the University community may be held legally liable for what they post on their personal social media site(s) and should therefore refrain from any communications considered punishable under state or federal law.

   v. Individual students and student organizations are expected to abide by the Student Code of Conduct. Students may be accountable to the University for acts on personal social media site(s) that violate the Student Code of Conduct.

   vi. Any attempt by a member of the University community to obscure their identity as a means to circumvent the prohibitions listed herein by representing himself/herself as another person, real or fictitious, is strictly prohibited.

c. All University-affiliated social media may not be used for any commercial business, financial transactions, or interactions that would otherwise be considered irrelevant.
d. Rights and permissions must be secured before posting, sharing or distributing copyrighted materials, including but not limited to music, art, photographs, texts, portions of video, or information considered proprietary by a University partner, vendor, affiliate or contractor. This does not include archives from University Relations, photos taken in a public venue, and photos in which individuals are not clearly identifiable.

e. Social media tools may not be used to communicate or store information classified as confidential or private or otherwise considered privileged or sensitive by the University; which compromises the privacy of a member of the University community or its clients; or is considered confidential under applicable federal and state laws including HIPAA and FERPA.

f. Social media does not replace or otherwise eliminate the need to use the University’s existing recruitment systems and processes for posting positions, collecting applications, conducting background checks, making offers of employment and other related activities.

6. Crisis Management

a. The catch-phrase, “If you see something, say something” should be a standard rule in social media monitoring. In the event that information surfaces on social media sites that is deemed as harassing or threatening in nature, or helpful in a crisis or investigation, it must be immediately reported to 911 and/or Public Safety at 856-256-4911 with the following if available:
   i. Screenshot(s) of and link to the communication.
   ii. Username(s) of the person(s) involved in the communication.
   iii. As much information about the incident as possible.

b. In the event of a crisis on campus, emergency messaging will be issued through the Department of Public Safety, the Office of Emergency Management, and/or the Office of the President, and distributed according to the University’s Emergency Response Team Communication Protocol. These messages will also be distributed on official University social media accounts as needed.
   i. Rowan University:
      1. Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/RowanUniversity/
      2. Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/rowanuniversity/
      3. Twitter: https://twitter.com/rowanuniversity
   ii. CMSRU:
      1. Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/coopermedschool
      2. Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/cmsru/
3. Twitter: https://twitter.com/coopermedschool

iii. RowanSOM:

1. Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/RowanSOM/

2. Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/rowan_som/

3. Twitter: https://twitter.com/rowansom

iv. Share verbatim only the messaging provided by the aforementioned accounts to ensure only the correct information is disseminated. Do not share any information that does not come from any of the aforementioned University sources.

v. Postpone/delete any previously scheduled social media content and refrain from posting unrelated information on social media until after the crisis.

vi. If any social media messages could be used to help in a crisis, alert 911 or the Department of Public Safety immediately.

7. Additional Requirements for Medical School Communities

   a. Misrepresentation in any social media by any member of the CMSRU or RowanSOM communities, regarding the status of their credentials as a medical student or medical professional, is strictly prohibited.

   b. Specific Restrictions under HIPAA and FERPA for Medical Students

      i. Posting PHI on social media by any individual within the CMSRU or RowanSOM communities is strictly prohibited under the HIPAA regulations, which apply to any information related to patients.

         1. Never post a photograph or image of a patient to any electronic media, other than the patient’s electronic medical record. Use of cameras or cell phone cameras in the patient care setting shall be for the sole purpose of assisting in the care and education of the patient for educational purposes. Any photographs taken in the patient care setting must be posted to the patient’s electronic medical record.

         2. Removal of an individual’s name does not constitute proper de-identification of PHI. Inclusion of data such as age, gender, race, diagnosis, date of evaluation, type of treatment, or the use of a highly specific medical photograph (such as a before/after photograph of a patient having surgery or a photograph of a patient from medical outreach trips) may still allow the reader to recognize the identity of a specific individual.
3. Never post derogatory or defamatory remarks about any patient (either current or past) to any social media, including any social media deemed to be “private.”

ii. Posting of any student records on social media by any individual within the CMSRU or RowanSOM community is strictly prohibited under the FERPA regulations.

1. FERPA-protected academic information of another medical student or trainee might include, but is not limited to, course or clerkship grades, narrative evaluations, examination scores, or adverse academic actions.

iii. All individuals within the CMSRU and RowanSOM communities must take steps to ensure compliance with all federal and state laws and regulations, including HIPAA and FERPA, by ensuring that their social media has the appropriate privacy settings to avoid the inadvertent dissemination of confidential information, with the understanding that even if they limit the number of people who can see their personal information, others who have access to this information may share it more broadly.

iv. It is inappropriate for a CMSRU or RowanSOM medical student to accept “friend” requests from patients, unless the physician-patient relationship has ended. Even after the physician-patient relationship has ended, it would be inappropriate to discuss health-related information on social media.

v. The public disclosure or negative information about CMSRU, RowanSOM, or affiliated clinical rotation sites on social media increases the risk of liability to the University and is clearly unprofessional. There are legitimate and confidential mechanisms for improving quality at a medical facility.

vi. The specific sanctions to be imposed for non-compliance with HIPAA or FERPA laws and regulations, illegal activities, or violation of University/CMSRU/RowanSOM policies and procedures, will depend upon the severity and legal implications of the activity under review. Action will be initiated as appropriate in accordance with the classification of an individual (i.e., faculty, staff, medical student, resident, housestaff, etc.) and, if necessary, the requirements of the individual’s licensing boards, as set forth in the applicable disciplinary procedures within the medical schools’ student handbooks. Discipline may range from simple counseling/guidance up to the risk of civil and/or criminal liability under applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

vii. Non-Compliance and Sanctions

1. Violations of this policy may result in the revocation of social media contact and account privileges.
2. A disciplinary or other review may be initiated if any member of the University community’s social media activity violates law or University policy or otherwise subjects the University to potential liability for such acts.

3. The purpose of this section is not intended to provide for the investigation of, or disciplinary action against, members of the University community for the legal exercise of their First Amendment rights.

ATTACHMENT 1

DEFINITIONS

1. *Accessibility* refers to hardware and software technologies that help visually or physically impaired people to use the computer.

2. *CMSRU* means Cooper Medical School of Rowan University.

3. *Confidentiality* is the expectation that only authorized individuals, processes, and systems will have access to the University’s information.

4. *Confidential Information* refers to the most sensitive information, which requires the strongest safeguards to reduce the risk of unauthorized access or loss. Unauthorized disclosure or access may: 1) subject University to the risk of liability (for example, for violation of HIPAA and FERPA laws); 2) adversely affect its reputation; and 3) jeopardize its mission. See the Information Classification policy for additional information.

5. *Crisis* refers broadly to any real or perceived emergency, imminent threat, or timely warning which: 1) can negatively impact or seriously endanger members of the University community; 2) requires immediate attention to minimize impact; 3) has significant impact on the operation or reputation of the University; and 4) results in extensive news coverage and public scrutiny. Examples include but are not limited to serious threats to life/property, hostage situations, weather, disease or health threat, natural disaster, assault, and civil unrest.

6. *HIPAA* refers to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, the federal law passed by Congress in 1996 that requires the protection and confidential handling of Protected Health Information (“PHI”).

7. *Faculty Member* means any person hired by the University to conduct classroom or teaching activities or who is otherwise considered by the University to be a full- or part-time or adjunct member of its faculty.

8. *FERPA* refers to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, a federal law that protects students’ privacy by prohibiting disclosure of students’ personally identifiable information (“PII”) within their education records, without the student’s consent.
9. **Integrity** is the expectation that the University’s information will be protected from improper, unauthorized, destructive, or accidental changes.

10. **Medical Schools** means CMSRU and RowanSOM

11. **Medical Student** includes all persons pursuing medical studies at CMSRU or RowanSOM. Medical students who are not officially enrolled for a particular term but who have a continuing relationship with CMSRU or RowanSOM, such as medical students who were previously enrolled, withdraw/take a leave of absence, medical students participating in CMSRU or RowanSOM sponsored academic programs, and medical students who are serving a period of suspension, are considered “medical students.”

12. **Member of the University Community** includes any person who is a student, faculty member, organization, alumni, volunteer, trustee, University official, or any other person employed by the University.

13. **Organization** means any number of persons who have complied with the formal requirements for University recognition. This term also applies to persons involved in petitioning for recognition. (Greek Letter Organizations are also subject to the disciplinary procedures outlined in the Greek Handbook.)

14. **Personally Identifiable Information (“PII”)** means data or information which includes, but is not limited to: 1) the name of the medical student, the medical student’s parent, or other family members; 2) the address of the medical student or the medical student’s family; 3) a personal identifier such as a social security number or student number; or 4) a list of personal characteristics or other information which would make the medical student’s identity easily traceable.

15. **Private Information** refers to sensitive information that is restricted to authorized personnel and requires safeguards, but which does not require the same level of safeguards as confidential information protected from disclosure under federal and state laws such as FERPA and HIPAA. Unauthorized disclosure or access may present legal and reputational risks to the University. See the University's Information Classification policy for additional clarification.

16. **Professionalism** is a formal requirement for the education and training of both undergraduate and graduate medical students. CMSRU and RowanSOM expect individuals within the CMSRU and RowanSOM communities to strive to uphold the highest standards and personal behaviors, consistent with a respect for the medical profession, commencing with the first day of medical school. The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (“ACGME”) defines and outlines professionalism as one of the six ACGME Core Competencies as follows: commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to a diverse patient population. “Professionalism is the enactment of the values and ideals of individuals who are called, as physicians, to serve individuals and populations whose care is entrusted to them, prioritizing the interests of those they service above their own.” AAMC Professionalism Task Force.
17. *Protected Health Information ("PHI")* means information that: 1) is created or received by a health care provider; and 2) relates to the past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual; the provision of health care to an individual; or the past, present, or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual; and (i) that identifies the individual; or (ii) with respect to which there is a reasonable basis to believe the information can be used to identify the individual. This guideline applies even if the patient’s information has been de-identified, so that the only person who may be able to identify the individual is the patient himself/herself.

18. RowanSOM means Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine.

19. *Social Media* refer to any online tools and services that allow Internet users to create and publish content, or any facility for web- and mobile-based publication and commentary, including but not limited to blogs, wikis, RSS feeds, content-sharing services, interactive geo-location platforms and networking sites including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, LinkedIn, Snapchat, Pinterest, Google+, Periscope, Flickr, and Wordpress.

20. *Social Media Contact* refers to any member of the University community whose responsibilities include managing and/or maintaining a social media presence on behalf of the University and/or who uses social media to engage in University-affiliated communications.

21. *Social Media Officials* refer to people at the University who delegate responsibilities to Social Media Contacts.

22. *Student* includes all persons enrolled in courses at Rowan University, both full-time and part-time, pursuing undergraduate or graduate studies, and those who live in campus living units. Persons who are not officially enrolled for a particular term but who have a continuing relationship with the University, such as students who were previously enrolled, withdraw/take a leave of absence, persons participating in University sponsored academic programs and students who are serving a period of suspension, are considered "students."

23. *University* means Rowan University and its Medical Schools.

24. *University-affiliated Social Media* refers to any social media presence intended to represent Rowan University in any official or unofficial capacity.

25. *University Official* includes any person employed by Rowan University to perform assigned administrative or professional responsibilities.

**ATTACHMENT 2**

**REFERENCES**

1. Department of Public Safety
   a. [Free Speech](#)
   b. [General Safety and Security](#)
2. **Graphic Standards**

3. Human Resources
   a. **Statement of Principles**
   b. **Workplace Violence Policy**

4. Information Resources & Technology
   a. **Acceptable Use**
   b. **Data Governance**
   c. **General User Password**
   d. **Information Classification**
   e. **Information Security**
   f. **Transmission Sensitive Information**
   g. **University Mass Notification Systems**

5. Medical Schools
   a. **Cooper Medical School of Rowan University**
   b. **Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine**
   e. AMA Policy: Professionalism in the Use of Social Media
   f. AMA Guidelines for Physicians in Social Media
   g. Model Guidelines for the Appropriate Use of Social Media and Social Networking in Medical Practice: Adopted as policy by the House of Delegates of the Federation of State Medical Boards

6. **Office of Emergency Management**
   a. **Emergency Preparedness**

7. Social Media Sites
   a. **Facebook** – an online social utility that connects people and organizations with friends and others who work, study, live and engage around them.
   b. **Flickr** – a photo sharing website on which users can view, upload and share photos.
c. **Google+** – integrated social platform that merges with other Google services including YouTube, Gmail and Google Search.

d. **Instagram** – a photo- and video-sharing network owned by Facebook that allows users to upload photos taken with a mobile device, apply special filters and share with their friends.

e. **LinkedIn** – a business-oriented online social utility that allows users to strengthen and extend their existing network of trusted professional contacts.

f. **Periscope** – a streaming service that lets users broadcast and explore the world through live video.

g. **Pinterest** – a website that allows users to “pin,” or bookmark, content they find interesting from around the web to categorized “boards” on their profiles.

h. **Snapchat** – a mobile app that allows users to capture videos and pictures and send messages that self-destruct.

i. **Twitter** – a real-time, micro-blogging and social utility service that allows users to send and read messages known as “tweets,” which are text-based posts containing no more than 140 characters.

j. **Wordpress** – an online, open source content management system, blogging platform, and website creation tool.

k. **YouTube** – a video-sharing website that makes it easy to search for and watch online videos.

8. **Social Media Terms**

   a. Facebook  
   b. Flickr  
   c. Google+  
   d. Instagram  
   e. LinkedIn  
   f. Periscope  
   g. Pinterest  
   h. Snapchat  
   i. Twitter  
   j. Wordpress  
   k. YouTube  

9. **Student Life/Student Affairs**  
10. **Student Code of Conduct**  
11. **Web Content Accessibility Guidelines**
Standards for the Learning Environment

PURPOSE: The Cooper Medical School of Rowan University bears special responsibility to ensure that its students learn in an environment that fosters mutual respect, collegial behavior and the values of professionalism, ethics and humanism. CMSRU recognizes that the quality of the learning environment, including interactions among faculty, residents, nurses, staff, and students, impacts student learning and satisfaction. The monitoring mechanisms and procedures to address suboptimal learning environments are described below:

The standards for behavior by CMSRU students are delineated in the following policies:

- Honor Code
- Professional Appearance
- Professional Conduct
- Social Networking

The policies in place to ensure that the learning environment is safe and positive include:

- Student Mistreatment
- Teacher Learner Compact
- Ombudsman

Note: All of the above Policies are within the Student and Faculty Handbooks:
http://www.rowan.edu/coopermed/faculty/
Initiatives to Enhance the Learning Environment:
CMSRU will work conscientiously to optimize the learning environment for students, residents, faculty, and staff. The following are initiatives in place. These offerings will grow over time.

- Committee for a Positive Learning Environment
- Wellness Programming –regular fitness, yoga, and meditation sessions are scheduled in the dedicated wellness space. Access to recorded wellness sessions are always available. Wellness events, challenges, and communications are ongoing.
- Lunch and Learn programming – these one hour noon sessions given to M1 students weekly focus on stress management, career direction, professionalism, and self-awareness.
- The Advisory Colleges – every student is assigned to a College during Orientation. The Colleges are designed to foster mentoring and support for every student. Each student has a student mentor one year ahead of them in the curriculum. The Colleges meet regularly as groups and each director meets with their students multiple times each year on an individual basis. Career guidance is a special focus.
- The Student Assistance Program – Counseling service is available to each student utilizing student fees. Issues addressed may range from test anxiety, fear, sleep issues, and
related emotional disorders. Referrals to psychiatrists not associated with teaching our students are available.

- Faculty Development – Mentoring and Professionalism are areas of focus.
- Resident Development – Self-care, resident as teacher (PRIME program), Mentoring and Professionalism are areas of focus.
- Open door policy in the Office of Student Affairs – every student is told that the staff of the OSAA is always available for any issue.

Monitoring the Learning Environment

CMSRU has developed ongoing mechanisms to monitor and enhance the learning environment in all educational settings including the classroom, laboratory, hospital and clinic through:

- Soliciting reports from students of exemplary learning environments to celebrate and learn from them
- Development of a culture in which students feel safe reporting mistreatment events, if they occur, so they can be addressed and avoided in the future
- Creation of a system of liaisons for each class to interface with the teaching faculty on a regular basis
- Utilization of the Advisory College system. Direct communication with the Office of Student Affairs and Admissions, or the CMSRU Ombudsperson
- Student and faculty evaluations, including course evaluations
- C-change student and faculty surveys
- Graduation Questionnaires (beginning in 2016)

Reporting mistreatment or hostile learning environment:

- CMSRU encourages students to report mistreatment or hostile learning environment in end of course evaluations or at any other time. In situations where a student may be hesitant to do so, the assistant dean for student affairs will be available by walk-in, phone or email at all times. When a student prefers that the reporting be totally confidential:
  - A drop box is available in the hallway near the Office of Student Affairs
  - A confidential call-in phone number is available to report issues: 856-956-2777
- The assistant dean for student affairs will receive any report issued by any student surrounding learning environment issues.
- The assistant dean for student affairs, the associate dean for medical education and the vice dean or designee will meet regularly to review these reports and monitor follow-up actions within the departments where the events occurred. To preserve anonymity fully possible, reports are ‘quarantined’ until after course directors have submitted grades (in the case of Phase 1 courses and clerkships) or after students have matched (in the case of electives).
- The assistant dean for student affairs addresses reports of mistreatment and hostile learning environment and responds to these reports in a relevant and constructive manner.
• When the issue is one that extends beyond a single student or situation the following resources are called upon to address the issues:
  o The Center for Student Wellness
  o The Student Assistance Program
  o The Committee for a Positive Learning Environment
  o The CMSRU Ombudsperson
  o Other resources as needed
  o The vice dean or designee is ultimately responsible for addressing issues of the learning environment that cross the continuum of undergraduate and graduate medical education, faculty affairs, and non-physician health care workers.

Reporting sexual misconduct

* Title IX federal regulations require that any allegation of sexual discrimination, harassment, gender-based or sexual misconduct reported to a faculty member or administrator must be reported to and investigated by the Title IX Office at the university. See the Student Sexual Misconduct and Harassment Policy:  http://www.rowan.edu/eqiity/titleix/documents/StudentSexualPolicy7-25-12_002.pdf

Committee for a Positive Learning Environment

The Committee for a Positive Learning Environment will provide education about creating a learning environment conducive to education and professionalism for faculty, staff, nursing, residents and studentsin a variety of venues as a means of prevention of mistreatment of students and other trainees. It shall advise the Dean on programs and systems to address and prevent mistreatment of students.

The Committee consists of 10 members including four faculty members, two medical student members elected by the students (one representing first and second year students, and one representing third and fourth year students), a representative of CHS Patient Care Services, a resident physician or fellow elected by peers, and the CHS Designated Institutional Official (DIO) representing Graduate Medical Education. The vice dean or designee and the assistant dean for student affairs shall serve as ex officio members. The term of office shall be three years with staggered terms, except where the member serves in an ex officio capacity, which may involve a shorter term, or the representative is a student.

CMSRU fully supports the AAMC Statement on the Learning Environment:

We believe that the learning environment for medical education shapes the patient care environment. The highest quality of safe and effective care for patients and the highest quality of effective and appropriate education are rooted in human dignity.

We embrace our responsibility to create, support, and facilitate the learning environment shared by our patients, learners, and teachers. In this environment, our patients witness, experience, and expect a pervasive sense of respect, collegiality, kindness, and cooperation among health care team members.
This includes all professionals, administrators, staff, and beginning and advanced learners from all health professions. This includes research as well as patient care environments.

We affirm our responsibility to create, support, and facilitate a learning environment that fosters resilience in all participants. It is our responsibility to create an atmosphere in which our learners and teachers are willing to engage with learning processes that can be inherently uncomfortable and challenging.

We affirm our commitment to shaping a culture of teaching and learning that is rooted in respect for all. Fostering resilience, excellence, compassion, and integrity allows us to create patient care, research, and learning environments that are built upon constructive collaboration, mutual respect, and human dignity.
Student Activities Policy

PURPOSE: To establish guidelines for school-associated extracurricular activities that students will engage in.

POLICY: CMSRU recognizes the importance of involvement outside of academics. Clubs, organizations and experiences outside of class will allow students to explore interests that can help mold career as well as personal paths. These activities cannot be such that the time spent interferes with the academic success of any student.

SCOPE: This policy only applies to the academic year and is not meant to direct activities during vacation periods. For the purposes of this policy, a full-time student is defined as one who is enrolled in traditional curricular sequence or in an Independent Study Plan (ISP). Students taking a leave of absence are not permitted to participate in student activities. CMSRU reserves the right to determine student eligibility for all student activities.

DEFINITIONS:
- Activity: This would include physician shadowing, research, and related experiences that are generally such that one student is involved.
- Clubs/Organizations: This includes current groups organized through Rowan and Cooper University Hospital that CMSRU students may elect to become members of, as well as the development of new clubs and organizations by students in association with CMSRU faculty and/or the house staff of Cooper University Hospital.

PROCEDURE:
- First year students may participate in clubs and activities beginning in November of M1 year.
- A student may participate in leadership positions of clubs/organizations and be eligible for SGA elections and CMSRU committees only if the student:
  o is in good academic standing
  o is making satisfactory academic progress
  o has not failed any course or clerkship in the current academic year, irrespective of remediation
  o is not currently remediating a USMLE failure
- If you are seeking an elected position, you must receive prior approval from the assistant dean for student affairs or chief student affairs officer (CSAO).
- The Office of Student Affairs and the Office of Diversity and Community Affairs will offer their resources when possible to support the development of clubs and organizations, especially those linked to national organizations.
- All meetings and activities of clubs and organizations will be scheduled through appropriate processes. Club officers shall take into consideration dates of religious observances when scheduling.
• All materials presented by a club/organization must be approved by the respective faculty advisor of the organization. Students must also complete an event request form to request permission to participate in a school sponsored event. (Student Event Request Form)
• CMSRU may approve, deny or reschedule any student activity due to unforeseen scheduling conflicts, CMSRU educational programming requirements or CMSRU facilities and/or physical space needs. All efforts will be made to minimize disruptions to previously scheduled student activities.

NOTE: Activities such as physician shadowing that involves patient care or contact must be at an approved site and with a member of our faculty.
Student Mistreatment

PURPOSE: To establish procedural guidelines for CMSRU faculty and students in the event of alleged mistreatment in the course of the teacher-learner relationship.

POLICY: CMSRU is committed to promoting student success in an atmosphere dependent upon mutual respect, collegiality, fairness, trust, and accountability within its respective community. CMSRU student mistreatment, abuse, or harassment will not be tolerated. If a student alleges mistreatment or becomes aware of an incident of mistreatment by a member of the CMSRU community, they are encouraged to follow this policy. CMSRU adheres to the standards described in the AAMC Teacher-Learner Compact (See Teacher-Learner Interaction Policy).

SCOPE: This policy applies to all CMSRU medical students and those who serve as teacher and/or mentor to them in all years and areas of the educational experience.

DEFINITIONS: Inappropriate behavior or situations CMSRU deems unacceptable include:

- Unwelcome physical contact, including any physical mistreatment or assaults such as hitting, slapping, kicking, or threats of the same nature
- Verbal abuse (to attack in words, or to publicly speak insultingly, or unjustly, of a student)
- Inappropriate or unprofessional criticism intended to belittle, embarrass, or humiliate a student
- Requiring a student to perform menial tasks intended to humiliate, control, or intimidate the student
- Unreasonable requests for a student to perform personal services
- Retaliatory behavior such as grading or assigning tasks to punish a student rather than evaluating or assessing a student’s performance
- Sexual assault and harassment (Policy on Sexual Harassment and Misconduct)
- Discrimination based on race, religion, ethnicity, sex, age, sexual orientation, and disability

STUDENT COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

Reporting:
A student reporting an incident should use any of the following methods of reporting:

- Online/Anonymous Reporting
  http://cmsruapps.rowan.edu/surveys/report_mistreatment
- Office of Student Affairs
  Erin Pukenas, MD; Assistant Dean for Student Affairs
  pukenas@rowan.edu
  Marion Lombardi, EdD; Chief Student Affairs Officer
  lombardim@rowan.edu
• Office of Diversity and Community Affairs
  Jocelyn Mitchell-Williams, MD; Associated Dean for Diversity and Community Affairs
  williamsjo@rowan.edu
• CMSRU Ombuds Office
  http://cmsru.rowan.edu/students/ombuds/
• Title IX Coordinator
  Marion Lombardi, EdD; Chief Student Affairs Officer
  lombardim@rowan.edu
• Disabilities/Accommodations
  Marion Lombardi, EdD; Chief Student Affairs Officer
  lombardim@rowan.edu
• Course and Clerkship Evaluations
  a. Issues of mistreatment can be voiced through the course and clerkship evaluations at the end of the course
• Deans and Directors
  a. To provide easier reporting, students may report an incident to any Dean or Director they feel comfortable in approaching
  b. The Dean or Director will then disseminate the complaint to the assistant dean for student affairs or designee

Students should submit an electronic Mistreatment Report in real-time for all mistreatment related events to ensure proper follow-up and resolution.

**Student Mistreatment Reporting Form**

**Post Reporting:**
The Office of Student Affairs and The Office of Medical Education are responsible for the oversight of mistreatment of students. After a report is filed, the appropriate parties will review the complaint and determine the course of action based on the severity and circumstances of the incident. If the event is reported via a course or clerkship evaluation, it will be addressed with the respective departments and faculty. In the event of an electronic mistreatment submission, the student where identified, will be contacted within three (3) business days confirming receipt of the complaint. The student, when self-identified, will participate in the investigatory process. An action plan will be formulated within fourteen (14) days from the filing with a plan of action.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

1. This process does not apply to the students' personal preferences regarding the faculty/professional staff members' physical appearance, personal values, sexual orientation, or the right to academic freedom or the freedom of expression.
2. In all grievance matters, to the extent possible, the student will be responsible for documentation of their allegations.
3. To ensure the protection of the parties' privacy, the process and all documentation will be completely confidential.

4. All students, faculty, professional staff, department chairs, supervisors, deans and directors are expected to follow the steps in this policy.
Cooper Medical School of Rowan University will establish and sustain an atmosphere that promotes:

- Integrity
- Trust
- Fairness
- Collegiality
- Mutual Respect
- Accountability
- Positive Learning Environment

**Inappropriate behavior or situations the student deems unacceptable include:**

- Unwelcome physical contact, including any physical mistreatment or assaults such as hitting, slapping, kicking, or threats of the same nature
- Verbal abuse (to attack in words, or to publicly speak insultingly, or unjustly, of a student)
- Inappropriate or unprofessional criticism intended to belittle, embarrass, or humiliate a student
- Requiring a student to perform menial tasks intended to humiliate, control, or intimidate the student
- Unreasonable requests for a student to perform personal services
- Retaliatory behavior such as grading or assigning tasks to punish a student rather than evaluating or assessing a student’s performance
- Sexual assault and harassment ([Policy on Sexual Harassment and Misconduct](#))
- Discrimination based on race, religion, ethnicity, sex, age, sexual orientation, and physical disabilities.

**Avenues to Report Mistreatment:**

- **Online/Anonymous Student Mistreatment Reporting** [Form](#)
- **Office of Student Affairs**
  - Erin Pukenas, MD
  - E: [pukenas@rowan.edu](mailto:pukenas@rowan.edu)
  - Marlon Lombardi, EdD
  - E: [lombardim@rowan.edu](mailto:lombardim@rowan.edu)
- **Associate Dean for Diversity and Community Affairs**
  - Jocelyn Mitchell-Williams, MD, PhD
  - E: [williamsjo@rowan.edu](mailto:williamsjo@rowan.edu)
- **Ombudsperson**
  - Debrah Meislich, MD
  - E: [meislich-debrah@cooperhealth.edu](mailto:meislich-debrah@cooperhealth.edu)
- **Disabilities/Accommodations and Title IX**
  - Marlon Lombardi, EdD
  - E: [lombardim@rowan.edu](mailto:lombardim@rowan.edu)
- **Course and Clerkship Evaluations**
  - Students may report incidents in course or clerkship evaluations via [one45](#)
- **Deans and Directors**
  - To provide easier access for reporting, students may choose to report incidents to any dean or director who will then disseminate the complaint to the assistant dean for student affairs or designee.
Visitor Policy

PURPOSE: To provide protocol for individuals who are interested in visiting and/or touring the CMSRU Medical Education Building (MEB).

POLICY: CMSRU Visitor Policy

SCOPE: All individuals who are not current CMSRU students, faculty, and staff.

PROCEDURE: Any individual, including a student visitor(s), who is not a current student, faculty, or staff at CMSRU is not permitted into the medical education building without an approved reason or circumstance.

- Visits to CMSRU should be carefully planned to minimize disruption to school operations and didactics. If there is interest from outside parties in visiting CMSRU, the host must contact the following departments, providing advanced notice of at least 24 hours:
  - Individuals/groups-Dean’s Office
  - External visitors-Marketing and Public Relations
  - Prospective students-Admissions
  - Visitors of current students-Office of Student Affairs

- If any of the aforementioned departments approve a visit/tour of the CMSRU Medical Education Building (MEB), a Rowan University Department of Public Safety officer assigned to CMSRU must be notified by the department approving the visit/tour request.

- If a visitor wishes to attend/audit any didactic sessions due to special or exceptional circumstances, the host must obtain prior permission from the Dean or Associate Dean for Medical Education, as well as the respective course directors/teaching faculty.

- The host/tour guide must fall under the category of current student, staff, or faculty member possessing a valid and current CMSRU ID badge and will provide the approved guests the tour of the MEB.

- The host/tour guide is required to meet the visitor(s) at the CMSRU main entrance, Security Desk. The visitor(s) must sign the security log and follow any required security procedures to officially enter into the MEB.

- The host/tour guide is required to escort the visitor(s) for the entire time the visitor is touring the MEB.

- Tours conducted in the CMSRU MEB are not to exceed 30 minutes. *Tours of the Simulation Center are not permitted during previously scheduled OCSE events.

- Tours of the CMSRU MEB are not permitted on examination dates without permission of the Dean.

- Visitors, not to exceed six persons, (**exception-approved formal group tours, per Dean’s office/Marketing/PR) including the tour guide, are permitted on the 1st through 5th floors of the MEB, but are not allowed in any faculty or staff offices or specifically assigned faculty/staff areas.

- Visitors are not permitted in any CMSRU lab/research or other restricted areas, including the Gross Anatomy Lab, without special permission of the Assistant or Associate Dean for Research or the Assistant Dean for Phase 1 of the Curriculum.

- Visitors are not permitted in the Vivarium.
Policies Related to Medical Education

Active Learning Group Policy

PURPOSE: To provide a policy guiding maintenance of a professional and educationally-focused atmosphere in the CMSRU Active Learning Group Rooms (ALGs).

SCOPE: This policy applies to all Active Learning Group Rooms in the CMSRU medical education building and users of these space.

PROCEDURE: The Active Learning Group rooms (ALGs) are designed as collaborative educational spaces where students, faculty, and others can hold a variety of educationally-focused activities without outside distractions. They also serve as around-the-clock study space for many students, and are also occasionally accessed for purposes of faculty and administrative recruitment, fundraising, etc. As such, the ALGs must be maintained in a professional, clean/sanitary, safe state that neither distracts nor detracts from their intended purpose.

Note: The below statements apply specifically to “assigned” ALGs – those rooms to which a group of eight students are designated at the beginning of the academic year. All other ALGs, conference rooms, and meeting spaces are public and should not have personal items, appliances, etc., stored within them at any time. These rooms are used for a variety of purposes, and while they may be used temporarily by students as short-term study spaces, they should always be left in a neat, clean, and unmodified state.

Appliances
In order to augment the comfort of students studying in these spaces, a limited number of appliances are permitted in the assigned student ALG rooms. Approved appliances include equipment that does not pose a fire hazard, is unlikely to attract insects or other pests, does not detract from the overall appearance of the room, and does not consume significant energy. Appliances shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary state at all times. Prohibited and/or unsanitary appliances will be removed immediately.

Approved appliances:
1. Single cup coffeemakers (e.g., Keurig) that do not have a continuous heating element
2. Multiple cup coffeemakers with an auto-off feature
3. Small refrigerators (must fit under the counters). Refrigerators may not be stored on countertops, and may not be plugged into extension cords.

Prohibited appliances:
1. Toasters/toaster ovens
2. Microwave ovens
3. Hot plates
4. Coffee makers without an auto-off feature
5. Any appliance with damaged/altered cords
Students wishing to bring in appliances not included on either of these lists shall request permission from the prior to installation. Requests will be reviewed weekly with CMSRU leadership and final decisions shared with all students. These lists may be altered at any time based on a number of factors, including need to limit electrical power usage, recurrent unsanitary conditions, or other factors.

**General Room Conditions**

Rooms should always be maintained in a clean condition, with specific avoidance of states that may attract insects and other pests. This includes:

1. Cleaning/removal of dirty dishes by the end of the day
2. Disposal of any food/beverages and empty food/beverage containers in an appropriate trash receptacle
3. Storage of retained food in sealed, pest-proof containers, preferably put away in cabinets or refrigerators
4. General maintenance of a professional, non-cluttered appearance to rooms

It is not the role of CMSRU custodial staff to wash dishes. **Evening shift staff members are directed to throw away any food or dirty dishes left out in the ALGs.**

Bicycles may not be stored in the ALGs or anywhere else inside the CMSRU education building. Bike racks are installed immediately outside the building within view of the security desk; all bicycles should be stored in this location.
Student Attendance

POLICY: This policy outlines what constitutes an absence and the processes that apply when submitting an absence request.

PURPOSE: This policy outlines the importance of in-person, active engagement among students and faculty.

SCOPE: This policy applies to students at CMSRU in all four years.

DEFINITIONS: “Attendance” is defined as presence during the entire scheduled activity.

PROCEDURE:

You will be notified when there is a revision to any policy during an academic year. Please address any questions you may have about the medical education program policies to the assistant deans for Phase 1 or Phase 2 or the associate dean for medical education.

All absence requests are to be made using the Absence Request System in the CMSRU portal system. [http://cmsruapps.rowan.edu](http://cmsruapps.rowan.edu); Login using your username and password, then from menu go to: Attendance - Create Absence Request.

Religious Observance:

The Cooper Medical School of Rowan University academic calendar specifies the days on which there are no mandatory academic activities, see the Academic Calendar for a full list. Students who wish to be excused from mandatory curricular activities for religious observance must notify the course/clerkship director, preceptor, chief student affairs officer, and education coordinator as soon as possible; but not less than 7 days prior to the scheduled day of observance. The student must submit an absence request through ARS system, and indicate Religious Observance in the comment field. The absence will NOT be counted against the student; however missed work must be made up.

Phase I

First and Second Year Students

Please note: CMSRU data demonstrates a significant relationship between student attendance at educational sessions and performance in the medical education program and on the USMLE Step exams.

Attendance is required for all course sessions that are mandatory.

1. Students within the Phase 1 curriculum will be allotted six (6) half (1/2) days per semester (twelve (12) half (1/2) days for the academic year) that can be utilized at the student’s discretion. (Students in the PC3 program are allotted two (2) half (1/2) days during the summer session).
All absences must be logged-reported by the student, and are monitored by the Office of Medical Education. (Please also see the Prolonged Absence Policy for extended absences.)

- No more than two half-day absences are allowed per course, per semester (including year-long courses).
- For absences involving Ambulatory Clerkship, WOW I & II, and Selectives, students must notify their course/clerkship director(s) for prior approval before the absence.
- Any date that includes an assessment will require a doctor’s note or proper documentation within two (2) days upon the student’s return. The documentation should be sent to the chief student affairs officer (CSAO). Only full-day absences are allowed on assessment days.
- Students must contact their course/clerkship director and the director of assessment so that they can reschedule the assessment. A score of zero will be assigned if a doctor’s note or proper documentation is not provided for any missed assessment.

**Exceptions:**
- Absences due to religious holiday observances will not be counted toward the 6 half-days limit, provided the student reports the absence and its reason.
- Absences due to students accompanying their Ambulatory patients to specialist visits will not be counted toward the 6 half-days limit, provided the student reports the absence, and completes the relevant form and delivers it to the Ambulatory Clerkship coordinator. These absences are not allowed on assessment days, may not exceed 2 absences course/semester, and should be limited to a reasonable number throughout the year. The Ambulatory Clerkship directors may revoke this privilege in cases of abuse, at their discretion.
- Student (re-)entering the curriculum after the beginning of a semester will be allowed a pro-rated number of absences for that semester. The student will be notified of the number of available absences at the time they enter the curriculum.

2. The Office of Medical Education will monitor absence records. If a student’s absences exceed the allowed numbers, or otherwise violate any of the policies above:
   a. The CSAO will be notified, and may require additional information from and/or a meeting with the student to establish the reason for the repeated absences.
   b. The CSAO will inform the Office of Medical Education and the course and/or clerkship director(s) as necessary.
   c. The student may be referred to the director of professionalism.
   d. Course/clerkship director(s), at their full discretion, may require make-up work of course material missed during absences, in any form that the clerkship/course director(s) chooses. Failure to submit this work may result in an Incomplete (I) grade.
   e. For medical absences for three (3) consecutive dates (six half days total) a doctor’s note will need to be provided to the Office of Student Affairs within two (2) days upon the student’s return.

**Referrals may also be made to the director of professionalism when:**
- Students are excessively tardy.
- Students sign-in or swipe-in for a session and leave.
- Students sign-in or swipe-in for someone else.
• Students leave early during a required session.
Logging, notification, and the absence system
• Students must submit the absence request as soon as possible or within the first 5 hours of their scheduled course or clerkship. Not doing so may result in a Professionalism report.
• The student MUST log all absences into the absence request system.
  It is **solely** the student’s responsibility to ensure that their presence at required sessions is recorded, including to bring their ID in order to swipe into a mandatory session. Students who forget their ID should immediately notify the course director by e-mail. Recorded absences due to failure to bring ID will not be retroactively excused.

**Phase II**

**Third Year Students**
Daily attendance is required on all clerkships and electives.

The M3 Education Coordinator will monitor all absences for third year students.

**Absences of 10% or more of a curricular component during the third year must be made up. All missed CLIC sessions must be made up. Transdisciplinary Sessions are Mandatory.** Remediation for the missed time can take the form of clinical time/patient care, writing a report on a topic of the clerkship/elective director and/or preceptor’s choosing, or any other educational activity that the clerkship/elective director and/or preceptor chooses.

There are no unexcused absences in the M3 year. Because the M3 curriculum is heavily experiential, attendance is vital to its integrity. Therefore, students missing more than 10% of a curricular component will need to remediate the experience/time at the direction of the respective clerkship/elective director and/or preceptor.

For example: 1 day of a two week block or 2 days of a four week block.

Students who will be absent more than one (1) day during a two (2) week block or more than two (2) days during a four (4) week block, during any curriculum component, must email the chief student affairs officer for their reason for the prolonged absence. The chief student affairs officer will alert the M3 director and the M3 education coordinator. Should the absence be excused, the student will be responsible to make up any missed time.

In the event of excessive absences, referral will be made to the director of professionalism as it involves unprofessional behavior.

A student representing CMSRU in a leadership role or presenting at a conference should submit an absence request with proper documentation.

Logging and Notification of Absences by the student
The student MUST log all absences into the absence request system.

In addition, the student must notify their clerkship/elective director, preceptor, and clerkship or elective coordinator of the time they will miss. The clerkship/elective director and/or preceptor will then notify the student of the remediation for the missed time.

Students must notify their clerkship/elective director and/or preceptor as early as possible of an impending absence. In the event of an unanticipated absence, the student must notify their clerkship/elective director and/or preceptor within the first 2 hours of their scheduled shift/activity. Not doing so may result in a Professionalism report and the possibility of failing the rotation; which is at the discretion of the clerkship/elective director and/or preceptor.

For medical absences for three (3) consecutive dates, a doctor’s note will need to be provided to the Office of Student Affairs within two (2) days upon the student’s return.

**Fourth Year Students**

Daily attendance is required on all clerkships and electives.

**Absences for any reason during a fourth year clerkship/elective, must be made up at the discretion of the clerkship/elective director.** Remediation for the missed time can take the form of clinical time/patient care, writing a report on a topic of the clerkship/elective director’s choosing, or any other educational activity that the clerkship/elective director chooses.

**Failure to complete missed time due to an absence will lead to an incomplete grade and possible failure of the clerkship/elective.**

The M4 Education Coordinator will monitor all absences for fourth year students.

The M4 Academic year consists of 40 weeks, including four (4) weeks that can be utilized for interviews and other personal time.

- These 4 weeks may be broken up into 2 weeks or 1 week time spots or can be taken as an entire 4 weeks, so long as the 36 weeks of required clerkships/electives can be completed in the time frame to graduate.
  - Students cannot use this time off during a **required** clerkship, elective or visiting rotation.

**Students who will be absent beyond the four (4) weeks must email the chief student affairs officer for their reason for the absence. The chief student affairs officer will alert the M4 director and the M4 education coordinator. Should the absence be excused, the student will be responsible to make up any missed time.**

**Interviews**

- Maximum of 4 excused days for interviews AND travel to and from your interviews in a 4 week rotation.
- Maximum of 2 excused days for interviews AND travel to and from your interviews in a 2 week rotation.
• Maximum of 1 excused day for interviews AND travel to and from your interviews in a 1 week rotation.
• Excused days for interviews don’t have to be made up, as long as they are within the limit.
• You CANNOT use excused days for interviews for any other purpose. Inappropriate use of interview days will be viewed as unprofessional behavior and will lead to a Professionalism Report and possible failure of the Clerkship/Elective Rotation. Students may be required to present documentation of their interview.

Step 2 (CK & CS)
• Excused days for Step 2 do not have to be made up.

Match Week
• Students are REQUIRED to attend all Mandatory Match Week Sessions.

Logging and Notification of Absences by the student

• The student MUST log all absences, interviews, and Step 2 testing dates into the absence request system.
• In addition, the student must notify their clerkship/elective director, preceptor, and clerkship or elective coordinator of the time they will miss. The clerkship/elective director will then notify the student of the remediation for the missed time.
• Students must notify their clerkship/elective director and/or preceptor as early as possible of an impending absence. In the event of an unanticipated absence, the student must notify their clerkship/elective director and/or preceptor within the first 2 hours of their scheduled shift/activity. Not doing so may result in a Professionalism report and the possibility of failing the rotation; which is at the discretion of the clerkship/elective director and/or preceptor.
• All students are required to log their absences/interviews in the CMSRU on-line attendance system, failure to do so may result in a Professionalism report and the possibility of failing the rotation.
• For medical absences for three (3) consecutive dates, a doctor’s note will need to be provided to the Office of Student Affairs within two (2) days upon the student’s return.
Conflict of Interest Policy

PURPOSE: To establish guidelines for interactions between Industry and faculty, staff and students of Cooper Medical School of Rowan University.

POLICY: CMSRU is committed to providing humanistic education in the art and science of medicine within an environment in which excellence in patient care, innovative teaching, research, and service to our community are valued. These goals require that faculty, students, trainees and staff of CMSRU interact with representatives of pharmaceutical, biotechnology, medical device, and hospital equipment supply industries (hereinafter “Industry”), in a manner that advances the use of the best available evidence so that medical advancements and new technologies become broadly and appropriately used. While the interaction with Industry can be beneficial, Industry influence can also result in unacceptable conflicts of interest that may lead to increased costs of healthcare, compromised patient safety, negative socialization of students and trainees, bias of research results, and diminished confidence and respect among patients, the general public and regulatory officials. Because provision of financial support or gifts may exert an impact on recipients’ behavior, CMSRU has adopted the following policy to govern the interactions between Industry and CMSRU personnel. This policy has been designed to reflect the best available literature on conflict of interest and is intended to provide guiding principles that members of the CMSRU community as well as representatives of Industry can use to assure that their interactions result in optimal benefit to clinical care, education, research, and maintenance of the public trust.

SCOPE: This policy applies to all faculty, staff, and students of CMSRU, to all healthcare professionals and staff employed and/or contracted by CMSRU, and to all facilities owned or controlled by CMSRU or in which faculty and trainees are working. In all cases where this policy is more restrictive than Rowan University conflict of interest policies, this policy shall take precedence. This policy applies to interactions with all sales, marketing, or other product-oriented personnel of Industry, including those individuals whose purpose is to provide information to clinicians about company products, even though such personnel are not classified in their company as “sales or marketing.”

STATEMENT OF THE POLICY: It is the policy of CMSRU that clinical decision-making, education, and research activities are free from influence created by improper financial relationships with, or gifts provided by Industry. These general principles should guide interactions and relationships between CMSRU personnel and Industry representatives. The following limitations and guidelines are directed to certain specific interactions. For situations not specifically addressed, CMSRU personnel should consult in advance with their deans, departmental chairs and/or their administrators to obtain further guidance and clarification.

SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES:

1. Support of Continuing Education in the Health Sciences:

Industry support of continuing education ("CE") in the health sciences can provide benefit to patients by ensuring that the most current, evidence-based medical information is made available to healthcare practitioners. In order to ensure that potential for bias is minimized, all CE events in which CMSRU participates as a co-sponsor must comply with the ACCME Standards for Commercial Support of
Educational Programs (or other similarly rigorous, applicable standards required by other health professions), whether or not CE credit is awarded for attendance at the event. CMSRU conducts educational events in conjunction with Cooper University Health Care (CUHC) as they have ACCME accreditation and abide by those standards. All agreements for Industry support must be negotiated through and executed by the CUHC Department of Continuing Education and must comply with all policies for such agreements. Industry funding for such programming should be used to improve the quality of the education and should not be used to support hospitality, such as meals, social activities, etc., except at a modest level.

Industry funding may not be accepted for social events that do not have an educational component. Industry funding may not be accepted to support the costs of internal department meetings or retreats (either on or off campus). At CMSRU co-sponsored Continuing Education programs, if there is an area utilized and designated for vendor displays, that area will be separate from the location assigned for the educational presentations. All vendors are required to sign a CE agreement. Any materials utilized by the industry vendors will be subject to the guidelines established in Section 3. Promotional materials shall be limited to those which do not include product brand names and logos. Additionally, no gifts or enticements such as food or snacks will be permitted at these displays.

2. Industry Sponsored Meetings or Industry Support of Off-campus Meetings:

CMSRU faculty, personnel, students or CMSRU providers or staff are discouraged from participating in or attending Industry-sponsored meetings or other off-campus meetings where Industry support is provided. However, if they do attend or participate:

a. The activity must be designed to promote evidence-based clinical care and/or advance scientific research
b. The financial support of Industry must be prominently disclosed
c. Industry may not pay attendees’ travel and expenses
d. Attendees may not receive gifts or other compensation for attendance
e. Meals provided must be modest (value comparable to Standard Meal Allowance as specified by IRS)
f. If participating as a speaker, lecture content may not be promotional in nature but purely educational, its content determined by the speaker and not industry, reflect a balanced assessment of the current science and treatment options, and the speaker must make clear that the views expressed are the views of the speaker and not of CMSRU. Additionally, compensation must be reasonable and limited to reimbursement of reasonable travel expenses and a modest honorarium not to exceed $2,500 per event

3. Gifts and Provision of Meals:

CMSRU personnel shall not accept or use personal gifts (including food) from representatives of Industry, regardless of the nature or dollar value of the gift. Although personal gifts of nominal value may not violate professional standards or anti-kickback laws, such gifts do not improve the quality of patient care, and research has shown they may subtly influence clinical decisions, and add unnecessary costs to the healthcare system. Gifts from Industry that incorporate a product or company logo (e.g., pens, notepads or office items
such as scales or tissues) introduce a commercial, marketing presence that is not appropriate to a non-profit educational and healthcare system.

Meals or other hospitality funded directly by Industry may not be offered in any facility owned and operated CMSRU. CMSRU personnel may not accept meals or other hospitality funded by Industry, whether on-campus or off-campus, or accept complimentary tickets to sporting or other events or other hospitality from Industry. Modest meals provided incidental to attendance at an off-campus event that complies with the provisions of subsection 2, above, may be accepted.

All full-time and part-time CMSRU faculty, as well as CMSRU medical students will act in accordance with CMSRU policy at all times, including during time spent in the community with CMSRU clinical faculty.

Industry wishing to make charitable contributions to CMSRU may contact the Development Office. Such contributions shall be subject to any applicable policies maintained by CMSRU.

4. Consulting Relationships:

Cooper Medical School of Rowan University recognizes the obligation to make the special knowledge and intellectual competence of its faculty members available to government, business, labor, and civic organizations, as well as the potential value to the faculty member and CMSRU. However, consulting arrangements that simply pay CMSRU personnel a guaranteed amount without any associated duties (such as participation on scientific advisory boards that do not regularly meet) shall be considered gifts and are consequently prohibited. Consulting or advising relationships for purely commercial or marketing purposes are discouraged, while consulting or advising relationships for research and scientific activities are permissible.

In order to avoid gifts disguised as consulting contracts, where CMSRU personnel have been engaged by Industry to provide consulting services, the consulting contract must provide specific tasks and deliverables, with payment commensurate with the tasks assigned and at fair market value. All such arrangements between individuals or units and outside commercial interests must be reviewed and approved by the associate dean for research, departmental chair, or administrator prior to initiation in accordance with appropriate CMSRU policies. For employees of CMSRU who are not faculty, prior written approval of the appropriate supervisor within CMSRU is required for any outside consulting. Cooper Medical School of Rowan University reserves the right to require faculty and employees to request changes in the terms of their consulting agreements to bring those consulting agreements into compliance with CMSRU policies.

5. Frequent Speaker Arrangements (Speakers Bureaus):

While one of the most common ways for CMSRU to disseminate new knowledge is through lectures, “speakers bureaus” sponsored by Industry may serve as little more than an extension of the marketing department of the companies that support the programming. Before committing to being a speaker at an Industry-sponsored event, careful consideration should be given to determine whether the event meets the criteria set forth in Section 2 of this policy, relating to Industry Sponsored Meetings. CMSRU personnel
may not participate in, or receive compensation for, talks given through a speaker’s bureau or similar frequent speaker arrangements if any of the following are true:

   a. Events do not meet the criteria of Section 2;
   b. Content of the lectures given is provided by Industry or is subject to any form of prior approval by either representatives of Industry or event planners contracted by Industry
   c. Content of the presentation is not based on the best available scientific evidence
   d. Company selects the individuals who may attend or provides any honorarium or gifts to the attendees.
   e. Under no circumstances may CMSRU personnel be listed as co-authors on papers ghostwritten by Industry representatives. In addition, CMSRU personnel should always be responsible for the content of any papers or talks that they give, including the content of slides.

Speaking relationships with company or company event planners are subject to review and approval of the participant’s administrator, department chair, or dean as delineated in Section 4, Consulting Relationships.

6. Ghostwriting:

Under no circumstances may CMSRU personnel be listed as co-authors on papers ghostwritten by Industry representatives. In addition, CMSRU personnel should always be responsible for the content of any papers or talks that they give, including the content of slides.

7. Industry Support for Scholarships or Fellowships and other Educational Funds to Students and Trainees:

Cooper Medical School of Rowan University may accept industry support for scholarships and discretionary funds to support trainee or student travel or non-research funding provided that the following criteria are met:

   a. Industry support for scholarships and fellowships must comply with all CMSRU requirements for such funds, including a written pledge agreement through the Development Office. It will be maintained in an appropriate restricted account, managed at the school as determined by the dean. CMSRU will select the recipients of such funds with no involvement by the donor industry. Written documentation of the selection process will be maintained.
   b. Industry support for other student or trainee activities, including travel expenses or attendance fees at conferences, must be accompanied by a written agreement and will only be accepted into a common pool of discretionary funds, which will be maintained under the direction of the dean. Industry cannot designate contributions to fund specific recipients or specific expenses. Departments may apply to use monies from this pool to pay for reasonable travel and tuition expenses students, or other trainees to attend conferences or training that have legitimate educational merit. Recipients will be selected by the department based on merit and/or financial need. Proper documentation must accompany the request.
   c. Final approval and possible exceptions shall be at the discretion of the dean.
8. Samples:

Utilization of drug or device samples at CMSRU run clinics will be judicious and cost-effective. Utilization of drug samples will be at the discretion of the appropriate medical care provider solely for the purpose of patient care (e.g., allowing patients to begin early treatment; testing a therapeutic option prior to filling a prescription; offering an alternative for individuals having difficulty affording their medicines). Utilization of equipment or device samples will be deemed appropriate when healthcare practitioners are developing a familiarity with new materials. Samples of any kind are not intended for personal use by faculty, staff or students. The sale or trade of any industry related sample is strictly prohibited.

Wherever possible, a central distribution and documentation site for medication samples should be established in each healthcare facility that maintains storage of such samples. Samples should be logged in through a designated and secure sample storage process. Logs should include the name of the medication, lot number, expiration date, date of receipt, quantity received, and the name of the individual receiving the samples, including those received on behalf of a group practice. Logs will be maintained in the healthcare facility for a specified time as designated per policy. All samples will be labeled and dispensed in accordance with federal and state laws. A Sample Medication Form will be used to document dispensing information, patient counseling and auxiliary notes. Utilization of vouchers is preferable to actual physical drug samples. The preferred method of obtaining pharmaceuticals for indigent patients would be through specific corporate plans which provide such product directly to the patient.

9. Site Access for Industry Representatives:

All Industry professionals wishing to gain access to CMSRU designated sites will be required to check into the facility through a centralized, appointed individual. Purposes which are appropriate for site visits include the exchange of scientific information, dissemination of materials/information regarding new therapeutic options, and training or discussions which can lead to the advancement of healthcare. Name badges are required for all industry personnel when visiting a CMSRU site. Industry representatives are prohibited from roaming areas frequented by faculty or students. They may provide informational material, such as product literature or journal articles, only at the request of a faculty or staff member.

Prior to gaining access, the individual must have a scheduled appointment with appropriate CMSRU personnel. There may be designated times for Industry representatives to convene in a specific location as pre-determined by department heads in order for questions to be answered or for information to be distributed regarding new equipment or therapeutic options. Any marketing activities will be limited as per sections 1 and 3 of this policy.

Upon an initial visit to a CMSRU site, industry representatives will be provided a vendor policy sheet which will outline procedures that they must follow while visiting the facility.

10. Conflict of Interest Disclosure:

CMSRU faculty and staff will disclose all ties to industry on an annual basis using either the CUHC and/or Rowan University Conflict of Interest disclosure form, depending on the employer of record. Additionally,
any CMSRU faculty and staff lecture must disclose all industry ties to trainees and/or audience that could potentially influence their clinical or educational duties.

11. Conflict of Interest Curriculum for Medical Students

CMSRU is committed to educating its medical students about the ways that Industry may attempt to influence prescribing and treatment habits of physicians. Toward that end, CMSRU has developed a conflict of interest curriculum that is integrated within our Active Learning Groups (ALG), Scholar’s Workshop, and Foundation of Medical Practice. Methods of instruction include lectures, small group discussions, and panel discussions. The curriculum will aim to educate the students on the impact that Industry marketing may have on physician practice, and how Industry may influence the regulation and marketing of drugs and devices.

12. Policy Enforcement

Faculty and Staff: Any violations of this policy should be reported to the Rowan University Hotline (855-431-9967) or http://rowan.edu/integrityline, where it will be directed to the Conflict of Interest Committee. Possible consequences of policy violation include but are not limited to: counseling, training, requiring repayment of monies acquired in violation of policies, fines or termination.

Industry personnel: Any violations of this policy may be subject to any of the following disciplinary actions: Warnings issued to corporation and supervisory personnel (written &/or verbal); access to CMSRU revoked for offending representative and other company personnel; Lengthy restriction by all personnel from any access to the property for varying lengths of time.
Computer and Electronic Device Use

PURPOSE: To establish rules of responsible electronics use in the classroom.

POLICY: CMSRU recognizes the ubiquitous nature of electronic devices in universities. Ultimately the course director and teaching faculty members determine if the use of electronic devices is disruptive to the classroom environment, and may require the removal of such devices during instruction.

Cellular Phone Policy:
The use of cell phones is prohibited during classroom instruction. All cellular phones must be placed in silent mode before a student enters the classroom.

Laptop Computer Policy:
Generally, the use of laptop computers to take notes during lectures, or perform other authorized tasks, is permitted in instructional settings. The instructor does retain the right to limit or refuse laptop use if the practice interferes with instruction. At no time should a laptop be used for entertainment purposes in classrooms. Entertainment purposes may include instant messaging, playing games, emailing, using social networking sites, online shopping, or any other activity deemed inappropriate by the instructor.

Electronic Academic Integrity Policy: At no time will students be allowed access to electronic devices during didactic exams, except as approved accommodations for students with disabilities. Proctors who observe the use of electronics during exams shall confiscate the device as evidence of cheating, and report the incident as outlined in the Student Handbook.

The general use of computers and campus technology is governed by the policies of Rowan University. The complete policy descriptions can be found here: and refer to Digital Millennium Copyright Act, Privacy standards, network use, and computer lab resources.

SCOPE: This policy affects all future students of CMSRU, and commits CMSRU to providing support through the Office of Information Technology.
Copyright Infringement

PURPOSE: CMSRU respects intellectual property and has made it a priority to ensure that all faculty, students, and staff respect the copyrights of others. CMSRU faculty, students, and staff are required to comply with copyright law and to adhere to the CMSRU copyright policy and guidelines. Copyright infringement through inappropriate copying or distribution of copyrighted content is a personal as well as medical school liability and will result in disciplinary action.

POLICY: Copyright

SCOPE: All CMSRU medical students, faculty, and staff

Important Information about Copyright

What is Copyright?
The purpose of copyright law is to provide authors and other creators with an incentive to create and share creative works by granting them exclusive rights to control how their works may be used. Among the exclusive rights granted to those authors are the rights to reproduce, distribute, publicly perform and publicly display a work. These rights provide copyright holders control over the use of their creations, and an ability to benefit, monetarily and otherwise, from the exploitation of their work. Copyright also protects the right to “make a derivative work,” such as a movie from a book; the right to include a piece in a collective work, such as publishing an article in a book or journal; and the rights of attribution and integrity for “authors” of certain works of visual art. If you are not the copyright holder, you must ordinarily obtain permission prior to reusing or reproducing someone else’s copyrighted work. Acknowledging the source of a work is not a substitute for obtaining permission. However, permission generally is not necessary for actions that do not implicate the exclusive rights of the copyright holder, such as reviewing, reading or borrowing a book or photograph.

What is Protected by Copyright?
The rights granted under the U.S. Copyright Act (embodied in Title 17 of the U.S. Code) are intended to benefit “authors” of “original works of authorship,” including literary, dramatic, musical, architectural, cartographic, choreographic, pantomimic, pictorial, graphic, sculptural and audiovisual creations. This means that virtually any creative work that you may come across in readable or viewable format, including books, magazines, journals, newsletters, maps, charts, photographs, graphic materials; unpublished materials, such as analysts’ reports and consultants’ advice; and non-print materials, including websites, computer programs and other software databases, sound recordings, motion pictures, video files, sculptures and other artistic works are almost certainly protected by copyright.

What is NOT Protected by Copyright?
Not everything is protected by copyright. This includes works published by the federal government and works for which copyright protection has expired. This also includes: works that are not fixed; titles, names, slogans; ideas, facts and data; listings of ingredients or contents; natural or self-evident facts; and public domain works (more on that below). Some of these things may, however, be protected under other areas of
law, such as patent or trademark law, or by contract. It is important to be sure that no other form of protection restricts the use of such materials before using them.

**How Long Does Copyright Protection Last?**
In the U.S., a work created on or after January 1, 1978 is ordinarily protected for a term equal to the author’s life span plus 70 years after the author’s death. Works created by companies or other types of organizations have a copyright term of 95 years. For works created before 1978, the duration of protection depends on a number of factors.

**Fair Use**
Fair use is a defense under U.S. law that may be raised by the defendant in a copyright infringement case. Fair use recognizes that certain types of use of other people’s copyright protected works do not require the copyright holder’s authorization. The fair use doctrine is codified in Section 107 of the U.S. Copyright Act. Although there are no absolute rules around fair use, generally the reproduction (photocopy or digital) or use of someone’s copyright-protected work is more likely to be found to be fair use if it is for one of the following purposes: criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching, scholarship or academic research. To determine whether a particular use qualifies as fair use, the statute requires a fact specific analysis of the use based upon four factors:

1. The purpose and character of the use (e.g., whether for commercial or nonprofit educational use)
2. The nature of the copyright-protected work (is it primarily factual or highly creative?)
3. The amount and substantiality of the portion used
4. The effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyright-protected work

All four factors must be considered and balanced against the other factors as part of each fair use analysis.

Fair use requires an appropriate risk assessment as to whether re-use under certain circumstances may be considered fair use. Permission procedures as set out in this policy should be followed and the advice of the CMSRU Library should be sought in instances where fair use determination may be necessary. Please be aware that all educational use is not automatically fair use.

**Copyright and Digital Works**
Any non-digital content that is protected by copyright is also protected in a digital form. For example, print books are protected by copyright law, as are electronic books. A print letter is protected by copyright law, as is an email letter. In both cases, the copyright is generally owned by the author, regardless of who has received the letter. Whenever you wish to use material found on a website, it is always important to review and understand the terms of use for that site because those terms will tell you what use, if any, you can make of the materials you find there.

**Fact Finding Questions**
Once you have identified the materials you want to use, ask yourself the following questions: is the work the type of work protected by copyright? If so, are you using the work in a manner that implicates the exclusive rights of the copyright holder? Is it likely the work is still protected? If the answer is YES to these questions, then you must locate the copyright holder. Is the name of the copyright holder on the materials? Does the
Copyright Clearance Center represent that work? Locating the copyright holder may take some investigative and creative work. Consult with the CMSRU Library to see if they can offer any guidance. The U.S. Copyright Office at the Library of Congress (www.loc.gov) may be of assistance in locating a copyright owner.

**Requesting Permission**

Permission to use copyright-protected materials should be obtained prior to using those materials. It is best to obtain permission in writing, which may be by email. The time needed to obtain permission may vary. When possible, it is recommended to start the permission procedure well in advance of the time that you wish to use the materials. If you need a fast turnaround on a permission request, let the copyright owner know this and they may get back to you faster. The information you will need:

- ISBN or ISSN, if applicable
- Date of publication, if applicable
- Purpose for which you wish to reproduce the item (research, commercial, educational)
- How the material is to be reproduced (e.g., photocopied, digitized)
- Where the reproduced material will appear (including internal vs. external use) and for how long

**Guidelines for the Appropriate Use of Copyrighted Materials**

**CMSRU Faculty, Student and Staff Obligations Under Copyright Law**

No student, faculty member or staff may reproduce any copyrighted work in print, video or digital form in violation of the law. Works are considered protected even if they are not registered with the U.S. Copyright Office and are assumed to be copyrighted until proven otherwise. When a work is copyrighted, you must seek out and receive through a license or the express written permission of the copyright holder, the right to reuse the copyrighted work in order to avoid an infringement of copyright, unless it is determined in consultation with the CMSRU Library and, if appropriate, legal counsel that the use would constitute a fair use.

CMSRU has negotiated licenses with publishers and other copyright holders that allow employees to use and share their materials. Faculty can point students to these materials or link to them. These licenses have restrictions and specific terms of use. As a result, it is critical that an employee investigate what the permitted uses are before copying or sharing any copyrighted materials. Similarly, students must investigate the permitted uses for a copyrighted material before distributing or sharing for any purpose. Please consult and implement the procedures outlined in this policy. Any employee or student who violates CMSRU copyright policy may be subject to disciplinary action. All questions should be directed to Barbara Miller, MS, director of the CMSRU Medical Library at 856-342-2523.

For more information, please refer to Rowan University’s Acceptable Use Policy:

https://confluence.rowan.edu/display/ POLICY/Acceptable+Use+Policy
Curricular Interruption Process

Any student who has a period of time during which they are not participating in the scheduled curriculum for any reason has the following options:

- **Leave of Absence:** A student must formally apply for this using the **Medical Student Withdrawal/Leave of Absence Request** form and adhere to the approval process. The time period and the plan for return to the curriculum will be developed on a case by case basis.
  - During this period, the student is not a student at CMSRU and will not have access to the building or the resources of the school. All possessions must be removed from the building and access cards will be inactivated.
  - The student will be subject to any rules surrounding their existing loans in place federally or locally.
  - This period of time will not be included in the time periods designated to complete a curricular phase as per the Grading and Promotions Policy.

- **Enroll in the Independent Study Course:** 01900.
  - Approval to take this course is via the associate dean for medical education and the assistant dean for student affairs.
  - The **Medical Student Independent Study Request** form must be filed and fully approved before any student can begin the course.
  - A student on an approved Leave of Absence for one or more semesters is not eligible for the Prolonged Independent Study course while on a LOA.
  - The student will be a full-time student at CMSRU while enrolled in this course.
  - The transcript will indicate the student’s enrollment, the time period, and the grade.
  - There will be no course fee.
  - Each student must meet with Financial Aid to determine the process for application for loan support during this period.
  - Student Fees in addition to the course fee will be paid to the Bursar’s office.
    - The cost and term for fees will be the prevailing fee in place at the time of enrollment in the course.
  - The period of time spent in the Independent Study Course will be applied to the time period spent completing a curricular phase as per the Grading and Promotions Policy.
Duty Hours

POLICY: Duty Hours Limitations Policy

PURPOSE:
The faculty and academic administrators of CMSRU recognize the need to balance the learning and wellbeing of CMSRU students during their clinical clerkship education. Therefore, they have established this policy setting duty hours limitations to which students must adhere in Phase 2 of the curriculum.

SCOPE: This policy applies to all candidates for the Doctor of Medicine Degree (M.D.)

DEFINITIONS:
Duty Hours: as defined by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) website October 24, 2013.
“Duty hours are defined as all clinical and academic activities related to the program; i.e., patient care (both inpatient and outpatient), administrative duties relative to patient care, the provision for transfer of patient care, time spent in-house during call activities, and scheduled activities, such as conferences. Duty hours do not include self-directed learning time.

Duty hours are explained at CMSRU as:
- Time spent in all clinical and scheduled educational activities.
  - This includes:
    - Patient care in hospital, office, skilled nursing facility, rehabilitation center, etc.
    - Administrative activities related to the educational program
    - Scheduled conferences; advisory college meetings; meetings with administrators, learning support specialists, student affairs officers, etc.
    - Approved research-related activities
  - It excludes self-directed learning time.

A stint is defined as a continuous period of duty.

I. PROCEDURE:

- Maximum hours of clinical and educational work per week:
  - Students are allowed to work no more than 80 hours per week, averaged over 4 weeks.
  - Students may be on-call in-house no more often than every third night.

- Maximum hours of clinical work and education per stint:
  - Students must work no more than 24 hours of continuous scheduled time (clinical plus educational) per stint.
    - The student may spend up to 4 hours of additional time per stint for activities related to patient safety and/or education (maximum is 28 contiguous hours).

- Mandatory time free of clinical work and educational activities:
  - Students must have at least 8 hours off between stints lasting less than 24 hours.
- Students may, of their own accord, choose to shorten this interval to check on a patient, but they cannot exceed the 80 hours per week maximum.
  - Students must have at least 14 hours free of clinical work and scheduled educational activities after a 24-hour continuous stint.
  - Students must have at least one day in seven (averaged over 4 weeks) free of clinical work and scheduled educational experiences.

II. RESPONSIBILITY

Implementation

1. Office of Medical Education and the Office of Student Affairs
M3 and M4 students will complete a self-reported duty hour exception report, through the one45® curriculum management system, at the end of each inpatient block, listing violations of the duty hour limitations policy during that block, and the reasons for each violation. The director for assessment will report duty hour policy violations every month to the assistant dean for student affairs, and will report every three months any patterns of violation to the phase 2 subcommittee of the curriculum committee.

2. Students
Students must comply with these duty hour limitations policies and procedures. Any student who repeatedly fails to comply will meet with the assistant dean for student affairs for counseling. Recalcitrant noncompliance may be taken as evidence of unprofessional behavior (see Grading, Promotions and Appeals Policy, V.B.).

3. Faculty
Faculty members must encourage students to adhere to duty hour policies and procedures. Faculty members agree to abide by the above duty hours limitations in the design and implementation of their courses and clerkships, and in the supervision of CMSRU students. A faculty member who repeatedly encourages student noncompliance with the duty hour limitations will meet with the assistant dean for curriculum phase 2 for counseling. Faculty members responsible for a pattern of student violations of the duty hour limitations will meet with the dean, who may recommend revocation of their faculty appointment.
Electives Policy

PURPOSE: The purpose of this policy is to clarify the opportunities and procedures related to elective courses in the M3 and M4 years at CMSRU.

SCOPE: CMSRU M3 and M4 students.

DEFINITIONS: Electives are courses of the student’s choice, distinct from required courses and clerkships. Students take electives in the M3 and M4 years.

APPROVED ELECTIVES: Students may select elective courses from:
- elective courses at CMSRU
- visiting electives at:
  - other LCME-accredited medical schools
  - approved international (global health) sites on the AAMC Visiting Student Learning Opportunities (VSLO) program as well as the Cooper Medical trip to Ghana, Africa (see the CMSRU Fourth Year Guide for details)
  - ACGME-accredited residency programs not affiliated with a medical school
- courses required during active duty service for those students with military obligations

M3 ELECTIVES: M3 students must complete three one-week electives. Students may choose from M3 electives offered by CMSRU, or other LCME-accredited medical schools or ACGME-accredited residency programs not affiliated with a medical school. (International electives are not available to M3 students.) CMSRU M3 electives are assigned by lottery. Outside electives must be arranged by the student, and must be approved at least four weeks in advance by the director of the M3 curriculum.

M4 ELECTIVES: M4 students must complete 20 weeks of electives. Sixteen (16) of those weeks may be completed at outside institutions (“visiting electives,” as defined above); four (4) weeks must be completed at CMSRU. Students are responsible for arranging outside electives, which must be approved by the director of the M4 curriculum. (Please refer to the CMSRU Fourth Year Guide for details of application for, and scheduling of, M4 electives.)

NEW ELECTIVES

The Curriculum Committee must approve any new elective before students may be enrolled. All CMSRU electives must be directed by a CMSRU faculty member.
CLINICAL ELECTIVES HOURS POLICY

In order to receive credit for any medical school elective, students will need to attend clinical and educational activities for a minimum of 20 eight-hour days or 160 hours for that one month rotation. To qualify as a “clinical” elective, the majority of the time or >50% is spent seeing patients in a clinical setting or related to patient care such as radiology and pathology. Examples of educational activities include but are not limited to: interaction with patients in clinic/inpatient wards; conferences; discussions; rounds; assignments online with products specified such as answers to questions or exercises, essays, short papers, or reading assignments with a graded assignment; field trips with assignments; and case discussions or reflective meetings with faculty. Students cannot be absent for any reason, either excused or unexcused, more than four (4) working days from a one-month elective, students can and should use days of educational activities or additional clinical experiences to complete adequate time in a clinical elective.

Students are permitted to enroll for credit in clinical electives which do not last for a duration of at least one calendar month. Students who do enroll in approved clinical electives which last for less than four weeks need to find additional electives to complete their required 20 weeks overall of electives. There are opportunities in the CMSRU M4 Elective Catalog that will meet this requirement.

SCHEDULING OUT-OF-TOWN ELECTIVES

It is the student's responsibility to arrange out-of-town electives. Students must keep their advisor, the registrar, and the assistant dean for phase II of the curriculum informed of the status of these electives. Year 4 students are allowed up to 16 weeks away in clinical electives per academic year.

VACATION PERIOD

Students have 9 four week blocks to complete their required clerkships and electives in their M4 year. That leaves 1 four (4) week block open for interviews and personal time (vacation, illness).

In addition, students are permitted five (5) additional days of personal time (vacation, illness) in the M4 year that can be taken outside of the four (4) weeks already given for interviews and personal time.

Personal time can only be taken off during electives. The maximum is 2 days of personal time for a 4-week elective, 1 day for a 2-week elective. You must contact the elective director and coordinator as far in advance as possible if you know that you will be taking personal time off. Personal time is not permitted during the mandatory M4 clerkships: Emergency Medicine, Chronic Care, Sub-Internship, Medical/Surgical Intensive Care.

NEW ELECTIVES

Departments who wish to establish new electives for 4th year students must submit the proposed course goals and objectives to the Curriculum Committee and the course assessment to the Assessment Subcommittee for approval prior to a student starting the elective. All CMSRU electives must be directed by a School of Medicine faculty member. If the proposed course director is not a CMSRU faculty member, a faculty
appointment must be obtained prior to students starting the rotation.

POLICIES ON INSTRUCTION OF STUDENTS

Instruction of CMSRU medical students must be performed under the supervision of CMSRU faculty. Thus, all CMSRU courses are directed by CMSRU faculty. The goals and objectives and teaching methods of all externships are approved by the sponsoring CMSRU department. Instructors in the course and clerkship do not need CMSRU faculty appointments; however, the goals, objectives and methods of such instruction are determined by the course director. Residents who supervise or teach medical students, as well as graduate students and postdoctoral fellows in the biomedical sciences who serve as teachers or teaching assistants, must be familiar with the educational objectives of the course or clerkship and be prepared for their roles in teaching and evaluation. The objectives of the educational program must be made known to all medical students and to the faculty, residents, and others with direct responsibilities for medical student education.
Formative Feedback Policy

**POLICY:** Formative Feedback Policy

**SCOPE:** Candidates for the Doctor of Medicine Degree (M.D.)

**PURPOSE:**

In its efforts to ensure excellent medical education and to provide for appropriately timed formative feedback to medical students the following policy defines the requirements for course directors, clerkship directors and faculty to submit formative feedback at the Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU).

**RESPONSIBILITY:**

It is the responsibility of the course and clerkship directors to ensure that all students receive formative feedback early enough in each required course and clerkships to permit remediation prior to the awarding of final grades. The assessment subcommittee of the curriculum committee reviews and approves all assessment activities within courses and clerkships and ensures that formative assessment activities appropriate to the course or clerkship are provided for. Courses and clerkships less than four weeks use meetings with students to provide formative feedback.

All course and clerkship assessments are monitored by the Office of Medical Education. Course or clerkship directors who are not compliant with these assessments will be reported to the associate dean for medical education. The associate dean for medical education can ask the department chairperson to complete assessments for a course or clerkship to ensure timely compliance.
Grading, Promotions and Appeals

**POLICY:** Grading, Promotions, and Appeals Policy

**PURPOSE:**
The faculty and academic administrators of CMSRU (CMSRU, School) recognize their responsibility to maximize the probability that graduates of the School are qualified and have the maturity and emotional stability to assume the professional responsibilities implicit in the receipt of the degree of Doctor of Medicine. Therefore, they have established these policies to guide themselves and medical student colleagues in pursuing a level of academic and professional excellence required for the conferral of that degree. Specific procedures have been established to provide uniformity and equity of process in all situations requiring administrative action.

**SCOPE:** Candidates for the Doctor of Medicine Degree (M.D.)

**DEFINITIONS:**
This document deals with those students who are candidates for the MD degree.

**Remediation:** A defined process created by a course or clerkship director to ensure that a student who fails a course or clerkship has subsequently gained the knowledge and skills required. The process is tailored to the student and consists of activities to improve competency through reassessment.

**Appeal:** A petition filed by a student challenging a course or clerkship grade, a clinical assessment in the M3 year, time in program, and promotional decisions. An action in favor of a student does not imply wrongdoing by the faculty or the administration.

**Promotional decisions:** The Academic Standing Committee reviews students annually or on an as-needed basis to advance them in the medical education program, certify them for graduation, or consider them for dismissal.

**Academic or performance improvement plan:** A defined plan developed by the Office of Medical Education and/or the CMSRU Executive Deans for students whose appeal regarding a promotional decision has been upheld by the Academic Standing Committee or the Ad Hoc Committee for Student Appeals. The improvement plan is developed to ensure that a student who fails to complete the courses and/or clerkships in a medical education program year will have successfully completed the failed courses and/or clerkships and demonstrated competence in the knowledge or skills required to move to the next level in the medical education program. The process is tailored to the student and addresses academic or other deficiencies related to their academic or professional performance. A student may be required to meet special conditions or take an extra academic year as part of their plan. An academic improvement plan is not an adverse action and, therefore, not subject to appeal.

**Final grade:** A grade entered into the academic transcript at the end of a course or clerkship or at the resolution of a grade appeal.
I. RESPONSIBILITY

Implementation

1. Faculty
The faculty is responsible for implementing grading policies, regulations and procedures. For the courses or clerkships for which they are responsible, faculty members:
   a. establish standards to be met for attaining course or clerkship credit and criteria for assigning specific grades, and
   b. assign final grades for the course or clerkship within six weeks of the last day of the course or clerkship.

2. The associate dean for medical education
The associate dean for medical education administers the grading and promotion policy regulations and procedures with the support of the assistant dean for curriculum for phase 1, the assistant dean for curriculum for phase 2, and the vice dean or designee as appropriate.

3. Academic Standing Committee
The Academic Standing Committee hears student grade appeals and communicates its decision to the associate dean for medical education. The Committee reviews student progress and makes decisions regarding the placement on and removal from academic and non-academic probation. The Committee makes recommendation for certification of the graduating class to the departmental chairs, who review and approve on behalf of the faculty. The Committee also makes recommendations to the dean about student promotions and decisions regarding dismissal. Students have the right to appeal all promotional decisions made by the Academic Standing Committee.

4. Ad Hoc Committee for Student Appeals
The Ad Hoc Committee for Student Appeals is convened by the vice dean or their designee to hear appeals of promotional decisions by the Academic Standing Committee. It is composed of five members of the faculty who are not advisory college directors, members of the Academic Standing Committee, the Curriculum Committee or any of its subcommittees. This committee is advisory to the dean.

5. Executive Committee of Deans
The Executive Committee of Deans at CMSRU are composed of all the associate and assistant deans at CMSRU. This group may develop Academic Improvement or Performance Improvement Plans for students.

II. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND SEQUENCING

All required courses of all curricular years, including the required number of elective weeks, must be completed satisfactorily in the prescribed sequence before a student can be certified for graduation. A student may not repeat a course or clerkship more than once, and no more than three distinct academic years may be utilized to fulfill the requirements of either the first and second years (Phase 1), or the third and
fourth years (Phase 2) of the curriculum. Students enrolled in the Student Scholar Year opportunity or an Independent Study are considered to be enrolled in the academic program, and this year counts as completed time in Phase 1 or 2 of the curriculum. Students who perform scholarly work or enroll in dual degree programs (e.g., MD/PhD) may extend the degree completion limit from six distinct academic years to ten distinct academic years upon the recommendation of the Academic Standing Committee to the dean. Of important note, most state licensing boards require the completion of USMLE Steps 1, 2, and 3 within a seven-year period. Step 3 is taken during the first or second year of postgraduate training. All students should be familiar with the medical licensing requirements for the States where they intend to practice medicine, and if a waiver of the seven-year requirement is possible.

Any requests to extend the academic program beyond the time limits noted above and for any reason, must be recommended by the Academic Standing Committee and approved by the dean or designee. Appeals of these decisions may be made to the Ad Hoc Committee for Student Appeals.

All courses and academic requirements of a particular year must be completed satisfactorily before a student may begin any course or clerkship of the ensuing curricular year, or before taking one of the USMLE Step Examinations (1, 2CK, or 2CS).

Students returning from a Leave of Absence, Independent Study, or Student Scholar research experience will need to document their ability to resume patient care within the CMSRU medical education curriculum. A student with significant degradation of clinical skills may need remediation prior to returning to the medical education curriculum.

III. ASSESSMENT AND STANDING OF STUDENTS

A. Grading

All courses or clerkships, whether required or elective, and all research experiences specifically approved as part of an individual student’s curriculum must be graded according to the grading system for Phase 1 or Phase 2. Final grades must be submitted to the registrar within six weeks of the completion of a course or clerkship. If the final grade for a course or clerkship is a UR (unsatisfactory remediable) or a U (unsatisfactory), the assistant dean for assessment and CQI in the Office of Medical Education informs the associate dean for medical education promptly by phone or email and submits that information in writing within three weeks.

1. The CMSRU Grading System

The grading system for Phase 1 provides two levels of credit (Pass [P] and Remediated Pass [RP]) and four levels of non-credit (Unsatisfactory [U], Unsatisfactory Remediable [UR], Incomplete [I], and Withdrawn [W]). Unsatisfactory is equivalent to failure. The grading system for Phase 2 provides four levels of credit (Honors [H], High Pass [HP], Pass [P], and Remediated Pass [RP]) and four levels of non-credit (Unsatisfactory [U], Unsatisfactory Remediable [UR], Incomplete [I], and Withdrawn [W]). The grading mechanism for each course will be detailed in the syllabus of that course or clerkship.
M3 Courses/Clerkships:

**Honors (H):** is a clearly superior performance that reflects comprehensive achievement of course/clerkship objectives. (Distribution: approximately 20% of the class may receive H.)

**High Pass (HP):** a performance well beyond minimum achievement of course/clerkship requirements. (Distribution: after Honors grades have been determined, approximately 30% of the class may receive HP.)

**Pass (P):** a satisfactory performance that meets basic course/clerkship requirements. (A minimum grade of 70.00 is required to pass all courses and clerkships.)

**Remediated Pass (RP):** a satisfactory performance that meets basic course/clerkship requirements upon the successful completion of the remediation plan, following an unsatisfactory course grade (UR).

**Unsatisfactory Remediable (UR):** a temporary grade for a performance below acceptable minimum standards (grade less than 70.00) which the student has been granted the opportunity to remediate. This grade can only be replaced by either an RP or a U (see below).

**Unsatisfactory (U):** a final grade for student performance below acceptable minimum standards (grade less than 70.00).

- When a student repeats a curricular year, the final grade recorded on the transcript for the repeated course/clerkship shall be the actual grade earned (H, HP, P, or U). The original U grade earned in previous academic years remains on the transcript, if the course was not remediated within that academic year.

**Incomplete (I):**

Grades of Incomplete are applied at the School as described below:

- A course/clerkship director, following consultation with the associate dean for medical education, may assign the grade of I to indicate that a student has been unable to complete all of the course requirements for a reason(s) beyond their control (e.g., death in the family, significant illness or injury, etc.).
- When the grade of I is assigned to a course/clerkship, the student must complete the course/clerkship requirement before the beginning of the next academic year unless the course/clerkship director, with the concurrence of the associate dean for medical education, shall have provided a specific alternative time period, not to exceed one year from the completion date of the course/clerkship unless there is a compelling reason that must be approved by the associate dean for medical education.
- Once the student has addressed all course/clerkship requirements, the course/clerkship director must assign a final grade (Phase 1 = P, UR, or U, Phase 2 = H, HP, P, UR or U) in place of the I grade. If the requirements for the incomplete course/clerkship have not been met within the specified time limits, and no agreement has been made to extend the time limit, and the student has not withdrawn from school, a final grade of U will be assigned.

**Withdrawn (W):**

If the student has withdrawn from a course, clerkship, or the school, the associate dean for medical education will assign a W (Withdrawn) grade to the student's record.
M4 Courses/Clerkships:

The M4 courses and clerkships provides for grades of Honors (H), High Pass (HP), Pass (P), Unsatisfactory Remediable (UR), and Unsatisfactory (U), except in the case of one and two week electives which are graded as Pass (P), Unsatisfactory Remediable (UR), and Unsatisfactory (U).

When written confirmation of a final grade for an M4 course/clerkship has not been received within seven days prior to the student’s scheduled graduation date from the School, the associate dean for medical education, in consultation with the appropriate departmental chairperson, may assign and have duly recorded on the student’s academic transcript a final grade of P, if the student has met all requirements for that course/clerkship.

2. Narrative Assessments

a. Competency Assessment
At the conclusion of each course in year one and year two lasting greater than or equal to three weeks, after all the M3 clerkships, and after the required clerkships in M4, a formal written narrative assessment of each student’s performance must be submitted to the Office of Medical Education. These comments will become part of the academic record. In year one and year two, narrative assessments are written by the active learning group (ALG) and Scholar’s Workshop (SW) facilitators and by the course faculty for the Foundations of Medical Practice Course and Ambulatory clerkship. M3 and M4 clerkship directors provide the narrative assessment in years three and four.

i. Mid-course and Mid-Clerkship Assessment

Interim formative evaluative comments from the ALG, SW, and FMP facilitators, clinical preceptors, and/or clerkship directors made directly to the student are required during all courses and clerkships, including the Cooper Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship (CLIC) in year three. Such interim assessments must be given at approximately the mid-point of each course or clerkship when faculty communicate to each student information concerning the student's performance to date and, as appropriate, recommendations for improvement.

ii. Final Written Report

Within four weeks of the conclusion of each course in Phase 1 of the curriculum, ALG facilitators, and Ambulatory Clerkship course directors must submit to the associate dean for medical education, a written narrative report for each student assigned to their group. Scholar’s Workshop and Foundations of Medical Practice faculty members submit these reports at the mid-point and the end of the academic year. The narrative report is submitted via one45 by the facilitator and should address the CMSRU competencies. Similarly, within six weeks of the conclusion of an inpatient or ambulatory block in the third year and required clerkships in the
fourth year, the clerkship director must submit to the OME a written narrative report for each student assigned to that clerkship. The associate dean for medical education will review all reports and, refer students as needed to the director of professionalism for issues of professionalism. The director of professionalism may refer the student to the Academic Standing Committee.

iii. Errors in Statements of Fact in Narratives

If any student feels that there are errors of fact in any student narratives, a request to have that narrative amended should be submitted to and reviewed by the associate dean for medical education within three days of receiving their narrative report.

B. Standing of Students

Students are placed into one of the following two categories by the Academic Standing Committee based upon their academic performance:

1. **In good standing**
   The status of “good standing” indicates that the student is eligible to continue at CMSRU, to return to CMSRU, or to transfer elsewhere. It implies good academic progress as well as good citizenship.

2. **Not in good standing**
   The status of “not in good standing” indicates that the student is not eligible to progress in the CMSRU medical education program due to an academic or citizenship issue. If a student is on probation they are “not in good standing” and must successfully complete the requirements to be removed from probation to be able to have their status changed to “in good standing”. Students who have been dismissed from CMSRU are unable to re-enroll at CMSRU.

   All decisions made by the Academic Standing Committee regarding the standing of students are final. See Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) policy regarding financial aid implications.

IV. **THE PROMOTIONAL SYSTEM**

A. Phase 1

Students are required to achieve final grades of Pass (P) or Remediated Pass (RP) in addition to a satisfactory narrative review in all Phase 1 courses/clerkships in order to be promoted to the next academic year and to take the USMLE Step 1 examination at the end of the M2 year.

- The passing grade for all courses in Phase 1 is 70.00 and minimal competency for all summative written and practical examinations in a course is set at a score of 60.00. Any score
on a summative written or practical examination below 60.00 will result in an unsatisfactory grade (U or UR) in the course, regardless of the overall course score.

- In M1 and M2 Foundations of Medical Practice, students must pass each end-of-year OSCE domain with a score of greater than or equal to 60.00. A score below 60.00 will result in an unsatisfactory grade (U or UR), regardless of the overall course score.
- Students are required to pass all courses and clerkships in Year 1 to be promoted to Year 2.
- Students are required to pass all courses and clerkships in Year 2 to be promoted to Phase 2: Year 3.
- A student who receives an unsatisfactory grade in up to 3 or more courses in an academic year in Phase I will be permitted to remediate up to two of the unsatisfactory grades before being reviewed for dismissal by the Academic Standing Committee, notwithstanding their remediation.
- A student who chooses to repeat a year without having successfully completed all the academic requirements for that year will be placed on academic probation since they have not successfully remediated the courses and are choosing to repeat them.
  - **M1 Fundamentals special circumstances:** The M1 Fundamentals course is a 16 week course with four individual blocks. Student scores are averaged throughout the course to calculate the final grade. Given the critical nature of this course in the academic development of a CMSRU medical student, the following applies:
    - A student must achieve an average grade of 70.00 or above for the four blocks to pass the course, with a minimum score of 60.00 in each of the block examinations.
    - A student with an unsatisfactory block score in up to two block modules in this course may remediate the course at the end of the academic year if the student’s overall course average is below a 70.00.
    - A student with an unsatisfactory grade in three of the course blocks must repeat the course the following academic year and will not be allowed to progress in the remainder of the M1 curriculum regardless of course average. The student will be placed on academic probation.
- A student who fails to remediate an unsatisfactory grade in 1 course/clerkship will be placed on academic probation and must repeat the course/clerkship in the subsequent year. A student will not be permitted to advance to the next academic year until the course/clerkship has been successfully completed. If the student is unsuccessful in their repeated course/clerkship, they will not be permitted to remediate the repeated course/clerkship and they will be reviewed for dismissal by the Academic Standing Committee. A student may register for an Independent Study during this time, but is not permitted to take courses/clerkships/electives from the next academic year’s curriculum.
- A student who fails to remediate 2 courses/clerkships must repeat the year, and will be placed on academic probation. The student must retake the courses/clerkships in the academic year and pass all to move to the next academic year in the curriculum. If the student is unsuccessful in any of their repeated courses/clerkships, they will not be permitted to remediate the repeated courses/clerkships and they will be reviewed for dismissal by the Academic Standing Committee.
- A student who receives a final grade of unsatisfactory remediable (UR) grade in 3 or more courses/clerkships within the same academic year will be reviewed by the Academic Standing Committee for dismissal. This is not withstanding any successful remediation of the courses or clerkships in which a UR grade was awarded.
- A student with an identified area of concern about their professionalism in their course narratives may be referred to the director of professionalism for review and action, which may include non-academic or academic probation and/or review for dismissal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase 1</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Event</td>
<td>Outcome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fail 1 course/clerkship</td>
<td>Remediate the failure, if unsuccessful, placed on academic probation and repeat the course/clerkship. If unsuccessful in the repeated course/clerkship, remediation is not permitted. The student is reviewed for dismissal by the academic standing committee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fail 2 courses/clerkships</td>
<td>Remediate the failures, if unsuccessful, placed on academic probation and repeat the non-remediated courses. If unsuccessful in any of the repeated courses/clerkships, remediation is not permitted. The student is reviewed for dismissal by the academic standing committee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fail 3 or more courses/clerkships</td>
<td>Review for dismissal Note: Failures in longitudinal courses will be awarded immediately when they occur in the academic year. All students are reviewed at the end of the remediation period after the M1 and M2 years, for three or more failures. Students may remediate no more than 2 of the failed courses/clerkships. Review for dismissal is notwithstanding remediation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fail 3 M1 Fundamentals Blocks</td>
<td>The student is placed on Independent Study or Leave of Absence for the remainder of that academic year. They must repeat the entire M1 year and are placed on academic probation pending a successful outcome. If the student is unsuccessful in their repeated Fundamentals course, remediation is not permitted. Students will be reviewed for dismissal.</td>
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</table>
B. Phase 2

- Students are required to pass all courses and clerkships in Year 3 to be promoted to Year 4 and take the USMLE Step 2 CK and CS examinations.
- In the M3 year, a student must successfully complete all assessment components of their course and clerkship requirements. A student who needs to remediate assessment components for courses or clerkships during the M3 year must do so within 21 calendar days of the close of the academic year or the awarding of the final course grade, whichever is later, unless there are extenuating circumstances. Remedial examinations held after the M3 year will delay entry in the M4 year. A student who needs to remediate any portion of an M3 course or clerkship can only receive a final grade of Remediated Pass (RP) in those courses or clerkships. A student who fails to remediate a course/clerkship will be placed on academic probation, must repeat the course/clerkship, and cannot advance in the curriculum. If the student is unsuccessful in their repeated course/clerkship, they will not be permitted to remediate the repeated course/clerkship and they will be reviewed for dismissal by the Academic Standing Committee.
  - In the M3 year, minimal competency for all clerkship NBME Subject examinations is set at 2 standard deviations below the national mean for the most recent published national means for each of the subject examinations. Any score below the posted pass score will result in an unsatisfactory grade (U or UR) in the clerkship regardless of the overall clerkship score.
  - In the M3 year, minimal competency for all clerkship summative clinical assessments is set as the mean score for all competency domains at greater than or equal to 4.00 on the CMSRU Scale of 1-9. Any mean score below the 4.00 will result in an unsatisfactory grade (U or UR) in the clerkship regardless of the overall clerkship score.
  - In the M3 summative OSCE, students must pass each OSCE domain with a score of greater than or equal to 60.00. A score below 60.00 will result in an unsatisfactory grade (U or UR) in the CLIC, regardless of the overall clerkship score.
  - Students failing the M3 Scholar’s Workshop course only will be promoted to Year 4 with contingency and must remediate that course during Year 4.
- Students are required to pass all M4 clerkships and electives, USMLE Step 2 CK and CS, and satisfactorily complete their Scholar’s Workshop capstone project to be eligible for graduation.
- A student who receives a final grade of UR in four M3 courses or clerkships or three M4 courses or clerkships in an academic year will be reviewed by the Academic Standing Committee for dismissal. They will be permitted to remediate up to two of the unsatisfactory courses or clerkships before being reviewed for dismissal by the Academic Standing Committee, notwithstanding their remediation.
- A student with an identified area of concern in their clerkship narrative assessments may be referred to the director of professionalism for review and action, which may include academic or non-academic probation and/or review for dismissal.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fail 1 M3 course/elective/clerkship</td>
<td>Remediate the failed course, elective, or clerkship, if unsuccessful, placed on academic probation and repeat the course/elective/clerkship. If unsuccessful in the repeated course/elective/clerkship, remediation is not permitted. The student is reviewed for dismissal by the academic standing committee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fail 2 M3 courses/electives/clerkships</td>
<td>Remediate the two failed courses, electives, or clerkships, if unsuccessful, placed on academic probation and repeat the courses/electives/clerkships. If unsuccessful in the repeated courses/electives/clerkships, remediation is not permitted. The student is reviewed for dismissal by the academic standing committee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fail 3 M3 courses/electives/clerkships</td>
<td>Repeat entire M3 year and placed on academic probation. If unsuccessful in any of the repeated courses/electives/clerkships, remediation is not permitted. The student is reviewed for dismissal by the academic standing committee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fail 4 M3 courses/electives/clerkships</td>
<td>Review for dismissal. Note: Failures in longitudinal courses will be awarded immediately when they occur in the academic year. All students are reviewed immediately upon receipt of the fourth unsatisfactory grade. Students may remediate no more than 2 of the failed courses/clerkships. Review for dismissal is notwithstanding remediation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fail 1 M4 course/elective/clerkship</td>
<td>Remediate the failed course, elective, or clerkship, if unsuccessful, placed on academic probation and repeat the course/elective/clerkship. If unsuccessful in the repeated course/elective/clerkship, remediation is not permitted. The student is reviewed for dismissal by the academic standing committee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fail 2 M4 courses/electives/clerkships</td>
<td>Remediate the failed courses, electives, or clerkships, if unsuccessful, placed on academic probation and repeat the courses/electives/clerkships. If unsuccessful in the repeated courses/electives/clerkships,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fail 3 M4 courses/electives/clerkships</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fail 3 M4 courses/electives/clerkships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific Fall Event</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fail Scholar’s Workshop</td>
<td>Remediate within 21 days from grade posting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. USMLE Examinations:

- All students studying for the MD degree at CMSRU are required to pass Step 1 and Step 2 CK and Step 2 CS of the U.S. Medical Licensure Examination (USMLE) as a condition of continued matriculation and of graduation.
  
  - Step 1 shall be taken prior to beginning Year 3 of the medical school curriculum and no later than the Sunday before the beginning of the M3 year orientation. There will be no extensions of this deadline.
    - Students must successfully complete all academic requirements of the M2 year before they will be permitted to take the Step 1 examination and enter the M3 year. Students will receive a conditional permit to register for the Step 1 examination in October of the M2 year.
    - Rising M2 students are conditionally promoted to the M3 year pending the results of the Step 1 Examination.
    - M2 students who do not matriculate to the M3 year, for any reason (eg, students who are on Independent Study and or Leave of Absence before taking or re-taking Step) are required to take the Step 1 examination prior to April 15th of the year they will matriculate to the M3 year.
  
  - Step 2 CK (Clinical Knowledge) shall be taken no later than October 15th and Step 2 CS (Clinical Skills) shall be taken no later than September 7th of the calendar year in which medical students are enrolled in Year 4 of the medical school curriculum. There will be no exceptions of these deadlines.

- A student who fails to pass Step 1 on the initial attempt will have two choices:
  
  1. Complete the first block of the M3 year. The student will then enter a temporary Step 1 Prolonged Absence for up to 6 weeks in Block 2 of the M3 year and develop a Step 1
remediation plan approved by the Associate Dean for Medical Education, which must be completed during block 2 of the M3 year.

- Take Step 1 again within 40 days after completing the first block of the M3 year.
- Resume the third year program following the remediation time by entering the next block in the M3 curriculum.
- Completion of the M3 year will require an extension of time (a minimum of four weeks) to complete all requirements, thus delaying the start of the fourth year.

2. At their request, students may choose to take an Independent Study or a leave of absence for the remainder of the M3 year and begin the M3 year with the subsequent class.

- A student who fails to pass Step 1 on their second attempt shall:
  - Stop all activities in the M3 year and be placed on academic probation by the Academic Standing Committee.
  - Be automatically registered in an independent study program or take a leave of absence. The independent study program will be monitored by the Office of Medical Education.
  - Take Step 1 for the third time no later than May 30th of the original third academic year.
  - If the student successfully completes the Step 1 examination, the student may reenter the medical education program.

A student who fails the Step 1 examination a third time shall be reviewed for dismissal by the Academic Standing Committee.

- A student whose M3 year may have been extended for the above reasons and has met all requirements of the Year 3 program may begin his/her Year 4 program. The student will have the option of starting the M4 curriculum late, or choosing a leave of absence or independent study and re-entering the Year 4 program with the subsequent class. The amount of time extended into the M4 year may have an impact on a student’s ability to graduate on-time.

- A student who does not take Step 2 CK by October 15th and CS by September 7th of the fourth year shall not be permitted to continue clinical rotations until they take the Step 2 examination(s).

- A student who fails to pass Step 2 CK or 2 CS shall:
  - Take Step 2 CK prior to December 15th or 2 CS prior to January 30th in their M4 academic year.
  - Complete the fourth year curriculum.

- A student who fails to pass Step 2 CK or 2 CS for the second time can continue in the M4 year and will be placed on academic probation by the Academic Standing Committee. They must:
  - Take Step 2 CK or 2 CS for the third time, no later than March 15th and receive a passing score in time to graduate with their current class. A passing score for Step 2 CK and Step 2 CS must
be reported to the Office of Medical Education no later than one week prior to graduation in order for the student to be awarded a diploma with their class.

- The student may choose to take a Leave of Absence or an Independent Study to finish out the current academic year. They must take Step 2 CK or 2 CS by May 31st in order to move to the next academic year and finish with the next academic class. A passing score must be received by July 1st in order to continue their academic program. If needed, the student may be registered for an M4 independent study program at some point in the new M4 academic year, to allow for a potential May graduation date of the next year.
- A student who fails the Step 2 CK or 2 CS examination three times shall be reviewed for dismissal by the Academic Standing Committee.

D. Promotional Decisions

The associate dean for medical education is responsible for assessing the academic performance of each student. The associate dean for medical education will release final grades to the registrar. The assistant dean for assessment and CQI is responsible for informing any student of their status if the grade is a U or UR, and will refer the student to the assistant dean for phase 1 or phase 2 for support in their decision-making regarding remediation and the Academic Standing Committee review process for promotional decisions.

For issues related to professionalism within the curriculum, a student’s case is referred to the director of professionalism by the associate dean for medical education. The student is entitled to a meeting with the director of professionalism prior to their rendering a decision. The director of professionalism determines if the case should be referred to the Academic Standing Committee for review and possible promotional decision.

Remediation of a Failing Performance

Phase 1 Remediation:
All remediation in all M1 and M2 courses/ clerkships is done after the academic year is concluded. Only one attempt is permitted to remediate by reexamination or other course assessment a UR grade in any course/clerkship. The remediation examination or other assessment will be conducted within 21 calendar days of the distribution of final grades in the M1 or M2 academic year. Remediation examinations are subject to minimal competency scores of greater than or equal to 60.00 in addition to a remediated overall score of 70.00. The final remediation plan and assessments are at the discretion of the course/clerkship directors. Students who fail remediation cannot progress in the curriculum, cannot take the USMLE Step 1 examination, and must repeat the course or clerkship in the following academic year. Students who are unsuccessful in their remediation attempts will be placed on academic probation until they have successfully repeated the failed courses or clerkships. If unsuccessful in their repeated course or clerkship in Phase 1 of the curriculum, the student will be reviewed by the Academic Standing Committee for dismissal.
Phase 2 Remediation:
Remediation for courses and clerkships in the M3 or M4 year occurs within 21 days of the posting of the final grade.

- Students will begin the remediation process for failed M3 NBME subject examination assessment components as soon as the M3 Examination period ends and scores and/or grades are available. This will allow students to matriculate into the M4 year as soon as possible. Other unsatisfactory aspects of the M3 courses or clerkships will be handled on a case-by-case basis to complete the remediation process.
- Remediation in the M4 year is handled on a case-by-case basis and must be completed in time for graduation.
- Only one attempt is permitted to remediate by reexamination or other course assessment a UR grade in any assessment component in the M3 or M4 year. The highest grade a student can earn with successful remediation in any M3 or M4 course or clerkship is a remediated/pass (RP). A student who is unsuccessful in remediation will be placed on Academic Probation, cannot take the USMLE Step 2 CK or CS examinations, and must repeat the course/ clerkship as soon as possible. If the student is successful, s/he will be removed from Academic Probation and proceed in the curriculum. If unsuccessful, the student will be reviewed by the Academic Standing Committee for dismissal. Remediation is not permitted for second course/elective/clerkship failures.
- A student who fail three courses, electives, and/or clerkships in the M3 year will be placed on Academic Probation and must repeat the entire M3 year. If the student is successful, s/he will be removed from Academic Probation and enter the medical education program for the M4 year. If the student fails one or more courses or clerkships in the repeated year, the student will be reviewed by the Academic Standing Committee for dismissal. Remediation is not permitted for second course/elective/clerkship failures.
- Students who fail four courses, electives, and/or clerkships in the M3 year will be reviewed by the Academic Standing Committee for dismissal.
- A student who fails three courses, electives, and/or clerkships in the M4 year will reviewed by the Academic Standing Committee for dismissal. All students are reviewed immediately upon receipt of the third unsatisfactory grade. Students may remediate no more than 2 of the failed courses/clerkships. Review for dismissal is notwithstanding remediation.

Remediation Process:
Students will follow a plan developed for course/clerkship/elective remediation by the course director(s)/clerkship director(s). The plan will be developed, regardless of the student’s intent to appeal the final grade, within fourteen (14) days of student notification of unsuccessful performance in a course/clerkship/elective, except in the last course, elective, or block in an academic year when the plan is developed within 3 days. The plan will be implemented after completion of the academic year. The course/clerkship/elective director(s) will:
1. Within seven (7) days of notification of unsuccessful performance, meet with the student to help identify his or her obstacles to achieving satisfactory performance
2. Meet with course/clerkship/elective faculty, as necessary, to discuss the student’s learning needs and plan remedial experiences
3. Work with the Phase 1 or Phase 2 assistant dean to create a written plan for remediation, including:
   a. goals
   b. method(s) of study/practice
   c. duration of the program
   d. frequency of meetings between the student and designated faculty or course/clerkship director
   e. planned assessments
4. Share the proposed program with the assistant dean for assessment and CQI and the associate dean for medical education for their review and written approval. In the event the student is in Year 3, the M3 director will be required to review and approve the plan. For students in Year 4, the M4 director will be required to review and approve the plan.
5. Review the plan with the student within one week of the original meeting.
6. Present the student with the written plan, which will be signed by the student.
7. Carry out the plan after completion of the academic year. If the student successfully/remediates, the grade is changed from a UR to an RP. In the case of a clerkship needing remediation, the highest grade available for posting will be a RP.
8. If the student fails to remediate, the grade is converted to a U and the student is referred to the Academic Standing Committee for promotional review.

V. PROBATION

A. Academic

A student shall be placed on academic probation by the Academic Standing Committee:
• when the student has unsuccessfully completed the remediation process for a course/clerkship and/or is required to repeat a course/clerkship due to unsatisfactory academic performance;
• when a student is repeating an academic year; or
• When a student fails a USMLE Step 1, Step 2 CK, or Step 2 CS examination for the second time.
• See Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Policy regarding financial aid implications.

A student shall be removed from academic probation by the Academic Standing Committee:
• when the student has successfully completed a repeated course/clerkship due to unsatisfactory academic performance;
• when a student has successfully completed all courses and clerkships in a repeated academic year; or
• when a student passes a USMLE Step 1, Step 2 CK, or Step 2 CS examination on the third attempt.

All decisions made by the Academic Standing Committee regarding the academic status of students are final.

A student who is on probation in either Phase 1 or Phase 2 of the curriculum and fails a course or
clerkship for the second time shall be reviewed by the Academic Standing Committee for dismissal.

B. Non-Academic

Professionalism is a core competency of the CMSRU curriculum. All matters related to professionalism within the curriculum are reviewed by the director of professionalism. When, in narrative comments evaluating a student, or other communication such as a Professionalism Intervention Report, faculty members express concern about a student’s professionalism, the director of professionalism may, after discussion with the faculty, and/or course/clerkship director, and/or the associate dean for medical education, and or the assistant dean for student affairs, refer the student to the Academic Standing Committee for review. If the Academic Standing Committee places a student on non-academic probation, the chair of the Academic Standing Committee will forward the decision to the director of professionalism. The Executive Committee of Deans at CMSRU will provide the conditions for removal from non-academic probation. The director of professionalism will notify the student of their status and will state in writing the specific duration and conditions of the probationary status. The director of professionalism is responsible for monitoring the student’s adherence to the conditions of the probation. The director of professionalism will inform the Academic Standing Committee of the student’s progress. If a student completes the requirements of their probation, they will be removed from probationary status and informed in writing by the Academic Standing Committee. If a student does not complete the requirements of their probation, they will be reviewed for dismissal by the Academic Standing Committee. All decisions made by the Academic Standing Committee regarding the academic status of students are final.

VI. GRADE APPEALS

A grade appeal may be made only on the basis of a Procedural Irregularity: a documented error in, or divergence from, the prescribed or customary process of evaluating and grading students. Appeals will be acted upon favorably only when real, clear and convincing evidence of a procedural irregularity. Testing conditions that are not identical to prior testing conditions are not necessarily a procedural irregularity. The student should include all relevant information in the first level of the appeal, as that constitutes the basis for appeal process from the course or clerkship director through the Academic Standing Committee. The basis of the appeal cannot be modified once the appeal is submitted.

Extenuating circumstances will not be accepted as the basis for a grade appeal. Extenuating circumstances may represent the basis for a postponement of an assessment event. Students must present evidence for extenuating circumstances related to course or clerkship assessments to the Chief Student Affairs Officer before an assessment event. Excuses will not be accepted after the assessment event and are not considered procedural irregularities associated with the course or clerkship requirements or assessment activities.

Students may begin remediation during a grade appeals process for courses or clerkships with unsatisfactory grades and not involved in the appeal. A student who receives a final grade of UR in three courses or clerkships in an academic year in Phase 1 will be reviewed by the Academic Standing Committee for dismissal. A student who receives a final grade of UR in four M3 courses or clerkships or three M4 courses or clerkships in an academic year will be reviewed by the Academic Standing
Committee for dismissal. This is notwithstanding any successful remediation of the courses or clerkships in which a UR grade was awarded.

Appealing a Course or Clerkship Grade

1. Appeal to the Course/Clerkship Director

A student who believes that there is a procedural irregularity with their course/clerkship grade must first appeal the grade to the course/clerkship directors within three (3) working days of having been notified of the grade. For year-long courses with multiple assessments, the student may submit an appeal for a failed assessment within three (3) working days of having been notified of the failing assessment score. The student submits the Grade Appeal Form to the course/clerkship directors with a copy to the Office of Medical Education administrative assistant. The Office of Medical Education administrative assistant monitors and documents the process so that all steps in the appeal process are followed correctly. The course/clerkship directors, in consultation with the course/clerkship teaching faculty, will review the grade appeal and notify the student and the Office of Medical Education administrative assistant of the decision within five (5) working days of the appeal.

2. Appeal to the Office of Medical Education

If the student believes that the decision reached by the course/clerkship directors is unjustified, s/he may appeal that decision, in writing, to the director of curriculum and student development in the Office of Medical Education. The written appeal must be made within three (3) working days of receiving notice upholding the original grade from the course/clerkship directors. The administrative assistant in the Office of Medical Education monitors and documents this process. The director of curriculum and student development in the Office of Medical Education reviews the appeal and offers a decision within five (5) working days. If the director of curriculum and student development in the Office of Medical Education upholds the grade as recorded by the faculty, the student may then appeal the grade to the Academic Standing Committee.

3. Appeal to the Academic Standing Committee

If the student is dissatisfied with the decision reached by the director of curriculum and student development in the Office of Medical Education, s/he may appeal that decision, in writing, to the Academic Standing Committee. The written appeal must be made within three (3) working days of receiving notice upholding the original grade and is monitored and documented by the Office of Medical Education administrative assistant. The Academic Standing Committee reviews the appeal and offers a decision within seven (7) working days. The decision of the Academic Standing Committee is final. The decision is communicated to the student, the course/clerkship directors, and the Office of Medical Education by the Academic Standing Committee. The course/clerkship directors implement the decision of the Academic Standing Committee.

4. Actions: An action in favor of a student does not imply wrongdoing by the course or clerkship directors, faculty, or the administration.
Appealing an M3 Block Clerkship Clinical Assessment

1. Appeal to the Clerkship Directors

A student who believes that there is a procedural irregularity with their clerkship grade must first appeal their grade to the clerkship directors within five (5) working days of having received the assessment score. The student submits the M3 Block Clinical Assessment Appeal Form to the clerkship directors with a copy to the administrative assistant in the Office of Medical Education. The administrative assistant in the Office of Medical Education monitors and documents the process so that all steps in the appeal process are followed correctly. The clerkship directors, in consultation with the clerkship teaching faculty, will review the assessment score and notify the student and the administrative assistant in the Office of Medical Education of the decision within five (5) working days of the appeal.

2. Appeal to the Office of Medical Education

If the student believes that the decision reached by the clerkship directors is unjustified, s/he may appeal that decision, in writing, to the director of curriculum and student development in the Office of Medical Education. The written appeal must be made within three (3) working days of receiving notice of upholding the original assessment score from the clerkship directors. The administrative assistant in the Office of Medical Education monitors and documents this process. The director of curriculum and student development in the Office of Medical Education reviews the appeal and offers a decision within five (5) working days. If the director of curriculum and student development in the Office of Medical Education upholds the assessment score as recorded by the faculty, the student may then appeal the score to the Academic Standing Committee.

3. Appeal to the Academic Standing Committee

If the student is dissatisfied with the decision reached by the director for curriculum and student development in the Office of Medical Education, s/he may appeal that decision, in writing, to the Academic Standing Committee. The written appeal must be made within three (3) working days of receiving notice of upholding the original assessment score and is monitored and documented by the administrative assistant in the Office of Medical Education. The Academic Standing Committee reviews the appeal and offers a decision within seven (7) working days. The decision of the Academic Standing Committee is final. The decision is communicated to the student, the clerkship director, and the Office of Medical Education by the Academic Standing Committee. The clerkship directors implement the decision of the Academic Standing Committee.

4. Actions: An action in favor of a student does not imply wrongdoing by the course or clerkship directors, faculty, or the administration.
VII. PROMOTIONAL APPEALS

Appealing Promotional Decisions

All information pertaining to a student's academic promotion and professional attributes, including that contained in departmental files, may be utilized in the appeals processes described below. Appeals may be based upon procedural irregularity or extenuating circumstances. Extenuating Circumstances are severe and documented situations which were beyond the student's control and which prevented the student from performing in a manner truly reflective of their knowledge and skills.

Students may begin remediation during a promotional appeals process for up to two courses/clerkships. A student who receives a final grade of UR in three courses or clerkships in Phase 1, or UR in four courses or clerkships in M3, or three courses or clerkships in M4 during an academic year will be reviewed by the Academic Standing Committee for dismissal. This is notwithstanding any successful remediation of the courses or clerkships in which a UR grade was awarded.

1. Academic Performance Appeals to the Ad Hoc Committee for Student Appeals

Process of Appeal

• A student may appeal the promotional decision of the Academic Standing Committee by requesting that the vice dean or their designee convene an Ad Hoc Committee for Student Appeals within 10 working days of the notice from the Academic Standing Committee decision. The appeal is made through the associate dean for medical education in the Office of Medical Education. The process is monitored and documented by the administrative assistant in the Office of Medical Education.

• The vice dean or designee convenes an Ad Hoc Committee for Student Appeals that shall be composed of five members of the faculty who are not advisory college directors, members of the Academic Standing Committee, or the Curriculum Committee. The chair will be chosen from among the Ad Hoc Committee for Student Appeals committee members.

• The Ad Hoc Committee for Student Appeals shall hear the appeal and provide a decision within fifteen (15) working days of receiving written notice of intent to appeal.

• The student shall be given at least 72 hours’ notice of the time and place of the committee’s hearing.

• At the discretion of the student making the appeal, one individual may accompany him/her to the hearing in the capacity of advisor and/or advocate. The advisor/advocate has no voice in the appeal process. All other advocacy efforts must be in the form of written communications to the committee, and must be received by the committee no later than 48 hours preceding the time scheduled for the start of the appeals hearing.

• The decision of the ad hoc committee shall be communicated orally and in writing to the dean or designee and will be final. The dean shall communicate this final decision to the student.

• If the appeal is successful, an Academic Improvement Plan to address the student’s academic deficiencies will be developed by the Executive Committee of Deans. This academic plan is
not appealable and may include a repeat of all courses/clerkships in the academic year including courses/clerkships where foundational knowledge is deemed poor even if there was a passing grade.

• An action in favor of a student does not imply wrongdoing by the faculty or the administration.

2. Non-academic Performance Appeals to the Ad Hoc Committee for Student Appeals

Promotional decisions based solely on non-academic issues related to professionalism, when other competencies within the curriculum are not an issue, are made by the Academic Standing Committee. A student may appeal the decision of the Academic Standing Committee for reasons of procedural irregularity or extenuating circumstances.

Process of Appeal

• A student may appeal the non-academic performance promotional decision of the Academic Standing Committee by requesting that the vice dean or designee convene an Ad Hoc Committee for Student Appeals within 10 working days of the notice from the Academic Standing Committee decision. The appeal is made through the associate dean for medical education in the Office of Medical Education. The process is monitored and documented by the Office of Medical Education administrative assistant.

• The vice dean or designee convenes an Ad Hoc Committee for Student Appeals that shall be comprised of five members of the faculty who are not advisory college directors, members of the Academic Standing Committee, or the Curriculum Committee. The chair will be chosen from among the Ad Hoc Committee for Student Appeals committee members.

• The Ad Hoc Committee for Student Appeals shall hear the appeal and provide a decision within fifteen (15) working days of receiving written notice of intent to appeal.

• The student shall be given at least 72 hours’ notice of the time and place of the committee’s hearing.

• At the discretion of the student making the appeal, one individual may accompany him/her to the hearing in the capacity of advisor and/or advocate. The advisor/advocate has no voice in the appeal process. All other advocacy efforts must be in the form of written communications to the committee, and must be received by the committee not later than 48 hours preceding the time scheduled for the start of the appeals hearing.

• The decision of the ad hoc committee shall be communicated orally and in writing to the dean or designee and will be final. The dean shall communicate this final decision to the student. If the appeal is successful, a Performance Improvement Plan to address the student’s professionalism deficiencies will be developed by the Executive Committee of Deans. The performance plan is not subject to appeal.

• An action in favor of a student does not imply wrongdoing by the faculty or the administration.
ACCELERATED THREE YEAR CURRICULUM
A student in the accelerated three year curriculum (referred to in this section as student) may change to the four year track if it is felt to be in the student’s best interest academically or professionally.

- COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND SEQUENCING
  - The curriculum of this program is divided in three curricular years that must be completed in the prescribed sequence. Phase 1 comprises the M1 and M2 curricular years. Phase 2 comprises the M3 year and Sub-internship. All courses and academic requirements of a particular year must be completed satisfactorily before a student may begin any course or clerkship in the ensuing curricular year. All required courses of the curriculum, including the required number of elective weeks, must be completed satisfactorily before a student may be certified for graduation.

- ASSESSMENT AND STANDING OF STUDENTS
  - Identical to the applicable portions of Section III. ASSESSMENT AND STANDING OF STUDENTS

- THE PROMOTIONAL SYSTEM
  - Phase 1
    1. Identical to Section IV.A. Phase 1 with the following conditions for mandatory conversion from the three-year curriculum to the four-year curriculum:
      a. A student who receives an unsatisfactory grade in 2 courses in an academic year in Phase 1, regardless of successful remediation.
      b. A student who fails to remediate an unsatisfactory grade in one course/clerkship
      c. A student who chooses to repeat a year without having successfully completed all the academic requirements for that year
      d. In Fundamentals, a student who has an unsatisfactory score in 2 block modules

  - Phase 2
    1. Identical to Section IV.B. Phase 2 with the following conditions for mandatory conversion from the three-year curriculum to the four-year curriculum:
      a. Based on NBME subject exam performance in an accelerated three year curriculum clerkship:
        i. A student who receives an unsatisfactory grade in 2 clerkships, or one clerkship and the Scholar’s Workshop, regardless of successful remediation.
        ii. A student who fails to remediate an unsatisfactory grade in one course/clerkship
      b. Based on global clinical assessment in an accelerated three year curriculum clerkship:
        i. A student who fails one clerkship.
c. A student who receives an unsatisfactory grade in the sub-internship

d. A student who receives an average of less than 4 on any summative CLIC assessment.

e. A student who chooses to repeat the year without having successfully completed all the academic requirements for the year

   i. This decision must be communicated to the Director of the PC3 Curriculum no later than February 1 of the M3 year.

• USMLE Examinations

   1. Identical to Section IV.C. USMLE Examinations with the following special conditions:

      a. Students must achieve a passing score in Step 1 and both components of Step 2 before June 1st of the accelerated M3 year to begin residency training at the completion of the accelerated M3 year.

      b. Step 1:

         i. A student who fails Step 1 will be allowed one other attempt:

            1. Step 1 must be retaken before September 30th of the M3 year

         ii. A student who fails Step 1 on the second attempt must convert from the three-year curriculum to the four-year curriculum

            1. The student will get credit for M3 courses and clerkships successfully completed

               a. Any P grade will be converted to the H/HP/P system by interpolation with the grades of the standard M3 cohort at the end of the academic year.

      c. Step 2:

         i. Students must take USMLE Step 2 CS by January 20th of the M3 year

         ii. Students must take USMLE Step 2 CK by February 15th of the M3 year

         iii. Students who fail either component of Step 2 must convert from the three-year curriculum to the standard four-year curriculum. The student

            1. will get credit for the M3 courses and clerkships successfully completed

               a. Any P grade will be converted to the H/HP/P system by interpolation with the grades of the standard M3 cohort at the end of the academic year.
2. will enroll in the M4 year in the following academic year
3. will retake the failed Step 2 component(s) no later than August 31st of the M4 year.

• PROMOTIONAL DECISIONS
  • Identical to Section IV.D. Promotional Decisions, except
    1. Students will begin the remediation process for a failed M3 clerkship, based on NBME subject exam performance only, after Block 6, notwithstanding any ongoing appeal of the grade.
    a. Remediation must be completed no later than March 8th.
    2. A student who leaves the accelerated three year curriculum during the M3 year, either by mandate or by choice, will get credit for the clerkships successfully completed (including the associated NBME subject examinations).
    a. The P grade will be converted to the H/HP/P system by interpolation with the grades of the standard M3 cohort at the end of the academic year.

• PROBATION
  • Identical to Section V. PROBATION.

• GRADE APPEALS
  • Identical to Section VI. GRADE APPEALS.

• PROMOTIONAL APPEALS
  • Identical to Section VII. PROMOTIONAL APPEALS
HIPAA Privacy Policy

PURPOSE: To insure that all students, faculty, and staff of CMSRU are compliant with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

POLICY: HIPAA Privacy Policy

SCOPE: Candidates for the Doctor of Medicine Degree, faculty, and staff of CMSRU. This policy, while being that of Cooper Health System, will be applicable to our students regardless of the site at which they interact with patients.


PROCEDURE: Accepted students will receive HIPAA education via the Cooper Health System training self-learning module starting at the time of orientation to medical school and yearly.
**MSPE Policy**

**PURPOSE:** The Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) prepares the MSPE following the standards set forth by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) in the *Guide to the Preparation of the Medical Student Performance Evaluation*. The MSPE is a letter of evaluation, not a letter of recommendation, and is the property and responsibility of CMSRU to provide accurate documentation of the performance of a medical student during their matriculation in the medical education program. Students are permitted to include up to three Noteworthy Characteristics of factual information.

**POLICY:** This policy outlines the process and requirements to provide each medical student with the Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE) for the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP) during the M4 year of the medical education program. It includes the process for updating an MSPE by the CMSRU Office of Medical Education as necessary during the NFMP process to ensure that the student, as well as residency programs participating in the NRMP process, have an accurate representation of the student’s performance.

In addition, the NRMP requires a medical school to provide complete, timely, accurate, and up-to-date information on the Medical Student Performance Evaluation that is included in the Match application. In Section 6.7 of the Match Participation Agreement for Medical Schools, the NRMP requires medical schools to update MSPEs to include adverse actions that have been levied against a student for academic or professionalism issues, including convictions of criminal charges that may impact whether a student will be able to obtain a state medical license necessary to enter a training program. The omission of information that would reasonably be considered pertinent to a residency program’s decision to rank an applicant, ascertain circumstances that may adversely impact licensure status, visa status, or the ability to start a training program on time will be considered a violation of the Match Agreement. Prior to graduation, the NRMP requires the medical school to update or attach an addendum to an MSPE that becomes outdated as a consequence of superseding events. In Section 8.0 of the Match agreement, the NRMP is authorized to take appropriate action, including, but not limited to, reporting the violation to the dean of such school and suspending or terminating such school’s access to the R3 Match system.

**SCOPE:** This policy applies to M4 students enrolled in the NRMP annual Match process and is enforced by the CMSRU Academic Standing Committee and operationalized through the Office of Medical Education.

**PROCEDURE:**

The MSPE is compiled by the Office of Medical Education from academic assessments that occurred in the M1, M2, and M3 academic years. Information is compiled relative to the matriculation and academic history from the Office of Medical Education, the CMSRU Registrar, and the Academic Standing Committee. Clerkship information provided in the MSPE is presented in alphabetical order. A summary paragraph is developed for each student that provides a rank statement related to the overall performance of the student: Outstanding (top 20% of the class), Excellent (30% of the class), Very Good (30% of the class), and Good (20% of the class). Memberships in the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society, the CMSRU Chiron Honor Society for academic achievement, and the Gold Humanism Honor Society are reported in the summary paragraph, along with CMSRU Service Learning Awards. Graphs are provided
representing each student’s performance in the CMSRU medical education program objectives and their categorical rank. The Dean reviews the draft MSPE before it is provided to students, and signs the final copy.

The Office of Medical Education provides each student with the opportunity to review a draft of their MSPE and correct errors of fact. Typically, this process is completed by the associate dean for medical education, however, each student may choose to have an alternate reviewer. This process for selecting an alternate reviewer is completed confidentially by the assistant dean for assessment, evaluation, continuous quality improvement & compliance with LCME accreditation standards. Students are provided with a final copy of the MSPE that is uploaded on their behalf by the CMSRU registrar to the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS) website on or after October 1 of the student’s final year of the medical education program. The MSPE is part of the student’s permanent academic record. Graduates may obtain a copy of the MSPE for potential employers by contacting the Registrar’s office.

The NRMP requires a medical school to maintain accurate and up-to-date MSPEs throughout the Match Process during a Match Cycle. The NRMP Board of Directors have issued the following statement on May 14, 2018: Prior to graduation, a medical school shall attach an addendum to a MSPE that becomes outdated as a consequence of superseding events.” The NRMP in Section 6.7 of the Match Participation Agreement for Medical Schools “imposes on the school a contractual obligation to evaluate the facts and circumstances related to an individual student and to determine whether they are reasonably pertinent to a program’s determination as to whether an applicant will be able to satisfy the requirements or standards for entry into the program. If so, the information must be reported unless the school is legally prohibited from doing so.” At CMSRU, any adverse action adopted by the Academic Standing Committee that results in an M4 student being placed on academic or non-academic probation for academic or professionalism reasons will be reported on an addendum to their originally submitted MSPE. Similarly, students who are removed from probation in the M4 year will have that information included on the MSPE addendum. All adverse actions and removal from such actions prior to the development and upload of the original MSPE on or before October 1 of the M4 academic year will be included on the original MSPE. All students have the opportunity to review their amended MSPE prior to upload by the medical school.

Please note that all policies that apply to the medical education program are available in the CMSRU Student Handbook. http://www.rowan.edu/coopermed/students/files/handbook.pdf

Students will be notified when there is a revision to any policy during an academic year. Please address any questions you may have about the medical education program policies to the Assistant Deans for Phase 1 or Phase 2 or the associate dean for medical education. Any questions about the NRMP Match program should be directed to the assistant dean for student affairs.
Preclinical Academic Workload Policy

PURPOSE: A primary goal of CMSRU is to provide a quality education for medical students. In doing so, CMSRU recognizes the importance of creating an atmosphere that encourages students to maintain a healthy balance between required academic activity and a lifestyle focused on wellness. Therefore, it is important to develop policies that define limitations of scheduled educational sessions within the curriculum, so as to simultaneously maximize educational benefits and limit fatigue which may impair the student's ability to learn. A current duty hour policy exists for the educational program during the clinical years at CMSRU (M3 and M4). This policy will specifically address academic workload during the pre-clinical years (M1 and M2) and will also provide for allotment of time on a weekly basis for students to engage in self-directed, independent learning. The method of oversight and monitoring of the effectiveness of this policy by the Curriculum Committee and Office of Medical education is also discussed.

SCOPE: Candidates for the Doctor of Medicine degree (M.D.)

DEFINITIONS:
In-class activity: An in-class activity refers to an educational session that appears on the weekly academic schedule and involves presentation of curricular content through direct interaction between medical students and faculty. Although these sessions appear on the weekly academic calendar, not all sessions are considered mandatory (e.g. attendance is required).
Required out-of-class activity: A required out-of-class activity refers to an educational activity that is required to be completed outside of scheduled class time, generally in preparation for a scheduled in-class activity. Examples of required out-of-class activities include, but are not limited to, case preparation for Active Learning Group, reading of assigned literature for Scholars’ Workshop sessions, and review of material (e.g. a recorded lecture) prior to an in-class flipped lecture. Required out-of-class activities do not include time to study material presented in in-class activities.
Self-directed learning time: Self-directed learning time refers to blocks of time built into the weekly academic calendar to allow students to identify, analyze, and synthesize information relevant to their own learning needs. Self-directed learning time also allows students the time required to complete required out-of-class activities or to prepare for in-class activities. The actual activities that occur during self-directed learning time are at the discretion of the student.
Mandatory educational session: A mandatory educational session refers to an educational session that appears on the weekly academic calendar, at which student attendance is required. Some educational sessions, because of their interactive nature (e.g. Active Learning Groups, Scholars’ Workshop, Foundations of Medical Practice, Ambulatory Clerkship), are always considered mandatory. Other sessions, such as lectures, are not mandatory. Specific descriptions of which educational sessions are designated as mandatory are contained within the syllabus for each course and are at the discretion of the course directors.
Policy: The structure of each course within the Phase 1 (pre-clinical) curriculum is developed by the faculty course directors and then approved and subsequently monitored by the Curriculum Committee. The average weekly total academic workload, which includes in-class educational sessions and required out-of-class activities, shall not exceed 40 hours. In the pre-clinical (Phase 1) curriculum at CMSRU, the weekly academic calendar consists of total of 40 hours. These 40 hours are divided between scheduled in-class sessions and self-directed learning time.
The weekly schedule includes no more than 30 hours of scheduled in-class sessions and for most weeks this ranges from 27.5 to 29.5 hours (Note: this excludes attendance to Week-On-the-Wards activities). The format for scheduled in-class sessions includes lectures, small group or team-based learning activities, laboratory or practical sessions, simulation activities, and clinical experiences. These scheduled educational sessions generally occur Monday through Friday between the hours of 8AM and 5PM, although occasionally an Ambulatory Clinic session may extend beyond this time frame, and Week-On-the-Wards activities may include night “floats”. No more than nine hours of scheduled in-class sessions will occur in a single day.

In addition to in-class educational sessions, the weekly academic calendar contains at least ten hours of designated self-directed learning time, although for most weeks this ranges from 10.5 to 12.5 hours. Self-directed learning time is present on most days and generally occurs in blocks of at least two hours. The allotted self-directed learning time will allow sufficient time for students to address their own learning needs, which may include required out-of-class activities or other activities necessary for preparation for in-class sessions. Self-directed learning time is not intended to include additional discretionary study time.

**MONITORING:** On-going central monitoring of the academic workload, including in-class sessions and required out-of-class activities for each pre-clinical course, will be performed by the Office of Medical Education to insure that the established workload guidelines are appropriate and that the actual workload prepared by faculty course directors is in compliance with this policy. The monitoring data collected by the Office of Medical Education will be forwarded to the Curriculum Committee upon the completion of each semester. If individual courses are found to be out of compliance with this policy or the overall policy guidelines are deemed to be inappropriate, the Curriculum Committee will take action to remedy the situation and re-establish compliance.
Prolonged Absence Policy

PURPOSE: To provide a policy guiding students who are not participating in the academic program for more than 10 consecutive class or clerkship days. This policy outlines the consequences in terms of promotion, participation in the curriculum, use of the buildings and associated resources, and activities associated with CMSRU outside of the curriculum.

POLICY: Prolonged Absence Policy

SCOPE: This policy applies to all CMSRU students.

PROCEDURE:

1. Excused Absence: When a student does not participate in the educational program of CMSRU for ten (10) or more consecutive class/clerkship days with an official excused absence their status will be reviewed by the associate dean for medical education in collaboration with the assistant dean for student affairs or designee. The Prolonged Absence Request form must be completed and signed by the student. It is the student’s responsibility to consult with all parties listed on the form. Each decision will be reviewed and acted upon individually but the following guiding principles will be followed:
   a. In courses that are more than 5 weeks, the impact on the associated year-long courses will be considered as well as the ALG portion of that course. Repeating the year may be a possibility.
   b. In courses/clerkships that are less than 5 weeks, the student may be asked to repeat the entire year or to repeat that course the following year, and that would involve taking that course in isolation while being on an approved independent study year.
   c. The financial consequences of this decision will be managed by the student through the Financial Aid Officer of CMSRU.
      i. These consequences may be based on the academic standing of the student at that time. The Grading Promotions and Appeals Policy will be followed with regard to a students’ academic standing.
      ii. The Grading, Promotions and Appeals Policy will be followed with respect to the number of years to complete each phase of the curriculum.

2. Unexcused Absence: When a student does not participate in the educational program of CMSRU for ten (10) or more consecutive class/clerkship days without being excused the following will occur:
   a. The ID cards for CMSRU and for Cooper University Hospital will be inactivated and must be returned to the Office of Student Affairs.
   b. Parking wafers or hangtags (if applicable) must be returned to the Office of Student Affairs.
   c. Electronic Access to Blackboard and all access to the medical library will be terminated.
   d. The Tuition Policy will be adhered to with respect to any possible refunds. As per that Policy, student fees are not refundable.
   e. The student may return to CMSRU to remove belongings but will be accompanied by Security staff.
   f. The student must complete a Leave of Absence/Withdrawal form and consult with the appropriate departments referenced on the form.
3. Dismissal: When a student is dismissed from Cooper Medical School of Rowan University for any reason, and pending their decision to appeal this decision per the Grading, Promotions, and Appeals Policy, the following will occur:
   a. The ID cards for CMSRU and for Cooper University Hospital will be inactivated and must be returned to the Office of Student Affairs.
   b. Parking wafers or hangtags (if applicable) must be returned to the Office of Student Affairs.
   c. Electronic Access including Blackboard and all access to the medical library will be terminated.
   d. The Tuition Policy will be adhered to with respect to any possible refunds. As per that Policy, student fees are not refundable.
   e. The student may return to CMSRU to remove belongings, but will be accompanied by Security staff.
   f. The student must complete a Leave of Absence/Withdrawal form and consult with the appropriate departments referenced on the form.

4. Approved Leave of Absence: A leave of absence is an interruption in the educational curriculum due to medical or personal reasons. Each request for a leave of absence will be reviewed and acted upon individually. The following shall apply to all approved leaves of absence:
   a. A leave of absence may be for either a defined or an undefined period of time, determined by the assistant dean for student affairs or designee. Except in extraordinary circumstances a student may request a leave of absence only for a period of up to one academic year. The student may request an extension to a leave of absence for extraordinary extenuating circumstances
      i. For leaves of absence taken prior to the completion of curricular year two:
         1. A two-year leave of absence shall ordinarily be the maximum allowed. At the discretion of the associate dean for medical education in collaboration with the assistant dean of student affairs or designee, such students may re-enter the curriculum at the point where their leave of absence began.
         2. Should circumstances dictate that a student be granted a leave of absence that is longer than two years, the associate dean for medical education in collaboration with the assistant dean for student affairs or designee may require that the student repeat some or all of the curriculum previously taken, even if all courses were passed. Students may be required to prove competency in previously passed courses by a method deemed appropriate by the Office of Medical Education.
         3. A leave of absence longer than three years will ordinarily require repeating the curriculum from the beginning of year one. On a case by case basis, the associate dean for medical education may consult with the assistant dean for student affairs or the executive council of deans, to determine if exceptional circumstances warrant some other arrangement.
      ii. For leaves of absence taken after the successful completion of Phase I and USMLE Step 1:
         1. Ordinarily, a two-year leave of absence shall be the maximum allowed.
         2. Students granted leaves of absence during year three may be required to re-enter the curriculum at the beginning of curricular year three.
         3. Students granted leaves of absence during year four may be required to re-
enter the curriculum at the beginning of curricular year four.

4. Students may be required to prove competency in previously passed courses by a method deemed appropriate by the Office of Medical Education.

5. Students granted leaves of absence that are two years or longer will re-enter the curriculum at a point determined at the discretion of the associate dean for medical education. On a case by case basis, the associate dean for medical education may consult with the assistant dean for student affairs or the executive council of deans, to determine if exceptional circumstances warrant some other arrangement. The decision of the executive council of deans is final.

b. The time that a student spends on a leave of absence shall not count towards the maximum of time permitted to complete either the first two or the last two curricular years as per the Grading, Promotions, and Appeals Policy.

c. It is the responsibility of the student to complete the Leave of Absence request form and consult with the appropriate departments referenced on the form.

d. Access to the school building and resources will be terminated during the time period of the leave of absence. The student is required to return their CMSRU and Cooper University Hospital ID cards to the Office of Student Affairs.

e. Parking wafers or hangtags (if applicable) must be returned to the Office of Student Affairs.

f. Electronic Access to Blackboard and all access to the medical library will be terminated.

g. The financial consequences of this decision will be managed by the student through the Financial Aid Officer of CMSRU

h. Protocol for Medical Leave of Absence: A leave of absence due to medical reasons must be prescribed by the student’s treating physician.

   i. It is the student’s responsibility to request a medical leave of absence and to provide all required supporting documentation.

   ii. A student may request a medical leave of absence by contacting the assistant dean of student affairs or the chief student affairs officer.

   iii. Each medical leave of absence request will be reviewed on an individual basis with the assistant dean of student affairs or designee.

   iv. A medical leave of absence may be requested for up to one year. Additional time beyond one year will require approval by the assistant dean of student affairs or designee.

   v. The following information must be provided to the Office of Student Affairs prior to the commencement of a medical leave of absence:

      1. CMSRU Leave of Absence Form-This form shall be completed and signed by the student. It is the responsibility of the student to consult with all parties listed on the form.

      2. Contact information of the treating physician

      3. A letter from the treating physician indicating the need for a medical leave with confirmation of their role as the physician of record during the leave of absence. This person shall serve as the contact for the Office of Student Affairs. The treating physician must furnish the letter on official letterhead and must include the physician’s original signature and date.
vi. Release of information protected by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act shall be at the discretion of the student.

vii. A medical leave of absence will not be approved in cases where the supporting documentation is incomplete or missing. In extraordinary or catastrophic circumstances, the supporting documentation requirements may be waived at the discretion of the assistant dean for student affairs or designee.

viii. A medical leave of absence may have financial implications. The financial consequences of this decision will be managed by the student with the asst. director of financial aid.

ix. Students are required to notify the assistant dean for student affairs or designee of their anticipated return date as early as possible to ensure successful re-entry into the curriculum and to meet enrollment registration deadlines. Students will be required to complete any necessary paperwork related to return from the medical leave of absence, including, but not limited to, enrollment, course registration and financial aid.

x. Clearance for return from a medical leave of absence is required from the designated treating physician and any consulting physicians where applicable. The clearance for return must include a statement from the treating physician indicating the student has sufficiently recovered from the medical event such that they are fit to return to the curriculum with an expected reasonable chance of success. The student may be required to supply results of neuropsychiatric testing where applicable. In cases where the student’s decision-making ability may be affected by a medical condition, the clearance for return must specifically address cognitive function. The clearance for return from medical leave of absence must be signed by the treating physician on official letterhead and furnished to the assistant dean of student affairs or designee.

xi. Students returning from medical leave must be able to meet CMSRU technical standards. CMSRU reserves the right to require fitness for duty or any other relevant testing. CMSRU may require an evaluation of the student by the Director of Student Health

xii. The student will discuss the plan for re-entry with the assistant dean for student affairs or designee and the associate dean for medical education. Students will need to demonstrate competency to return to clinical care. This will be arranged by the Office of Medical Education

i. Protocol for Personal Leave of Absence: A personal leave of absence may be requested by the student when an interruption in the educational curriculum is necessary for the student’s non-medical reasons.

i. A student may request a personal leave of absence by contacting the assistant dean for student affairs or the chief student affairs officer.

ii. The Leave of Absence form must be completed and signed by the student. It is the student’s responsibility to consult with all parties listed on the form.

iii. Each personal leave of absence will be reviewed on an individual basis with the assistant dean of student affairs or designee.

iv. A personal leave of absence may be requested for up to one year. Additional time beyond one year will require approval by the assistant dean for student affairs or
v. The conditions of the personal leave will be customized in consultation with the assistant dean for student affairs or designee and the associate dean for medical education.

vi. The student will discuss the plan for re-entry with the assistant dean of student affairs or designee and the associate dean for medical education. On a case by case basis, the Executive Council of Deans may be consulted. The decision made by the Executive Council of Deans will be final.

vii. If a student has already taken one personal leave of absence and is requesting an additional personal leave of absence, the Leave of Absence ad hoc Committee will review the student’s request and render a decision regarding granting the leave of absence. The Leave of Absence ad hoc Committee will consist of three advisory college directors (none of whom are from the student’s respective advisory college) and two representatives appointed by the Dean. A chairperson will be chosen from among the five members to communicate with the student and the assistant dean for student affairs or designee.

1. The student may appeal this decision to the Executive Council of Deans. The executive committee will be convened at the request of the assistant dean for student affairs or designee.

2. The student shall be given at least 72 hours’ notice of the time and place of the committee’s hearing.

3. Any advocacy efforts must be in the form of written communications to the committee, and must be received by the committee no later than 24 hours preceding the time scheduled for the start of the appeals hearing.

4. The chairperson will communicate the decision of the executive committee of deans to the assistant dean for student affairs or designee within 10 working days.

5. The assistant dean for student affairs or designee will communicate the decision to the student and carry out the conditions set forth by the Executive Council of Deans.

j. Disciplinary proceedings, such as academic dismissal or professionalism adjudications, will continue if the Leave of Absence was initiated during such proceedings.

k. It is the student’s responsibility to inform the Office of Student Affairs of any change in plan or status during a Leave of Absence.

l. Students must notify the Office of Student Affairs thirty (30) days prior to their expected date of return. If confirmation of return is not received by the Office of Student Affairs the student will be administratively withdrawn from CMSRU.

5. Pregnancy and Parental Leave: Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) is committed to supporting all students in their programs and aims to provide reasonable support and leave to all students who choose to have or adopt children during their medical education.

a. Protocol for requesting a pregnancy and parental leave of absence: When requesting a parental leave of absence, early communication and good-faith efforts among all parties involved is essential to ensure the least impact on a student’s education. Because the structure and demands of the curriculum vary throughout the four-year program, the approach to
parental leave will differ depending on the year of the program in which the pregnancy and birth occur. Regardless of the timing, a detailed plan must be developed by the student in close collaboration with and written approval by the Office of Medical Education (OME) and the Office of Student Affairs (OSA).

b. Phase 1: A student who wishes to request parental leave during the first two years of medical school should consult with their Advisory College Director, Phase 1 Dean and the assistant dean of student affairs or designee to request a leave of absence. Due to the nature of the medical education program, depending on the time of year and the length of the leave, leaves of absence may require a student to take a full year of leave and return the following year. Students must complete all coursework and the USMLE Step 1 exam before M3 year.

c. Phase 2:

i. Year 3: A student seeking parental leave should work closely with Phase 2 Dean, M3 Director, 3rd year clerkship coordinator, and the assistant dean of student affairs or designee to schedule the leave. The student may resume clerkships at a mutually agreed upon time. The plan for time away from clerkships should be completed and approved by all parties at least 3 months before the start of the leave.

ii. Year 4: A student seeking parental leave should work closely with Phase 2 Dean, M4 Director, 4th year clerkship coordinator, and the assistant dean of student affairs or designee to schedule the leave. The plan should be completed and approved by all parties at least 3 months before the start of the leave. Students will need to demonstrate competency to return to clinical care. This will be arranged by the Office of Medical Education.

d. Pregnancy and Parental Leave complies with federal and state law regarding accommodations during and after pregnancy. Our goal is to accommodate student parents during this period and provide options for leave (if desired) and reasonable options for re-entry such that students can continue making progress toward completion of the medical degree.

e. Students are not required to take parental leave, however, if they choose to do so, CMSRU permits parental leaves up to 12 months, and an extension of 12 months, unless a longer extension is medically necessary.

6. Independent Study course: A student may choose or be required to take an Independent Study Course during their medical education program. The Independent Study course may be required if a student fails to pass the USMLE Step 1 or Step 2 and wants to attempt the examination for a third time. The Independent Study course may be taken to enrich the student’s educational experience during Phase 1 or Phase 2 of the CMSRU medical curriculum. An Independent Study course may be taken for up to one academic year.

a. The student will complete the Independent Study Course request form and consult with the appropriate departments referenced on the form.

b. This must be approved by both the associate dean for medical education in collaboration with the assistant dean of student affairs or designee.

c. Tuition will be billed as per tuition policy. Students are required to pay all student fees that are billed on a semester basis.

d. Enrollment in an Independent Study Course may result in significant reduction in financial aid funding. It is the responsibility of the student to consult with the Director of Financial Aid. Students in the Independent Study Course are ineligible for CMSRU Scholarship
Funding.

e. The Independent Study Plan is filed within the Office of Student Affairs and the Office of Medical Education along with the Independent Study Request form.

f. The associate dean for medical education in collaboration with the Phase Deans will assign a course director.

g. Students are expected to meet with learning specialist and course director and meet all milestones required by the Independent Study Plan.

h. An evaluation of the student is part of this course and there will be a grade (P/U).

i. This course will appear on the student’s academic transcript.

j. Students will not participate in patient care while enrolled in an Independent Study Plan.

k. Students will need to demonstrate competency to return to clinical care. This will be arranged by the Office of Medical Education.

7. Student Scholar Research Experience: A student may spend one or more years doing full time research at CMSRU or another institution with the permission of the associate dean for medical education in collaboration with the assistant dean for student affairs or designee.

   a. The Student Scholar Research Experience form must be completed including the signed approval by the research sponsor.

   b. Students are not billed tuition; however, students are enrolled full time and are required to pay student fees.

   c. Students will maintain enrollment to prevent entering loan repayment.

   d. The Student Scholar Research Experience status will be listed on the student’s transcript as a non-credit (NC) course during the term(s) enrolled.

   e. While participating in Student Scholar Research, a student is not enrolled in their for credit curriculum requirements.

   f. Students will need to demonstrate competency to return to clinical care. This will be arranged by the Office of Medical Education.

8. Administrative Leave of Absence: An administrative leave of absence is an administrative measure used in situations where it is deemed in the best interest of the student and/or the school that the student’s medical education be interrupted. The conditions for administrative leave will be determined by a designated CMSRU official (see list below) and may include consultation with Rowan University. The following school officials can grant and determine conditions of an administrative leave of absence:

   a. dean of CMSRU or designee

   b. associate dean for medical education or designee

   c. assistant dean for student affairs or designee
Satisfactory Academic Progress

PURPOSE: To outline the relationship of financial aid awards and academic performance

SCOPE: Candidates for the Doctor of Medicine Degree (M.D.)

DEFINITIONS:

In order to receive federal financial aid, per federal regulations, students must demonstrate Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) toward the attainment of their medical degree. Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) is defined as the successful progression through the curriculum to obtain degree requirements within the maximum degree completion timeframe/pace of six distinct academic years (150% requirement). The degree completion limit and curriculum pace/requirements are set forth within the Grading, Promotions and Appeals policy within the CMSRU Student Handbook.

A student who is placed on Academic Probation will be automatically placed on Financial Aid Probation.

All students (whether they receive financial aid or not) during all periods of enrollment are placed into one of the two categories listed below based upon their academic performance:

1. **A student is meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements:**
   - when a student has successfully completed all courses/clerkships and passes a USMLE Step 1, Step 2 CK, or Step 2 CS examination on the first attempt; or
   - when the student has successfully completed repeating an academic year and/or has completed the successful remediation of a repeated course (s) and/or clerkship (s) due to unsatisfactory academic performance; or
   - when a student passes USMLE Step 1, Step 2 CK, or Step 2 CS examination on the second and/or third attempt

2. **A student is not meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements:**
   - when the student has unsuccessfully completed the remediation process for a course/clerkship and/or is required to repeat a course/clerkship due to unsatisfactory academic performance;
   - when a student has an unsatisfactory in two courses and/or clerkships and must repeat the courses and/or clerkships in the next academic year; or
   - when a student fails a USMLE Step 1, Step 2 CK, or Step 2 CS examination on the second and/or third attempt

From the CMSRU Grading, Promotions and Appeals policy: All required courses of all curricular years, including the required number of elective weeks [and USMLE Step examinations], must be completed satisfactorily in the prescribed sequence [as detailed within the Grading, Promotions and Appeals policy within the Student Handbook] before a student can be certified for graduation. A student may not repeat a course or clerkship more than once, and no more than three distinct academic years may be utilized to fulfill the requirements of either the first and second years (Phase 1), or the third and
fourth years (Phase 2) of the curriculum. Students who perform scholarly work or enroll in dual degree programs (e.g., MD/PhD) may extend the degree completion limit from six distinct academic years to ten distinct academic years upon the recommendation of the Academic Standing Committee to the Dean.

Of important note, most medical licensing authorities require the completion of USMLE Steps 1, 2 and 3 within a seven-year period. Step 3 is taken during the first or second year of postgraduate training. All students should be familiar with the medical licensing requirements for the states where they intend to practice medicine, and if a waiver of the seven-year requirement is possible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Program</th>
<th>Standard Length</th>
<th>Maximum Length</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>M.D.</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>6 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>M.D. – Scholarly Research</td>
<td>5 years</td>
<td>10 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M.D./Ph.D.</td>
<td>7-9 years</td>
<td>10 years</td>
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</table>

**PROCEDURE:**
SAP will be reviewed at the end of every academic year by the CMSRU Financial Aid Office. The CMSRU Financial Aid Office will notify students via email about SAP. Additionally, students will be notified about the SAP Appeal process if they are still within the maximum degree completion limit.

- If a student does not have SAP at the end of the academic year, federal aid will be revoked going forward until the student attains SAP. Or, the student can appeal, and if approved, the student can be placed on financial aid PROBATION for the upcoming academic year.
- The CMSRU Financial Aid Office will determine whether or not the student is granted PROBATION with another academic year of federal aid. If the student is placed on an academic plan by the Academic Standing Committee or Executive Committee of Deans, the student can continue to receive federal aid as long as the student follows the academic plan set forth by the Academic Standing Committee* or Executive Committee of Deans. The academic plan option is determined on a case by case basis.
- The CMSRU Financial Aid Office must follow all SAP guidelines as set forth by federal regulations.

**NOTE:** If a student does not have SAP at the end of the academic year, institutional scholarships from CMSRU will be revoked and decisions regarding academic standing (for institutional scholarship purposes) cannot be appealed.

**RESPONSIBILITY:**
If a student is not attaining Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), the Academic Standing Committee will inform the Financial Aid Office about the student’s standing. Federal regulations mandate that institutions have a SAP policy to monitor academic progress.

*The Academic Standing Committee considers matters of academic standing, promotion and graduation of medical students. This committee has the responsibility of ensuring that each student meets the grading and promotions standards established for CMSRU (see the Student Handbook for the Grading, Promotions and Appeals policy). This committee will ensure that students are assessed against defined learning objectives and that specific competencies have
been achieved. The Academic Standing Committee has the responsibility to determine that students have satisfactorily met the requirements of each academic year in the M.D. curriculum; recommend to the faculty the candidates for the M.D. degree; consider individual requests for exceptions; determine whether students are to be placed on an academic plan or academic probation and the conditions for suspension. The committee may recommend the dismissal of a medical student to the dean in accordance with the policy.
Student Clinical Assignment

POLICY: Student Clinical Assignment Policy

PURPOSE: The faculty and academic administrators of CMSRU recognize their responsibility to maximize the fair and equitable assignment of CMSRU students during their clinical clerkship education. This policy guides the assignment and as needed, the reassignment, of clinical supervisors to third and fourth year medical students.

SCOPE: Candidates for the Doctor of Medicine Degree (M.D.)

DEFINITIONS:
   Clinical assignment: Students are assigned preceptors and supervising physicians who are responsible for teaching and assessing students in the clinical clerkship education program.

I. RESPONSIBILITY

Student Clinical Assignment: A medical student will have clinical preceptors and supervising physicians assigned as part of their clinical clerkship education program. Assignments will be carried out by clerkship directors in conjunction with the office of medical education staff. Whenever possible, a lottery system will be used to provide for fair and equitable assignment of CMSRU medical students to their clinical clerkships. Students may request a change in their clinical assignment location, preceptor, or supervising physician. These requests are reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

1. M3 Block courses
The Office of Medical Education assigns each student to a block schedule for the M3 year based upon a lottery held prior to the M3 orientation. M3 students are assigned to preceptors and supervising physicians on duty in the inpatient setting during their assigned M3 block. A student may request a change in preceptor or supervising physician for extenuating circumstances. The clerkship director, in conjunction with the M3 director and the assistant dean for phase 2, reviews the request and makes the change, if appropriate, within 48 hours. If the request for change is denied, the assistant dean for phase 2 meets with the student to explain the rationale for not making the change. The student may appeal the decision to the associate dean for medical education, who reviews the request and makes the final decision within 48 hours.

2. M3 Cooper Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship (CLIC) placements
Similarly, M3 students are randomly assigned to outpatient based Cooper Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship clinical offices in the M3 year. A student may request a change in preceptor or clinical learning site with the Cooper Health System for extenuating circumstances. The clerkship director, in conjunction with the M3 director and the assistant dean for phase 2, reviews the request and makes the change, if appropriate, within 48 hours. If the request for change is denied, the assistant dean for phase 2 meets with the student to explain the rationale for not making the change. The student may appeal the
decision to the associate dean for medical education, who reviews the request and makes the final decision within 48 hours.

3. **M4 Clinical education placements**

Students have considerable control over the sequence of required clerkships and elective courses in their M4 year. The preceptors to whom they are assigned for a particular rotation are largely determined by their schedule. Some rotations may have alternative assignment options in a given block (e.g., internal medicine sub-internship), but others may not. M4 students may request a change in preceptor or clinical learning site in the M4 clinical education program for extenuating circumstances. The clerkship director, in conjunction with the M4 director and the assistant dean for phase 2, will review the request and make the change, if appropriate and available, within 48 hours. If there is no alternative preceptor or site during that block, the student may have to schedule the rotation at a different time during the year. If an alternative site/preceptor is available, but the change request is denied, the assistant dean for phase 2 will meet with the student to explain the rational for not making the change. The student may appeal the decision to the associate dean for medical education, who will review the case and make the final decision within 48 hours.
Student Supervision Policy

**POLICY:** Medical student supervision during required clinical activities

**SCOPE:** Candidates for the Doctor of Medicine Degree (M.D.)

**PURPOSE:**
In its efforts to ensure excellent medical education and to guard patient and student safety, CMSRU has developed the following policy with the goal of providing guidance for faculty physicians when supervising medical students during clinical activities. The following policy defines the supervision of medical students during clinical activities.

**RESPONSIBILITY:**
It is the responsibility of the supervising faculty member to ensure policy standards are followed for all students participating in clinical activities.

Medical students participating in patient care must be supervised at all times. The primary supervising physician is an attending physician employed by Cooper University Health Care, or a volunteer physician with a CMSRU faculty appointment, practicing within the scope of their discipline as delineated by the credentialing body of the health system.

When resident physicians, clinical post-doctoral fellows or other healthcare professionals are actively involved in medical student supervision during clinical activities, it is the responsibility of the supervising faculty physician to ensure all those personnel are appropriately prepared for their roles for supervision of medical students, and are acting within the scope of their practice.

When the attending physician is not physically present in the clinical area, the responsibility for supervising CMSRU medical students will be delegated to the appropriately-prepared resident physician or clinical post-doctoral fellow at the discretion of the primary attending physician. Students are provided with rapid, reliable systems for communicating with faculty and resident physicians. Clinical supervision is designed to foster progressive responsibility as students progress through the curriculum. The intensity of medical student supervision in any given situation will depend on the medical student’s level of education and experience, demonstrated competence, and the learning objectives of the clinical experience. Course/clerkship directors will provide specific faculty members and other preceptors with guidance for each clinical experience, including the students’ level of responsibility and scope of approved activities and procedures during the rotation. Clinical faculty preceptors will be knowledgeable about CMSRU Institutional Educational Objectives, clerkship-specific objectives, supervisory recommendations, and access to educational resources, including assessment instruments. Relevant resources will be emailed to faculty prior to the start of the medical student’s clinical experience, and reviewed with them by the clerkship director. They will also be available remotely on the CMSRU Blackboard® and one45®.
First- and second-year medical students will be directly supervised, with the supervising physician present or immediately available, and prepared to take over the care of the patient if needed. Under the direct supervision of the supervising physician, first- and second-year students may participate in history taking, physical examinations and critical data analysis, performing procedures, and may have access to the medical record.

Third- and fourth-year medical students will be directly supervised, with the supervising physician available to provide direct supervision. Students may participate in the care and management of patients, including performing procedures, under the direct supervision of the supervising physician at all times, with patient permission. Clinical interventions are never to be executed by medical students without a supervising physician’s awareness and permission.

Medical student participation in invasive procedures requires direct supervision by the supervising attending physician or credentialed resident physician at all times during the procedure. The supervising physician must have the credentials to perform the procedure being supervised. A student may assist in procedures only when the supervising attending physician agrees that the student has achieved the required level of competence, maturity, and responsibility to perform the procedure.

Supervising physicians and other preceptors are expected to provide opportunities for students to demonstrate responsibility for patient care. These opportunities may be in the form of history-taking; physical examination; reporting and entering findings in the patient’s medical record with the explicit approval of the patient’s supervising attending physician. In all patient care contacts the patient shall be made aware that the individual providing the care and/or performing the procedure is a student. Patients have the right to decline to have a student participate in their care.

The supervising physician will be responsible for reviewing student chart documentation and providing constructive feedback. Medical student findings entered in the medical record of the patient will be for educational and student evaluation purposes only and cannot be used in lieu of any required attending staff or house staff documentation. Students must clearly sign all entries in the medical record, along with the designation that they are medical students. Supervising attending physicians or graduate medical trainees must review student notes. Fourth-year students may enter orders in the electronic medical record but those orders cannot, by virtue of an electronic “hard stop,” be executed until they are countersigned by the supervising attending physician or senior resident.

Note: For billing purposes, the teaching physician must personally verify and redocument the history of present illness (HPI) and personally perform and redocument the physical examination and medical decision-making activities of the service. The teaching physician may refer to the student’s documentation only with respect to Review of Systems and Fast/Family/Social History. (See Cooper Health System Policy 1.220 Teaching Physician Billing Policy.

Supervising faculty physicians or residents must provide medical students with regular, timely, and specific feedback based on their supervision. Supervising faculty will notify the clerkship or course director if there is concern for any potential academic and/or professional gaps in student performance. Should students have any concern regarding clinical, administrative, professional, educational, or safety
issues during their rotation, they will be encouraged to immediately contact the supervising physician, clerkship/course director, or the associate dean for student affairs.

A CMSRU faculty physician who provides medical and/or psychiatric care, psychological counseling, or other sensitive health services to a medical student, or who has a close personal relationship with a medical student, must recuse himself/herself from the supervisory role. In such cases, the faculty physician must have no involvement in assessing or evaluating the medical student’s academic performance, or participating in decisions regarding their promotion and/or graduation. The faculty physician and the medical student are advised to immediately contact the appropriate clerkship/course director and/or associate dean for student affairs should the potential for these conflicts of interest arise.
Teacher-Learner Interaction

**PURPOSE:** To establish guidelines for interactions between medical students and CMSRU faculty and instructors.

**POLICY:** CMSRU acknowledges that the profession of medicine is a moral enterprise in which practicing physicians engender the development of virtues, integrity, sense of duty, and ethical framework in medical students. CMSRU faculty, residents, fellows, teaching staff and students will abide by the following compact which serves both as a pledge and as a reminder to teachers and learners that their conduct in fulfilling their mutual obligations is the medium through which the profession inculcates its ethical values.

**SCOPE:** Candidates for the Doctor of Medicine Degree and all those who act in the role of teacher for these students at CMSRU.

**DEFINITIONS:** Teacher - any individual serving in a capacity as teacher or mentor that a student will interact with in a classroom, small group or clinical setting over all four years.

**GUIDING PRINCIPLES:** (AAMC’s *Compact Between Teachers and Learners of Medicine*)

- **DUTY** - Medical educators have a duty, not only to convey the knowledge and skills required for delivering the profession's contemporary standard of care, but also to inculcate the values and attitudes required for preserving the medical profession's social contract across generations.

- **INTEGRITY** - The learning environments conducive to conveying professional values must be suffused with integrity. Students learn enduring lessons of professionalism by observing and emulating role models who epitomize authentic professional values and attitudes.

- **RESPECT** - Fundamental to the ethic of medicine is respect for every individual. Mutual respect between learners, as novice members of the medical profession, and their teachers, as experienced and esteemed professionals, is essential for nurturing that ethic. Given the inherently hierarchical nature of the teacher/learner relationship, teachers have a special obligation to ensure that students and residents are always treated respectfully.

**COMMITMENTS OF FACULTY**

- “We pledge our utmost effort to ensure that all components of the educational program for students and residents are of high quality.
- As mentors for our student and resident colleagues, we maintain high professional standards in all of our interactions with patients, colleagues, and staff.
• We respect all students and residents as individuals, without regard to gender, race, national origin, religion, or sexual orientation; we will not tolerate anyone who manifests disrespect or who expresses biased attitudes towards any student or resident.

• We pledge that students and residents will have sufficient time to fulfill personal and family obligations, to enjoy recreational activities, and to obtain adequate rest; we monitor and, when necessary, reduce the time required to fulfill educational objectives, including time required for "call" on clinical rotations, to ensure students' and residents' wellbeing.

• In nurturing both the intellectual and the personal development of students and residents, we celebrate expressions of professional attitudes and behaviors, as well as achievement of academic excellence. We do not tolerate any abuse or exploitation of students or residents.

• We encourage any student or resident who experiences mistreatment or who witnesses unprofessional behavior to report the facts immediately to appropriate faculty or staff; we treat all such reports as confidential and do not tolerate reprisals or retaliations of any kind.”

**COMMITMENTS OF STUDENTS AND RESIDENTS**

• “We pledge our utmost effort to acquire the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors required to fulfill all educational objectives established by the faculty.

• We cherish the professional virtues of honesty, compassion, integrity, fidelity, and dependability.

• We pledge to respect all faculty members and all students and residents as individuals, without regard to gender, race, national origin, religion, or sexual orientation.

• As physicians in training, we embrace the highest standards of the medical profession and pledge to conduct ourselves accordingly in all of our interactions with patients, colleagues, and staff.

• In fulfilling our own obligations as professionals, we pledge to assist our fellow students and residents in meeting their professional obligations, as well.”
Policies Related to Health and Safety

Anti-bullying

Please refer to Rowan University's policy:

Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act

http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2010/Bills/PL10/122__PDF
Anti-violence

PURPOSE: To ensure an environment of respect and safety that is free from intimidation, threats, and acts of violence.

POLICY: Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) does not tolerate threatening or violent behavior of any kind. Identification of early indicators of a potentially violent behavior as well as behaviors that are clearly violent will be acted on as necessary.

SCOPE: All individuals and activities on CMSRU property or on any property used for CMSRU activities or by CMSRU student groups.

DEFINITIONS:
Inappropriate Behaviors covered by this policy include but are not limited to:
• Name Calling
• Profanity
• Sexual Comments
• Obscene language or gestures
• Blatantly disregarding university and/or CMSRU policies and procedures
• Ethnic, racial, religious or gender epithets
• Stealing
• Making verbal threats or conveying threats by note/letter and/or electronically
• Physical abuse or attack
• Inappropriate touching
• Destroying property or any vandalism, arson, or sabotage
• Throwing objects
• Possession of a weapon

Weapons: An instrument of offensive or defensive combat or something that is used to cause injury to an individual (including but not be limited to firearms, bows, arrows, swords, rockets, knives, sling shots, air guns, paint ball guns and martial arts devices).

PROCEDURE:

Any individual, who believes they have been subjected to, has observed or has knowledge of actual or potential violence should immediately notify the Security Office, assistant dean for student affairs or local police. Incident reports should be completed with CMSRU Security or local police as required. If any imminent physical threat or danger exists, students should contact CMSRU Security (856-361-2880), or dial the emergency number 911. CMSRU will respond promptly to threats or acts of violence. This response may include local law enforcement agencies, if appropriate.

CMSRU students who commit threats or acts of violence will be subject to strong disciplinary action, up to and including academic dismissal. Qualifying events will be reported as required by Clery Act.
compliance. For more information on the Clery Act, please refer to https://sites.rowan.edu/publicsafety/clery/.

Rowan University will support criminal prosecution of those who threaten or commit violence against its employees, students, or visitors within its facilities, programs, and activities.

CMSRU will attempt to reduce the potential for internal violence through student wellness and educational programs. Individual counseling will be utilized as needed. CMSRU will work to positively affect the attitudes and the behavior of its students and faculty.

Possession, use or display of weapons, or ammunition is prohibited on property owned by or under the control of CMSRU. For more information, please refer to Rowan University’s Weapons and Prohibition on Campus Policy (https://confluence.rowan.edu/display/POLICY/Weapons+Prohibition+on+Campus).

For more information, please refer to Rowan University’s General and Safety and Security Policy: https://confluence.rowan.edu/display/POLICY/General+Safety+and+Security
Drug-Free Environment

PURPOSE: To establish the guidelines for identifying and addressing drug and alcohol use by the CMSRU student body, in accordance with the Rowan University Alcohol and other Drugs Policy. (https://confluence.rowan.edu/display/POLICY/Alcohol+and+Other+Drugs+Policy)

POLICY: CMSRU will promote and maintain a drug-free workplace and learning environment for students, residents, faculty and staff in all facilities, classrooms, clinics and activities owned/coordinated by CMSRU. This policy is intended to implement the 1988 Drug-Free Workplace Act (Public Law 100-90, Title V, Subtitle D) and the 1989 Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments (Public Law 101-226, 34 CFR Part 86).

In accordance with federal regulations (Drug-Free Workplace Act and the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments), alcohol or drug abuse, use of illegal drugs, illegal possession, distribution, or sale of drugs will not be tolerated at CMSRU.

SCOPE: This policy affects all students of CMSRU and commits CMSRU to providing support through the Student Assistance Program. The Rowan University Center for Addiction Studies and Awareness (CASA) is an additional resource for students affected by drug and alcohol abuse.

DEFINITIONS:

Prohibited Conduct – selling, purchasing, dispensing, manufacturing, distributing, diverting, stealing, using, processing or being under the influence of non-medically indicated prescription or non-prescription drugs or illegal substances.

Drug – any legal or illegal substance (including over-the-counter medication, prescribed medication, alcoholic beverages, unprescribed controlled substances, or any other substances) which potentially affects students’ productivity and the ability to perform duties or which potentially affects their own safety and/or the safety and well-being of patients, students or others.

Substance Abuse – the use or misuse of any drug or alcohol in a manner that may reduce student effectiveness or pose an unsafe condition in the clinical work or learning environment.

PROCEDURE:

CMSRU is committed to promoting student mental and physical well-being, and will provide drug and alcohol abuse education, triage and counseling services to students.

Students are expected to report substance abuse problems (either their own or colleagues) to CMSRU’s Office of Student Affairs.
Students whose drug and alcohol use impedes academic progress and clinical training, lead to breaches of professional conduct, and/or lead to arrests and criminal charges will face sanctions from CMSRU.

**Student’s Responsibility:**

- Every student is expected to maintain a lifestyle which will not negatively impact the ability to perform their duties safely, productively and efficiently.
- A student should notify their advisor/instructor when their physical or mental condition may affect their performance of duties or may jeopardize personal safety or the safety of others.
- A student who reasonably suspects that another student is unfit for work or learning by virtue of their observed physical or mental condition or performance of duties and responsibilities are expected to immediately notify their advisor/instructor and the Chief Student Affairs Officer or the assistant dean for student affairs. Retaliatory action is prohibited against any persons who reports, responds to, or participates in an investigation of a drug and alcohol policy violation.
- In cases where the possibly impaired individual is the person’s advisor/instructor, the student may report to the next higher-level supervisory member.

**CMSRU’s Responsibility:**

- A student must notify CMSRU within five (5) days of being convicted for a drug offense. The assistant dean for student affairs or designee shall ensure that any federal agency providing CMSRU funding for a program in which a convicted student is enrolled, shall be notified within ten (10) days.
- Psychologists and psychiatrists with specialized expertise, who maintain the highest standards of ethical, culturally sensitive and confidential care and are capable of addressing the needs and enhancing the development of medical students, will deliver services to students.
- Students will have access to providers who are not faculty members of the medical school, thus ensuring the provision of services with privacy and confidentiality.
- Drug and alcohol counseling and crisis intervention will be offered at the Student Assistance Program (SAP). In case of an emergency, students will have 24-hour a-day access to crisis counseling by calling 856-342-2280.

**CMSRU Resources:**

The Student Assistance Program has established a drug and alcohol free awareness program to inform students and employees about:

- The dangers of drug and alcohol abuse through activities and training programs.
- CMSRU’s policy of maintaining a drug and alcohol free environment through distribution of this policy to students included within the student handbook.
Drug Testing

PURPOSE: This policy defines the areas and circumstances in which CMSRU reserves the right to do drug and alcohol testing and the mechanism by which the results of such testing will be addressed.

POLICY: Cooper Medical School of Rowan University Drug Testing Policy

SCOPE: This policy applies to all CMSRU students.

DEFINITIONS: The term “drug” means a controlled dangerous substance, analog, or immediate precursor as listed in Schedules I through V in the New Jersey Controlled Dangerous Substances Act, N.J.S.A. 24:21-1 and as modified in any regulation issued by the Commissioner of the Department of Health. It also includes controlled substances in Schedules I through V of Section 202 of the Federal Controlled Substance Act of 21 U.S.C. 812. This policy applies to the use, possession or distribution of such items which is unlawful under the Controlled Substances Act. Such term does not include the use of a drug taken under supervision by a licensed health care professional, or other uses authorized by the Controlled Substances Act or other provisions of Federal law.

PROCEDURE:

A. Drug Testing program:
   • The school reserves the right to screen students for inappropriate drug and alcohol use as defined in this policy if reasonable cause is established.
   • Reasonable cause is defined by inappropriate behavior, appearance, or work performance as determined by associates, team members, or faculty of the school.
   • A standard reasonable suspicion record will be established for uniform and objective assessment necessitating the need for drug and alcohol testing.
   • CMSRU also reserves the right to perform random and follow up drug screenings of students who have participated in a Drug and Alcohol Treatment program while matriculating at CMSRU.

B. All drug testing will be reviewed by the Director of Student Health Services and/or staff prior to a student’s participation in direct patient contact. The director of student health services reserves the right to review and determine whether alternative medical explanations could account for positive findings.

C. CMSRU, while recognizing the importance of providing an optimal learning environment for all students, also places the health of each student first. CMSRU recognizes the importance of physical and emotional health as it pertains to work and learning performance and overall quality of life. CMSRU complies with the policies of Rowan University in the area of a safe workplace. Additionally, CMSRU fully subscribes to the provisions of the Drug-Free Workplace Act. A student’s participation in prohibited conduct constitutes grounds for
disciplinary proceedings and such conduct may be brought to the attention of the appropriate criminal authorities.

D. CMSRU, through the Office of Student Affairs will make available to all students a drug and alcohol free awareness program to inform students about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse through activities, seminars, training programs and distribution of information in the student handbook.

E. Students who present with the need for ongoing counseling services may use the Student Assistance Program. This center provides alcohol, tobacco and other drug treatment, education classes and prevention programs designed to serve the entire university community. It is a fully licensed facility that provides therapeutic services for those experiencing problems with drug and alcohol use. The staff is composed of a multidisciplinary team of counselors, psychologists, dependence specialists and social workers.

F. Students will have access to local providers who are not faculty members of the medical school, thus assuring the provision of services with privacy and confidentiality. In case of an emergency, students will have 24-hour a-day access to crisis counseling.

G. Each student agrees, as a condition of enrollment, to abide by this policy and to notify the assistant dean for student affairs within five (5) days of any conviction under a criminal drug statute for a violation that occurs during their tenure at the CMSRU.
**Immunization Requirements**

**PURPOSE:** CMSRU requires immunization to protect the health and well-being of all students, faculty, staff, patients, and the general public against vaccine preventable communicable diseases.

**POLICY:** Students are required to show proof of appropriate immunity or documented immunization prior to matriculation and/or the onset of actual patient contact.

**SCOPE:** All medical students

**DEFINITIONS:** Immunity-serologic presence of a given antibody (in a sufficient titer) to react with a specific antigen and prevent disease; BCG – Bacille Calmette-Guerin vaccination

**PROCEDURE:**

1. All students are required to have a pre-entrance physical examination performed by the student’s physician within one year prior to enrollment. Students must complete the Health History Form and submit this form and immunization documentation prior to the first day of class. Any student failing to submit this documentation will not be able to attend classes or clinical rotations until this information is complete.

2. In accordance with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines for health care workers, and the applicable State of New Jersey immunization requirements, CMSRU students are required to provide proof of immunity via adequate documentation of appropriate vaccine administration or proof of serologic immunity for the following:

   a. **Rubeola, Mumps, and Rubella** – All students must provide documentation of immunization. Students born after 1957 must have proof of vaccination of the two doses of live, attenuated measles and rubella vaccines. The first dose must have been given on or after the first birthday and in 1969 or later. The second dose must have been given at age 4-6 years or later, but at least 28 days after the first dose. If a student does not have appropriate documentation, serology testing may be conducted (rubella IgG, rubeola IgG, and mumps IgG) to document immunity.

   b. **Varicella** - Students who have a negative or uncertain history of chicken pox are required to receive the varivax vaccine. Dosages are two doses administered eight weeks apart. Exceptions to this policy, such as medical contraindications or religious belief, can be discussed on a case by case basis with Worknet. Students may also document immunity with varicella IgG titers. In the event of a local measles or varicella epidemic, these exempted students will be excluded from group activity, including classes and patient care, until it is determined safe for the students to return.
c. Hepatitis B - Proof of immunity must be in the form of a “quantitative” Hepatitis B surface antibody titer consistent with immunity. If the student is found not to be immune to Hepatitis B, whether due to non-vaccination or to the lack of response to the vaccine, the student will be offered the vaccine series.

3. Prior to matriculation, students will also be required to show proof of last tetanus/diphtheria booster shot.

4. Prior to matriculation, students (including those with prior BCG vaccination) will be required to have screening for tuberculosis with a tuberculin skin test, also known as a PPD. PPD testing will be performed by Worknet and is required on an annual basis. If a student develops a positive PPD, appropriate evaluation and testing will be performed. This would include assessment of symptoms, as well as a chest x-ray. If indicated, appropriate therapy will be offered.

5. Students are required to be vaccinated annually for influenza unless there is a medical or religious contraindication, in which case they will be required to complete a declination form.

6. Proof of Immunity for all CMSRU students will be required and reviewed by Worknet prior to matriculation. Failure to comply with immunization requirements prior to matriculation may delay entry into the CMSRU curriculum and cases will be reviewed individually by the assistant dean for student affairs. Worknet will contact students as necessary to ensure proper immunization. Any student having absent or low titers will receive the appropriate vaccine. Record keeping and periodic reports to the Office of Student Affairs regarding immunizations will be provided by Worknet.

Exceptions:

Students who have a documented history of a positive TB test and proof of appropriate treatment may be exempt from further TB testing unless they develop signs or symptoms of infection. Documentation of prior treatment must be included in the student health record.

Students may also be exempt from a given vaccination if they have a medical contraindication for that particular vaccine. Students must present documentation from a physician regarding the contraindication and this must be included in the immunization record. Exemption from any given vaccination must not prevent fulfillment of the core essential curriculum.

REFERENCES:

CDC, MMWR, Recommendations and Reports, “Immunization of Health-Care Workers: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and the Hospital Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC)”, December 26, 1997 / 46(RR-18):1-42
http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00050577.htm
Impaired Student Process

Student Health & Safety – Process for Handling an Impaired Student

Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) will provide a safe academic environment so that student safety will not be compromised. Any impairment, whether acute or chronic in nature, as defined below, will be addressed by established policies and procedures of CMSRU and/or treatment efforts on behalf of the student. Unsatisfactory academic performance will be handled according to policies and procedures of CMSRU.

PURPOSE: To state the process for the identification and referral of impaired students to the Student Assistance Program (SAP).

PROCEDURE:

A. Identifying an Impaired Student

1. Impairment is to be determined by the assistant dean for student affairs after meeting with the associate dean for medical education and the vice dean and/or a designee from their offices based on a student's ability to adequately perform their academic responsibilities. Adequate academic performance is based on established CMSRU academic performance standards. This ensures an objective basis for documenting inadequate or deteriorating performance. The deans and/or designees from their offices will not attempt to diagnose the cause of the student's impairment.

2. Impairment, and the effects of the impairment on academic performance, can be acute or chronic.

   a. Examples of acute impairment can include, but are not limited to, the following: hallucinations, increased agitation, paranoia, decreased level of consciousness, disorientation, loss of coordination, reduced capacity to communicate, and alcohol on the breath.

   b. Examples of chronic impairment can include, but are not limited to, the following: absenteeism, lateness, significant decrease of productivity, repeated mistakes, peer problems, poor personal hygiene, sleepiness, and poor judgment.

   c. If a student sees behavior that makes him/her believe a fellow student is impaired, they should report it to the assistant dean for student affairs, who will take appropriate action.

   d. If, based on a student’s performance, the deans are uncertain as to
whether or not to take action, they should consult with the Student Assistance Program.

B. Responsibility in Dealing with the Acutely Impaired Student

1. If the assistant dean for student affairs or the associate dean for medical education judges a student to be unfit or unsafe to continue performing their academic responsibilities, they should immediately relieve the student of their academic responsibilities.

2. In private they should state to the student that, based on their condition/behavior, it is CMSRU’s policy that they be medically evaluated to determine the fitness to perform their academic responsibilities.

3. Worknet will be used for an acute issue between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday. The Emergency Department (ED) will be used at all other times.

4. The assistant dean for student affairs and/or a designee from that office must alert Worknet or the ED that they will be escorting a student for an evaluation.

5. The assistant dean for student affairs and/or a designee from that office will escort the impaired student to Occupational Health.

6. If a student refuses to be escorted to Worknet or the ED and/or refuses to be evaluated according to policy, no attempt should be made to force the student. Instead, the student should be suspended and the assistant dean for student affairs and/or a designee from that office should document the student’s refusal. Upon academic suspension, the assistant dean for student affairs, after meeting with the associate dean for medical education and the vice dean or designee and/or a designee from their offices will make a mandatory SAP referral and if the student does not contact SAP within 72 hours, the student will be dismissed from CMSRU.

7. The student should not be permitted to leave the premises operating a vehicle. If the student insists on driving, advise him/her that the police will be notified. If the student still drives, the police must be notified.

8. If the student becomes violent, the CMSRU Security Department will be called to provide assistance.

9. The student cannot resume normal academic responsibilities until such time as the student is cleared by Worknet and any alcohol and/or drug test proves negative.
10. A student consent for drug/alcohol analysis must be completed by the student prior to testing. Chain-of-custody procedures will be followed and the test will be performed at a certified lab.

11. The assistant dean for student affairs, and/or a designee from that office, should make a reasonable attempt to arrange for the student's transportation home if the student is determined to be unfit by Worknet or the ED.

12. If at all possible, no student will be allowed to leave the premises unsupervised. Family and friends should be contacted first. If no other arrangements can be made, a taxi can be called.

13. The assistant dean for student affairs, and/or a designee from that office, must document the means, and the time, by which the student left the premises and/or any attempts made to arrange transportation. If the student refuses and insists on driving, the student must be told that the police will be notified and then contact the police.

14. If the test is positive or the student self discloses usage, Worknet will refer the student to the SAP. The SAP will conduct an evaluation and make a referral for appropriate treatment. The SAP will maintain contact with the rehabilitation program during treatment. The SAP will receive all documentation for students who are referred to them for rehabilitation.

C. Returning the Student to Academic Responsibilities

1. Any acutely impaired student must have a Worknet or ED physician's approval in order to return to CMSRU after test results have been reviewed.

2. The assistant dean for student affairs, and/or a designee from that office, should meet with the student to discuss their return to academic responsibilities. The assistant dean for student affairs will remind the student that the academic standards remain unchanged.

3. The school must continue to monitor the student's academic performance in accordance with CMSRU standards.

D. Responsibility in Dealing with the Chronically Impaired Student

1. If based on a student’s academic performance, the assistant dean for student affairs, and/or a designee from that office, believes that they may be dealing with a
chronically impaired student, the following steps should be taken (See Form: - Potential Signs of Impairment Academic Advisor Checklist).

a. Take written notes, giving dates and nature of specific incidents that reflect a student's declining academic performance. Document any change in academic performance or failure to meet academic standards.

b. Conduct regular documented academic advisory conference sessions with the student.

c. If performance problems persist and the assistant dean for student affairs, and/or a designee from that office, feels professional intervention is necessary, the following steps may be taken at any time:

   i. Refer employee to the Student Assistance Program (SAP) for free and confidential counseling. Document the referral.

   ii. Invoke disciplinary procedures.

d. If the student’s performance impacts patient/public safety, the assistant dean for student affairs and/or a designee from that office may recommend evaluation by Worknet.
Infectious and Environmental Hazards

**PURPOSE:** To ensure appropriate education to prevent, prepare and protect CMSRU students from potential infectious and environmental hazard; to optimize the educational experience of CMSRU students while protecting their safety.

**POLICY:** Cooper Medical School of Rowan University is dedicated to protecting its students, workforce, and the patient community it serves. All CMSRU students will receive orientation and annual training on infectious and environmental hazard methods of prevention, procedures for care and treatment after exposure, and the effects on learning activities.

**SCOPE:** This policy applies to all CMSRU medical students and visiting medical students.

**DEFINITIONS:**
The Hazard Communication Program provides a comprehensive list of hazardous chemicals, labeling of containers of chemicals in the workplace, preparation and distribution of material safety data sheets, and development and implementation of training programs regarding hazards of chemicals and protective measures.

Infectious materials include anything coming from someone's body other than your own (for example, blood and bodily fluids) and all lab cultures.

**PROCEDURE:**
1. Each student is responsible for their own safety throughout their education at CMSRU. CMSRU will provide students with education and information about appropriate policies and procedures to follow to protect themselves during their educational experience and when they are potentially exposed to blood-borne pathogens, communicable diseases and other environmental hazards.

2. Orientation, Education and Training
   a. All students will receive orientation on infection prevention and procedures to follow in the event of an exposure.
   b. All students will receive annual Occupational Safety and Health Administration training and education regarding needle sticks, sharps, and body fluid procedures and the prevention of blood-borne pathogen transmission.
   c. Prior to their first clinical experience, students will receive instruction regarding the prevention and understanding of all infectious diseases they may encounter in a clinical setting.
   d. All students will receive annual hazard communication program training with respect to chemical hazards and appropriate protective measures.

3. Exposures
   a. In the event of exposure, students should immediately wash the affected area with soap and water, cover the area with a bandage or dressing if appropriate and possible, and then
contact Worknet on weekdays from 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM and the Emergency Department at CUHC at other times.
b. Students should notify the staff and supervising resident and/or faculty member and the Office of Student Affairs.
c. Proper testing for bloodborne pathogens, including HIV, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C, will be performed. Based on risk of exposure to HIV, post exposure prophylaxis may be offered at no cost to the student. In addition, appropriate testing of the source patient for bloodborne pathogens will be performed.
d. If follow-up evaluation, monitoring, or treatment is indicated the student will arrange this via Worknet through the Office of Student Affairs.

4. Learning Environment

a. In order to protect the health and safety of all staff and patients, students with communicable diseases or conditions will not be permitted to engage in patient contact until the condition has been resolved as documented by a physician.
b. If a student is unsure whether they should participate in patient care, the student should contact the Student Health Center or their treating PCP or specialist. In particular, persons with the following medical conditions will not be allowed patient contact without prior medical clearance: active varicella, measles, German measles, herpes zoster, acute hepatitis and tuberculosis; oral herpes with draining lesions; Group A streptococcal disease until 24 hours of treatment received; draining of infected skin lesions; others.
c. If exposure results in contraction of disease or disability, the student will be allowed to continue in the program to the extent that he or she does not pose a risk to self or others, based on their official activities.

REFERENCES:

29 CFR 1910 Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens; Needlestick and Other Sharps Injuries

29 CFR 1910.1200 Hazard Communication
Needle Sticks and Bodily Fluid Exposures

PURPOSE: To provide post-exposure procedure to be followed for needle sticks and bodily fluid exposure including, but not limited to needle sticks, sharps, splashes and related events. Please also refer to Student Healthcare Services Policy.

POLICY: Access to immediate assessment, counseling and treatment will be available to students incurring exposure to potentially infectious bodily fluids or blood via needle sticks or other accidental contact.

SCOPE: All CMSRU students and visiting students.

DEFINITIONS: Prophylaxis-intervention used to preserve health and prevent spread of disease.

PROCEDURE: Drug prophylaxis following a high-risk exposure is time-sensitive, therefore it is important to follow appropriate procedure to determine need for initiation of prophylaxis. Any medical student who sustains a needle stick or other wound resulting in exposure to blood or bodily fluids should follow the following protocol.

- Immediately wash the affected area with soap and water and cover the area with a dressing if possible
- For an ocular exposure, flush thoroughly with water
- Inform the supervising resident or physician
- Obtain source patient information if known (name and medical record number).
- If there is an exposure Monday through Friday 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM, please call the Worknet number (856-338-0350) and identify yourself as a Cooper Medical School of Rowan University student. Their office is located at 300 Broadway, Suite #101; Camden, NJ
- If there is an exposure outside of these hours, go directly to the Cooper Emergency Department.
- Always identify yourself as a medical student who has just sustained an exposure
- You will see a health care provider who is trained in assessing the risk of the exposure. You will receive post-exposure counseling and drug treatment/ prophylaxis, if appropriate. If indicated, you will be given a starter pack of the prophylactic drugs which are recommended in accordance with the current guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Base-line blood tests will be performed on you as appropriate
- The treating physician will contact the attending physician of the source patient to expedite the process of getting consent to test the source patient
- You will be given a schedule as to when to return to Worknet

There is no cost to the student for any care surrounding an exposure event occurring while a student at a CMSRU affiliated institution.

Should an exposure result in contraction of disease or disability, the student will be allowed to continue in the program to the extent that he or she does not pose a risk to self or others, based on their official activities. CMSRU will do everything possible to provide that student with the resources needed to
continue their education. Every student enrolled at CMSRU is required to have disability insurance and that is a resource in these instances. Should a student need to take a prolonged leave from the educational program due to such an exposure, CMSRU will work to assure that the time missed in the educational program does not result in an increased cost of attendance over the course of study.
Protection of Minors on Campus

Please refer to Rowan University’s policy:

https://confluence.rowan.edu/display/POLICY/Protection+of+Minors+on+Campus
Student Sexual Misconduct and Harassment Policy

This link provides the most recent policy:

https://confluence.rowan.edu/display/POLICY/Student+Sexual+Misconduct+and+Harassment+Policy
**Student Healthcare Services**

**PURPOSE:** To establish the range of services provided by CMSRU for its students, and to outline student responsibility for these services.

**POLICY:** CMSRU will provide primary medical student healthcare services to all CMSRU registered students in a confidential, professional and sensitive manner. Students will receive health education for prevention of illness, and services for diagnosis and treatment of routine illness and injuries. All students will maintain health and disability insurance.

**SCOPE:** This policy applies to all CMSRU medical students.

**PROCEDURE:**
CMSRU students are eligible to receive a range of healthcare services through CMSRU. The physicians assigned to the student health center are housed in the Multispecialty Suite 104, 3 Cooper Plaza in Camden, weekdays 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. oversees all health services (except immunizations and titers) offered to students. The Student Health Director may also be designated by a student as her/his health insurance primary physician. The students of CMSRU are able to access Cooper University Healthcare physicians 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, through the hospital operators to the on call internal medicine physician and after-hour medical coverage by the Department of Emergency Medicine in Cooper University Hospital’s Emergency Department.

* Students are allowed to select a physician outside of the Student Health Center.

Physicians who are CMSRU faculty and who provide health care services to students will not be involved in the evaluation or promotion of any student for whom they provided services.

1). The following services are available for CMSRU students through the Student Health Center:

- History, physical and laboratory examination

- Physical assessments and consultations with physicians and other personnel, including:
  - Primary care, including preventive care, general medical services such as episodic and chronic care screening and monitoring
  - Health education

CMSRU students may contact the Student Health Center reception area at 856-968-8695 for routine appointments, and the nursing area at 856-968-8695 for sick visits and nurse visits. Hours have been set aside during the week for CMSRU students who will be encouraged to schedule their visits at these times. Students will be scheduled at other times on a case by case basis. Co-pays, deductibles, labs, and diagnostic studies are the responsibility of the student. Students are also responsible for laboratory, radiology, or specialty referrals and treatments.

2). Each student will pay a yearly student health fee that will be used to cover the influenza vaccines, the annual PPD, and other immunizations as required by CMSRU, provided by contracted provider Worknet.
The Worknet facility is located adjacent to Cooper University Hospital, 300 Broadway, Suite #101, Camden, NJ.

The following services are available for CMSRU students through Worknet:

a. Annual PPD testing, immunizations, FIT testing, and appropriate follow-up care

b. Annual influenza vaccination

c. Record keeping and periodic reports to the assistant dean for student affairs regarding immunizations will be provided as required

d. Management of exposures to blood borne pathogens*: medical students will undergo initial counseling and will be given initial therapy at the Worknet facility or in the CUH Emergency Department through a fast-track process. After an exposure, students are to immediately notify their attending physician and/or resident. They are to immediately go to Worknet during their business hours or the ER after hours. *Other counseling and management will be provided by Worknet as is outlined by Infectious and Environmental Hazards policy.

Proof of Immunity for all CMSRU students will be required and reviewed by Worknet prior to matriculation. Failure to comply with immunization requirements prior to matriculation may delay entry into the CMSRU curriculum and cases will be reviewed individually by the assistant dean for student affairs. Worknet will contact students as necessary to ensure proper immunization. Any student having absent or low titers will receive the appropriate vaccine. Record keeping and periodic reports to the Office of Student Affairs regarding immunizations will be provided by Worknet.

CMSRU Students may contact Worknet with any questions by telephone 856-338-0350, email at Worknetcamcmsru@selectmedical.com or by visiting the facility located adjacent to Cooper University Hospital at 300 Broadway, Suite #101, Camden, New Jersey.

* See separate policy on Needle Stick and Bodily Fluid Exposures
**Student Health Provider Policy**

**PURPOSE:** This policy mandates a mechanism whereby anyone who provides medical or psychological care to a student of CMSRU will not be in a position to evaluate or grade that student.

**POLICY:** Student Health Provider Policy

**SCOPE:** Candidates for the Doctor of Medicine degree

**DEFINITIONS:** Student Health Provider: Anyone in the healthcare field who interfaces with a CMSRU student in the role of care giver, including those who provide psychological counseling.

**PROCEDURE:** These rules must be followed at all times by all who provide health care to our students.

- A physician treating a CMSRU student as a patient in any health care setting will have no involvement in the academic assessment of or in decisions regarding the promotion of that student.
- All psychological care and counseling of CMSRU students will be delivered at a site removed from the medical school campus and the providers have no role in the grading and evaluation of student performance, promotion or graduation.
- An advisory college director cannot be a health care provider to a student in their College.
- Should a faculty member serve on the Academic Standing Committee or the Hearing Body for Student Rights, and a student they have provided care for at any time during that student’s matriculation to CMSRU comes before that group, they must recuse themselves from the meeting.
- Those who care for students in the Student Health Center may lecture in a large group setting at CMSRU, but cannot academically evaluate any student. They cannot be a small group facilitator or an advisory college director.
- Inpatient psychiatric care for CMSRU students will be delivered at a facility removed from the CMSRU campus and the providers will not be faculty of CMSRU.
- Reports of care regarding CMSRU students via the Student Assistance Program, Student Health Center, or other contracted services will be provided to the Office of Student Affairs in aggregate by numbers and events and not include student names.
- Required reporting to the Office of Student Affairs in cases of immunizations and exposure related events will be provided within the mandates of HIPAA.
Inclement Weather

**PURPOSE:** This policy is designed to assist students, faculty and staff as to whether the CMSRU campus will be open on any given day due to inclement weather.

**POLICY:** Inclement Weather Policy

**SCOPE:** This policy applies to all CMSRU medical students, visiting medical students and staff members.

**PROCEDURE:** CMSRU will remain open and classes will be held during inclement weather whenever possible. The decision to close CMSRU is reserved to the Dean or designee and may not be made by individual supervisors.

CMSRU will notify the students, faculty and staff of a closing through the following ways:

- Rowan Alert Message System ([register](#))
- CMSRU website ([http://www.rowan.edu/coopermed/](http://www.rowan.edu/coopermed/))
- Email
- Voicemail

Decision for closure will be made by 6 a.m.

**Instructions for M1 and M2 students:**

1. Follow the Rowan Alert Message System for information on closures and/or delays.
2. Log into BlackBoard for information on adjustments to the weekly schedule and other information from your course directors and the Office of Medical Education.

**Instructions for M3 and M4 students:**

1. Follow the Rowan Alert Message System for information on closures and/or delays.
2. If there is a delay, contact your CLIC preceptors to determine if their offices will be open and if you can travel safely. If you determine that you cannot travel safely, alert your preceptor and request an excused absence from the CMSRU attendance system. If you are on an inpatient service, contact your clerkship director or departmental education coordinator to inform them of your ability to travel to your clerkship site.

3. If there is a closure due to inclement weather, students are not required to report to their inpatient clerkship assignment or their CLIC preceptor’s office. As a courtesy, please contact your preceptors or clerkship directors.
4. Log into BlackBoard for information on adjustments to the M3 transdisciplinary schedule and other information from your course and clerkship directors and the Office of Medical Education.
Policies and Forms Related to Tuition

Emergency Loan Policy

PURPOSE: To establish a fund for students in need.

POLICY: Total Planned tuition and fees, the undergraduate debt, and the daily costs of living are a challenge for all medical students in the nation. There are circumstances that arise outside of the budget created by the student and the OSA. The Emergency Loan Policy, formerly known as the Dean’s Fund Policy, will provide money for unexpected emergencies and unexpected events for our students. This policy provides a guideline for how these funds can be accessed and when they are to be repaid.

SCOPE: This policy affects all students of CMSRU and commits CMSRU to providing support through the Office of the Dean.

PROCEDURE: A student in need of short-term financial assistance will meet with the Assistant Director of Financial Aid to discuss the need. Conditions of repayment will also be explained at that time. The Assistant Director of Financial Aid will contact the Office of the Dean or designee to obtain approval of an emergency loan. If approved, an emergency loan application and loan repayment agreement must be completed by the student. A check or wire transfer will be initiated by the Rowan Foundation. The maximum amount available per student per year is $1000.00. Funding for this opportunity is via the Rowan Foundation.

The fund must be repaid within 12 months without interest. The circumstances under which the funding need not be repaid include student withdrawal, student dismissal, or any other reason the student ceases to be a student at CMSRU, excluding graduation.

NOTE: CMSRU has made this fund available to help students in extreme need. Some circumstances where we would expect to use this fund include:

- Emergency travel expenses, such as those related to a family tragedy
- Expenses, such as a repair needed to a car, for transportation purposes
- Any similar expenses that are due to unforeseen circumstances

This fund is not for use in paying student fees or tuition. The Assistant Director of Financial Aid will be meeting with every student regularly to be certain that the costs of tuition and fees, living expenses, and other expenses are budgeted and are covered through grants, loans, and scholarship.
Student Residence and In-State Tuition Policy

PURPOSE: This policy defines the criteria for New Jersey residency to qualify students for in-state tuition at the Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU).

SCOPE: Candidates for the Doctor of Medicine Degree (M.D.) at CMSRU.

DEFINITION:

Domicile is a legal concept defined by New Jersey Law as (in general terms) the place where a student has his or her true, fixed permanent home and principal living establishment, and to which, whenever he or she is absent, he or she has the intention of returning.

POLICY:

A. Eligibility for In-State Tuition

1. An individual from a state other than New Jersey who has enrolled at CMSRU will be presumed to be in New Jersey primarily for educational purposes and will be presumed not to have established domicile in New Jersey.

2. Proof of domicile.
   a. Students residing in New Jersey for a period of twelve (12) months before first enrolling at CMSRU are presumed to be domiciled in this State for tuition purposes. *
   b. Students providing a non-New Jersey permanent address on their applications to CMSRU, or who indicate a state other than New Jersey as their State of Legal Residence (SLR) through the common application service American Medical College Admission Service (AMCAS) are presumed not to be domiciled in New Jersey unless evidence of establishment of domicile in New Jersey is provided. In the case where both a permanent address and an SLR are provided, the SLR will determine domicile. The evidence of establishment of domicile must include all of the following**:
      i. copies of a self-supporting student’s New Jersey resident income tax return (bearing a New Jersey address) for the most recent tax year or a parent’s** or legal guardian’s New Jersey resident income tax return (bearing a New Jersey address) for the most recent tax year; and
      ii. evidence of ownership of or a current long-term (at least one year) lease on a permanent residence in New Jersey by the student or their parent(s)* or legal guardian(s), which ownership or lease commenced no less than 12 months prior to the term during which they will be enrolled at CMSRU.
months prior to first enrollment at CMSRU or 12 months prior to any application for change in residence classification and

iii. electronic or hard copy of cancelled mortgage or rent check or receipt for cash payments and

iv. sworn and notarized affidavit from the student and/or parent(s) or legal guardian(s) setting forth domicile in New Jersey.

3. If the evidence described in Section 2.b.i. above (i.e., New Jersey resident income tax returns) cannot be produced, then the following may be substituted (in addition to the evidence described in Section 2.b.ii. and 2.b.iii. above, i.e., ownership or lease of a permanent residence):

   a. current driver’s license from New Jersey. Driver’s licenses from other states must be replaced by one from New Jersey; and

   ii. New Jersey vehicle registration if the student owns or leases an automobile.

b. If the student will not be operating a vehicle in New Jersey, he or she must submit all of the following in place of a New Jersey driver’s license and vehicle registration:

   i. a sworn, notarized affidavit that the student will not be operating a vehicle in New Jersey nor will be purchasing a CMSRU/Rowan University parking sticker; plus

   ii. a sworn, notarized statement from the student and/or his or her parent(s) or legal guardian(s) declaring domicile in New Jersey; plus

   iii. if a U.S. citizen, the student’s New Jersey voter registration card (application for voter registration card is not sufficient); or if a permanent resident alien, a copy of the student’s permanent residency card and at least three (3) of the following: the student’s banking documents; utility bills; documents from the previous institution of higher education indicating that institution’s recognition of the student’s New Jersey domicile; New Jersey employment documents; any other documents identifying a social or economic relationship with New Jersey.

4. Students who are U.S. military personnel on active duty and living in New Jersey, or who are spouses of active-duty U.S. military personnel living in New Jersey must present official documentation of active-duty military status and residence in the State for the student or their spouse or parent, and documentation of the spousal/parental relationship (e.g., marriage license, birth certificate) if applicable.
5. The University may require student to submit any additional supplementary information that it deems necessary to support the student’s claim of domicile in New Jersey.

* N.J.A.C. 9A:5-1.1 provides that persons residing in New Jersey for a period of 12 months before first enrolling at a public institution in the State are presumed to be domiciled in the State for tuition purposes.

** N.J.A.C. 9A:5-1.2 provides guidelines for what primary evidence an institution may require to show that a student is domiciled in New Jersey.
Refunds

POLICY: In the event a student withdraws from CMSRU, takes a leave of absence, or enrolls into Independent Study or Student Scholar Research after the semester has begun, tuition charges may be prorated. CMSRU will determine the student’s last date of attendance.

PURPOSE: This policy delineates the schedule for refunds in the event a student is unable to complete the semester.

SCOPE: The refund policy applies when a student:
- Withdraws from school; or
- Fails to complete a period of enrollment

DEFINITIONS: N/A

PROCEDURE:

1. Students who withdraw, take an official medical leave, enroll in an Independent Study Plan or Student Scholar Research after a semester commences, may be issued a refund as outlined in the CMSRU refund schedule.

Tuition refunds will be applied as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Withdrawal during</th>
<th>Refund</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First five class days, including Orientation</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day 6 through less than one third (&lt;1/3) of a semester</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than one third (&gt;1/3) of a semester</td>
<td>No Refund</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tuition refunds will not be issued after more than one third of a semester has been completed.

With the exception of military leave, CMSRU students who withdraw, take an official leave of absence, enroll in an Independent Study Plan (ISP), enroll in Student Scholar Research (SSR), or are dismissed from CMSRU during the first third of a semester, will be granted a 75% tuition refund.

Students repeating one course will be assessed a 25% tuition charge. Students repeating two courses will be assessed a 50% tuition charge. Students repeating more than two courses will be charged 100% tuition per term. All enrolled students are charged student fees. Student fees are non-refundable.
*A course is defined as one block or clerkship and one longitudinal course or clerkship.

2. All students receiving financial aid should consult with the CMSRU Office of Financial Aid to determine the manner in which your financial aid account will be affected based on your last date of enrollment. Change of status request forms, federal loan funding return to lender calculations, and exit loan counseling may need to be completed.

3. If the student’s award package included any federal funds other than Federal Work-Study and the leave of absence or withdrawal occurs in the first 60% of the semester, federal regulations require that a portion of the student’s federal aid be returned to the aid programs. The portion of aid to be returned is determined by a federally-mandated calculation based on the number of days remaining in the semester, and the refund due to the aid programs is credited in the following order:
   1. Outstanding balances on Federal Unsubsidized Stafford/Ford Loans
   2. Outstanding balances on Federal Subsidized Stafford/Ford Loans
   3. Outstanding balances on Federal Perkins Loans
   4. Outstanding balances on Federal Graduate PLUS Loans
   5. Other Title IV aid programs, if applicable
   6. Financial aid programs sponsored by the US Department of Health and Human Services
Tuition and Fees

PURPOSE: To establish the tuition and fee schedules for CMSRU students.

SCOPE: This policy affects all students of CMSRU, and commits CMSRU to providing support through an Office of the Bursar.

POLICY: Total planned tuition and fees for entering in-state and out-of-state students will be determined yearly, approved by the Rowan University Board of Trustees and posted on the CMSRU website as well as in printed materials that are distributed to prospective and continuing students.

A student may be viewed as a resident for tuition purposes if she/he fulfills the criteria set forth in the CMSRU Proof of New Jersey Residency Policy.

In addition to tuition each student will be responsible for CMSRU fees that include but may not be limited to:

- Activities Fee
- Technology Fee
- Student Services Fee
- Disability Insurance Fee
- Cooper SAP (counseling service) Fee
- Facilities Fee

*Health Insurance and Student Parking are optional (additional) fees.

Secondary Application Fee (non-refundable): $100.00

Applicants who qualify for an AMCAS fee waiver will automatically receive a waiver for CMSRU application processing fee.

Acceptance deposit: $100.00

Each student selected for admission is given notice of favorable action on her/his application and is allowed two weeks to decide to enroll. The acceptance deposit is credited toward tuition, but will be forfeited if the student withdraws after April 30th.

Health and Disability Insurance Fee: All students must have health and disability insurance as defined in the CMSRU Student Health and Disability Insurance Policies. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that their particular insurance plan is appropriate for their needs. These fees will be waived with proof of equivalent insurance.

The RU sponsored health insurance plan is with Aetna and full benefit explanation is available online to all students at https://www.aetnastudenthealth.com/en/school/686163/index.html.
Tuition and fees are payable in advance each semester. The Bursar’s Office charges a monthly late payment fee (please see the Bursar’s Office website for specifics). A student may arrange with the Rowan University Bursar’s Office to follow a deferred payment plan by paying an enrollment fee each term (please see the Bursar’s Office website for specifics).

Any student who elects to use the deferred payment plan and finds it impossible to meet this obligation must contact the Bursar’s Office immediately to make alternate arrangements. Lacking these arrangements, students will be unable to register for the following academic period. No degree will be awarded to any student until all financial obligations to the school have been satisfied.

Students who withdraw, take a leave of absence, or are dismissed from medical school may be eligible for tuition refunds as outlined in the CMSRU Refund Policy. NOTE: all students with financial aid should consult with the CMSRU Financial Aid to determine the manner in which your financial aid account will be affected based on your last date of enrollment.
### Polices Related to Matriculation

**Admission Deferral**

**PURPOSE:** This policy outlines the circumstances, under which a student can request a deferral of admission and the mechanism through which a deferral request is acted upon.

**POLICY:** Deferral of admission to CMSRU

**SCOPE:** Accepted students to CMSRU for the Doctor of Medicine degree

**DEFINITIONS:**
A deferral is a request made by an applicant to CMSRU, after notification of acceptance, to delay matriculation into a class year other than that, for which the student was initially accepted.

**PROCEDURE:** Accepted students who would like to apply for deferral must communicate this request in writing (email is acceptable) to the associate dean for admissions and to the assistant dean for student affairs, indicating the reason for requesting deferral and the expected duration of the deferral. The basis for a deferral requests should generally be participation in a time-limited (usually one year), “once-in-a-lifetime” academic opportunities that will significantly enhance their medical education and training. Military service will also be considered as a reason for admission deferral.

While we understand that students may wish to spend a year between undergraduate college and the rigors of medical school for financial reasons, personal development, or family needs, it is less likely that deferrals will be granted for these reasons. All requests will be considered on an individual basis.

**Admissions Deferment**

- Written requests for deferral must be received by May 1 of the year of expected entry.
- If approved, the deferral is granted for one year.
- Each request will be reviewed by the associate dean for admissions and the assistant dean for student affairs. Additional documentation that substantiates the request for deferral request is strongly encouraged.
- The deferment must be used for the purpose requested.
- Candidates granted a deferral must provide the associate dean for admissions and the assistant dean for student affairs by March 1 of the deferral year with written notification, reaffirming their intent to matriculate in August.
- All personal information that was provided in the original application must remain true and valid.
- All of the conditions in the acceptance letter must be met, including the ability to meet our technical standards upon matriculation to CMSRU.
- The applicant must agree to another criminal background check as per CMSRU policy.
Criminal Background Check

PURPOSE: Cooper Medical School of Rowan University follows the recommendation of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and obtains a criminal background check on applicants upon their conditional acceptance to our medical school, through participation in American Medical College Application Service® (AMCAS®). The purpose of conducting a criminal record check prior to admission is to ensure the health, welfare and safety of patients and others at CMSRU.

POLICY: Criminal background checks will be conducted on all students conditionally accepted for admission to Cooper Medical School of Rowan University.

SCOPE: This policy applies to all students accepted to CMSRU.

PROCESS FOR CONDUCTING AND REVIEWING BACKGROUND CHECKS

- Failure to submit to the background check will disqualify the student from acceptance to the CMSRU.
- This policy applies to all applicants to the first-year medical school class.
- All applicants are asked to self-report military service dishonorable discharges, felony convictions, and misdemeanor convictions on the AMCAS application.
- Offers of admission are conditional, pending the applicant’s submission to, and CMSRU’s review of the results of a background check.
- For applicants to the first year class, the background check will be conducted after an initial, conditional offer of admission has been made.
- The check will be conducted by an AAMC-designated vendor through the AMCAS Background Check Process.
- CMSRU may request that the AAMC vendor conduct background checks on a limited number of applicants in a Select Pool, who have not yet been offered admission, but may be offered conditional admission just prior to the start of classes.
- The results of the background checks on applicants in the Select Pool are not released to CMSRU unless and until a conditional offer of acceptance is issued.
- In the event that the applicant is not accepted, CMSRU will neither receive nor review their background check.
- Deferred applicants will be required to undergo two background checks. The first will be conducted after the initial, conditional offer of admission. This check MUST be successfully completed and the admission offer finalized prior to the Admissions Committee considering a request for deferment. Assuming the deferment request is granted, the student will be required to undergo a second background check as part of the application cycle for the class in which the applicant intends to matriculate.

The background check reported to CMSRU will include information about all convictions and conviction-equivalent adjudications for both felonies and misdemeanors. Additionally, it will include military service and discharge information for those who have served in the military. The Director of Admissions or their designee will conduct a preliminary review of all background checks.
An *ad hoc* committee will be formed in the event of a finding of the review. Applicants will have the opportunity to submit written comments to the Office of Admissions regarding the incident reported on the background check within five (5) calendar days of the date the Office notifies the applicant that their file is being referred to the Committee. The Committee will be an Ad Hoc committee established by the Dean of the CMSRU, and will include the Chair of the Admissions Committee, the associate dean for admissions, the assistant dean for student affairs, and any others deemed appropriate by the Dean. An attorney appointed by Rowan University may serve as counsel to the committee. The committee shall meet on an as-needed basis to review applications referred to it by the Office of Admissions. As necessary, members may participate in committee meetings by telephone. The committee will review the background check report, any additional information provided by the applicant, and any other information it considers relevant. CMSRU may independently seek additional information about the incident that is the subject of the report. If it does so, it will share any additional information obtained with the committee and the applicant.

Each case will be considered individually and a decision regarding final acceptance will be made only after careful review. The committee members shall vote either to finalize or withdraw the conditional offer of acceptance extended to the applicant. The Office of Admissions shall advise the applicant of the committee’s decision within ten (10) business days of the date of the decision. All decisions are final.

For students who matriculate at CMSRU, the portion of the admissions file that is forwarded to the Registrar’s Office to begin the student’s academic file will include a notation that a pre-admission background check was conducted and reviewed, and that a final offer of admissions was made after that review. Records related to background reports for applicants who do not successfully matriculate, but for whom a background check is released to CMSRU, shall be maintained with the applicant’s admissions file for one (1) year in the Office of Admissions.
Letters of Recommendation

PURPOSE: This policy outlines the expectations of the Office of Admissions regarding applications submitted by candidates with respect to the accompanying letters of recommendation.

POLICY: Letters of Recommendation

SCOPE: Candidates for the Doctor of Medicine Degree

DEFINITIONS: This policy refers only to those letters submitted at the time a student applies for admission to CMSRU.

PROCEDURE:

Note: AMCAS accepts Letters of Evaluation/Recommendation and attaches them to an applicant’s file. This service enables CMSRU to receive all letters electronically via AMCAS, and enables the authors to send all letters to be considered by schools participating in this service to AMCAS. AMCAS will receive letters from users of VirtualEvals, Interfolio, and via the mail. In addition, letter writers who currently mail letters can opt to upload letters directly to AMCAS through the AMCAS Letter Writer Application. Letters of recommendation present an opportunity for people who know the applicant to evaluate the applicant’s candidacy for medical school. Only letters submitted through the AMCAS system will be considered for evaluation of candidates.

A “good” letter will offer information about the applicant which is different from the information provided by the AMCAS application or the secondary application. The applicant should request letters only from people who know the applicant well and can provide substantive information about the applicant. Some of the applicant’s letters should be from the applicant’s former professors attesting to problem-solving skills, laboratory technique, writing skills, oral communication skills, interpersonal skills, etc. Other letters may be from former or present employers, associates, or physicians whom the applicant has shadowed, worked, and/or volunteered. No single individual is likely to be able to address all of the applicant’s qualities, so letters from multiple individuals are recommended.

CMSRU prefers, whenever possible, to receive a committee letter, which is authored by a pre-health committee or pre-health advisor and is intended to represent the institution's overall evaluation of the applicant. Letters of recommendation obtained from faculty members may be included with the committee letter, accompanied by a signed document indicating the applicant’s decision to preserve or waive the applicant’s right to see the letter. If the applicant’s undergraduate institution does not have a Pre-Health Professional Advisory Committee, individual letters from faculty may alternatively be submitted. Recommendations for the number and type of letters submitted are as follows:

- At least two letters from Science Faculty who have taught the applicant
- At least one letter from other faculty or an individual who can provide an in-depth evaluation and recommendation
• One or more letters from other individuals who have worked with or observed the candidate and can provide an additional assessment

Letters submitted to CMSRU via other means (email, regular mail, etc.) will not be considered in evaluation of the candidate. Candidates should consult the AMCAS Instruction Book for Applicants for further details on letter of recommendation submission.
Readmission

PURPOSE: This policy outlines the process by which a student may apply for readmission to CMSRU.

POLICY: Readmission Policy

SCOPE: This policy applies to all CMSRU medical students

DEFINITIONS: Readmission applies only to students previously enrolled in and attending CMSRU for any period of time.

PROCEDURE:

• A student who has withdrawn (but subsequently wishes to return to school) must apply for readmission in writing and submit the required materials, as stipulated below, to the assistant dean for student affairs and the associate dean for admissions.

• The reason for requesting readmission must be compelling. To be considered for readmission, the student must have been in good academic standing at the time of withdrawal from CMSRU and have had no prior actions by the Academic Standing Committee, including, but not limited to, professionalism violations.

• Official transcripts from any post-secondary institutions attended in the interval must be submitted.

• Three additional letters of recommendation are required and these will be sent directly to the CMSRU Office of Admissions.

• A $100 reapplication fee is required.

• A criminal background check is required.

• An ad hoc committee consisting of the assistant dean for student affairs, the associate dean for medical education, and the associate dean for admissions will review the student’s written application for readmission in light of their entire record, including supporting documents. This committee may recommend: 1) readmission without conditions; 2) readmission with conditions, 3) denial of readmission until further proof of readiness to return to school can be demonstrated; or 4) denial of readmission. The recommendation of the ad hoc committee will be forwarded to the Dean for consideration. If the recommendation is “readmission with or without conditions”, the request for readmission will be forwarded to the Admissions Committee for consideration and vote. The vote of the Admissions Committee is final and no appeals are allowed.
**Student Selection**

**PURPOSE:** This policy outlines guidance for selecting students for admission to Cooper Medical School of Rowan University.

**POLICY:** Cooper Medical School of Rowan University (CMSRU) seeks students who demonstrate academic readiness, who resonate with our mission, and who possess the special personal attributes required of physicians. More specifically, we are committed to selecting students who demonstrate a record of academic excellence, the potential to deliver competent and compassionate care, a passion for lifelong learning, intellectual curiosity, personal and professional integrity and ethical conduct, inclusivity and tolerance, and community-oriented service. Student selection is based on a holistic review of a candidate’s application and is not influenced by political or financial factors. To be eligible for admission, an applicant must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States of America. Verifying documents of status must be provided at time of application. All applicants are required to complete a bachelor’s degree from an accredited four-year college or university in the United States or Canada prior to enrollment in the MD Program.

**SCOPE:** This policy applies to all prospective students of CMSRU.

**DEFINITIONS:**

**AMCAS** – The American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS ®) is a non-profit, centralized application processing service for applicants to the first-year entering classes at participating U.S. medical schools. Most medical schools use AMCAS as the primary application method.

**MCAT** – The Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) is a standardized, multiple-choice exam designed to assess problem solving, critical thinking, writing skills, and knowledge of science concepts and principles prerequisite to the study of medicine. The MCAT exam scores are part of the admission process. Most U.S. medical schools require MCAT exam scores from their applicants.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. The final responsibility for selection of students for admission resides with the Admissions Committee, a standing committee of the faculty.

2. The Admissions Office is responsible for student recruitment, annual education and training of the Admissions Committee members, interviewers, and application screeners, and processing of admission documents and organization of interviews. The Office of Diversity and Community Affairs assists in student recruitment.

3. Admission Process: All regular applicants will follow the process delineated below for admission to CMSRU:

   a. **AMCAS application:** Candidates for admission to CMSRU are required to complete an application through the online American Medical College Application Service
(AMCAS) at www.aamc.org. Applicants are required to complete this application and submit an application fee. This initial process requires letters of recommendation submitted through the candidate’s AMCAS application. Letters of recommendation may be obtained from, 1) Undergraduate Pre-medical Committees (preferred); and/or 2) individual from faculty and supervisors, who are well-acquainted with the candidate. At least two letters should be from academic faculty. Additional information about this service can be found on the AAMC website (www.aamc.org/students/amcas/faq/amcasletters.htm). CMSRU will not consider incomplete AMCAS applications and only students with verified AMCAS applications will be considered for secondary applications and interviews. No transcripts or supplementary materials should be forwarded to CMSRU, as admission decisions are based only on the candidate’s verified AMCAS file.

b. **Secondary Application**: Upon receipt of verified AMCAS applications, the Office of Admissions will invite selected applicants, based on preliminary screening, to complete a CMSRU-specific secondary application. Preliminary screening of applicants includes an evaluation of academic readiness. Indicators of academic readiness are determined by data analysis from the Office of Assessment, which is annually presented to and approved by the Admissions Committee. Secondary applications are sent only to applicants who demonstrate a high likelihood of success at CMSRU. This screening step was developed to ensure that applicants who fail to meet academic qualifications can be notified of rejection prior to remitting additional application fees. The secondary application includes responses to short-answer questions to help further determine a candidate’s match to the CMSRU mission and community. The secondary application also includes several attestations from the candidate, indicating that they meet the requirements described below. The secondary application fee is $100, which may be waived upon submission of the AMCAS Fee Assistance Program (FAP) waiver documents. Applicants not selected to receive a secondary application will be notified of this decision.

c. **Screening for Interview**: All candidates who submit a completed secondary application will have their entire application screened manually, by specially-trained individuals, under the authority of the Admissions Committee, to decide which applicants will be invited for an interview. This screening includes a holistic review of the primary and secondary applications to determine academic readiness and mission match. The holistic review includes an assessment of personal qualities, activities, and experiences that will positively contribute to the culture and diversity of CMSRU. In this regard, there are no absolute criteria and each applicant is considered individually. Interview selection criteria will be annually reviewed and approved by the Admissions Committee. Each year, individuals involved in screening of applications will be formally charged by the Dean, so that a consistent approach to screening can be ensured. Because of the volume of applications received, this process may take several weeks to months to complete. Applications will be screened in the chronological order in which they are received.
d. **Interview**: Interviews are scheduled on an invitation-only basis. Following screening of their primary and secondary applications, selected students will be invited for an in-person interview at CMSRU in Camden, New Jersey. The admissions process is highly competitive and the likelihood of being invited to interview depends on the overall size and qualifications of the applicant pool. Upon completion of the interview cycle for the current application year, unsuccessful applicants will be notified that they will not to be offered an interview (rejection). Once invited, candidates may schedule their own interview date, but must receive authorization from the admissions office to reschedule their interview date. Applicants interviewing are responsible for making their own travel arrangements.

The interview day consists of an introductory orientation session with the Dean, informational sessions presented by the Offices of Medical Education and Student Affairs, a traditional interview jointly conducted by a member of the Admissions Committee and a “blinded” faculty or student member. The interview day will also include a student-led tour of CMSRU and a demonstration in our simulation center. Upon completion of the formal interview day program, applicants will have an opportunity to informally meet with CMSRU students.

e. **Admission Committee Presentation and Voting**: Generally, in the week following each interview date, all interviewed applicants are presented to the Admissions Committee for consideration and vote. The presentation to the Admissions Committee is made by the committee member who interviewed the applicant. Following presentation of the applicant, there is an opportunity for further discussion of the candidate by all members of the Admissions Committee. Performance during the actual interview, in conjunction with the candidate’s overall application, are significant factors considered by committee members in the evaluation of each applicant. Following any discussion, an anonymous vote is taken by the full voting membership of the Admissions Committee. Based on the results of this vote, one of the following decisions is applied: 1) Immediate Acceptance, 2) Priority Waitlist, 3) Regular Waitlist, or 4) Rejection. All interviewed applicants will be notified of their updated status, either via telephone call or email, in a timely fashion. As specified by Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) standards, the authority for selection of prospective students rests in the hands of the faculty, under the auspices of the Admissions Committee. All decisions of the Admissions Committee are final.

f. **Acceptance Offers**: Selected applicants will be offered admission by the Admissions Committee, based on committee vote, on a rolling basis. Possible admissions actions, as described above, are defined and approved annually by the Admissions Committee. A vote of “Immediate Acceptance” indicates that the candidate will receive immediate notification of acceptance to CMSRU. A vote of “Priority or Regular Waitlist” indicates that the candidate is approved for admission and will receive notice of acceptance only if a seat in the class becomes available due to withdrawals from the candidates accepted previously (i.e. delayed acceptance). As indicated, applicants with priority waitlist status
will be considered first among those candidates eligible for delayed acceptance. Guidelines for ranking of waitlisted candidates will be developed annually by the Waitlist Subcommittee (see below) of the Admissions Committee. A vote of “Rejection” indicates that a student will receive immediate notification that the Admission Committee will not offer them a seat in the class. The Dean will be notified of the decision of the Admission Committee on each candidate, but the Dean will have no role in admissions decisions.

The Waitlist Subcommittee of the Admissions Committee is composed of faculty members selected from the full Admissions Committee and is chaired by either the Chair or Vice Chair of the Admissions Committee. Up to one-third of the membership of the Admissions Committee can serve on the Waitlist Subcommittee. The Waitlist Subcommittee is responsible for development of criteria for ranking of waitlisted applicants. These criteria are developed and presented to the full Admissions Committee annually for approval. The full Admissions committee grants authority to the Waitlist Subcommittee to extend all new offers of acceptance in accordance with approved criteria. The full committee will receive a final report at the close of the admissions cycle to inform them of the outcome of the waitlist process.

Admitted students must submit an acceptance deposit within two weeks of receipt of an acceptance offer. The deposit will be applied to first semester tuition and is refundable prior to May 1st, if the applicant chooses to withdraw their acceptance. A decision to withdraw after May 1st may result in forfeiture of the $100 deposit. Deposit requirements may be waived in cases of extreme financial disadvantage. Failure to submit an acceptance deposit in a timely fashion may result in rescindment of the original acceptance offer.

4. Admission Requirements:

To be eligible for admission, an applicant must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States of America. Verifying documents of status must be provided at time of application.

A verified AMCAS application is required for consideration of an applicant.

Applicants must take the MCAT and MCAT scores must be submitted through AMCAS. Test scores may not be more than 3 years old (at the time of application) and only MCAT 2015 results will be accepted. The “highest” MCAT score will be based on the aggregate best performance on an individual examination. The Admissions Committee will not compile a composite “highest” score by considering best performance on individual sections from multiple examinations.

CMSRU welcomes applicants with a wide-range of academic interests. All majors are welcome to apply to CMSRU, as long as minimum academic requirements are met. All applicants are required to complete a bachelor’s degree from an accredited four-year college or university in the United States or Canada prior to enrollment in the MD Program. Applicants to CMSRU must
take the following required courses from an accredited four-year college or university in the United States or Canada. Advanced Placement (AP) credit or on-line courses will not be accepted to satisfy these basic requirements. For applicants with credits obtained by advanced placement or through a community or junior college, it is acceptable to satisfy this requirement by taking advanced level courses, in the disciplines specified, at their degree-granting institution. In addition to the required course work, several recommended courses are listed below. These recommended (but not required) courses have been identified as being beneficial to students enrolled at CMSRU. Students are encouraged to take a broad array of courses as undergraduates.

**Required Courses:**
- Biology (any two courses with lab), 8 credits total
- Chemistry (any two courses with lab), 8 credits total
- English or Composition, 3 credits total

**Recommended Courses:**
- Physics (any two courses with lab)
- Organic Chemistry (any two courses with lab)
- Biochemistry
- Behavioral Sciences (e.g. Psychology, Sociology)
- Ethics
- Biostatistics
- Humanities
- Spanish

CMSRU is seeking to recruit a diverse student body that will add value to our school and contribute to the education of all students. This diversity may include, but is not limited to, groups under-represented in medicine, first-generation college graduates, current or former members of the military, students raised in Camden, individuals with unique service or professional experiences, and those who may be financially disadvantaged.
Technical Standards

PURPOSE: Graduates must have the knowledge and skills to function in a broad variety of clinical situations and to render a wide spectrum of patient care. Candidates for the Medical Degree must have observation, communication, motor, conceptual, integrative, quantitative, behavioral and social abilities, ethics and professionalism skills, which are essential to complete the educational program.

POLICY: Applicants accepted to Cooper Medical School of Rowan University must be able to complete all requirements inherent in and leading to the Doctor of Medicine degree. CMSRU provides an equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities to participate in the application process and be considered for enrollment.

SCOPE: This policy applies to all applicants and medical students at CMSRU.

DEFINITIONS: Discrimination includes adversely limiting, segregating, or classifying an applicant or student because of a disability; utilizing standards, criteria, or methods of administration that result in discrimination on the basis of disability. CMSRU is committed to diversity and to attracting and educating students who will make the population of health care professionals representative of the national population. CMSRU actively collaborates with students to develop innovative ways to ensure accessibility and creates a respectful and accountable culture through our confidential and specialized disability support.

PROCEDURE: CMSRU is committed to making reasonable accommodations for its students with disabilities who are capable of completing all requirements and fulfilling all responsibilities leading to a medical degree. CMSRU will comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and will adhere to AAMC Technical Standards. All students that are invited to complete a secondary application will be sent a copy of the CMSRU technical standards for review. Upon receipt of an offer of acceptance, each successful applicant will be required to complete an affidavit with CMSRU that attests to their ability to meet these standards with or without reasonable accommodation.

A. Technical Standards
   1. Summary:
      Essential abilities and characteristics required for completion of the MD degree consist of certain minimum physical and cognitive abilities and emotional characteristics to assure candidates for admission, promotion, and graduation are able to complete the medical education program and participate fully in all aspects of medical training with or without reasonable accommodation.

      A candidate for the MD degree must have abilities and skills of six varieties, including: observation; communication; motor; intellectual-conceptual, integrative and quantitative; behavioral and social; and ethics and professionalism.
2. Required Abilities and Skills

I. Observation: The candidate must be able to observe demonstrations and experiments in the basic sciences. Students must also be able to observe patients accurately and completely, both at a distance and directly. This requires functional vision, hearing, and sensation.

II. Communication: A candidate should be able to communicate with patients in order to elicit both verbal and non-verbal information. The candidate must be able to communicate effectively and sensitively in oral and written form with the patient, the patient’s family, and all members of the health care team.

III. Motor: Candidates should have sufficient motor function to perform a physical examination and other diagnostic maneuvers. A candidate should be able to execute motor movements reasonably required to provide general care and emergency treatment to patients. Such actions require coordination of both gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium and functional use of the senses of touch and vision.

IV. Intellectual-Conceptual, Integrative and Quantitative Abilities: These abilities include measurement, calculation, reasoning, analysis and synthesis. Problem-solving, the critical skill demanded of physicians, requires all of these intellectual abilities. In addition, the candidate should be able to comprehend three-dimensional relationships and to understand the spatial relationships of structures.

V. Behavioral and Social Attributes: A candidate must possess the physical and emotional health required for full utilization of their intellectual abilities; the exercise of good judgment; the prompt completion of all responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients; and the development of mature, sensitive and effective relationships with patients. Candidates must be able to adapt to changing environments, to display flexibility and to learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in the clinical problems of many patients. Compassion, integrity, concern for others, interpersonal skills, ability to work within a team, interest, and motivation are all personal qualities that are assessed during the admissions and education process.

VI. Ethics and Professionalism: Students should maintain and display ethical and moral behaviors commensurate with the role of a physician in all interactions with patients, faculty, staff, students, and the public. The student is expected to understand the legal and ethical aspects of the practice and function within the law and ethical standards of the medical profession.
B. Accommodation Requests

Requests for accommodations by individuals with a disability as defined by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Americans with Disabilities Act will be considered on the basis of their abilities and the extent to which reasonable accommodations, if required, can be provided. A newly accepted or current student may request an accommodation with the Office of Student Affairs by completing a Disability Resources Registration form available on the CMSRU website. The Office of Student Affairs facilitates an ongoing, interactive process with each student requesting an accommodation.

REFERENCES:

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 [ADA], including changes made by the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-325)

Section 504 of the Rehabilitative Act of 1973 (PL 93-112)
Rowan University Policies

All Rowan University Policies are listed at:

https://confluence.rowan.edu/display/POLICY/Home

Americans with Disabilities Act Accommodations

Accommodation Policy and Request for Services

Equal Opportunity (EEO)

The Board of Trustees of Rowan University has committed itself, the University, and its component units to a policy of equal opportunity without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, age, military status, marital status, veteran status, and any other category protected by applicable law. This is the governing principle in student admissions, other student services, and employment-related activities.


Rowan University's Commitment to EEO Statement

Affirmative Action Workforce Development Plan

EEO POLICIES:
Discrimination Policy and Forms
Rowan University Policy Prohibiting Discrimination in the Workplace
Model Procedures for Internal Complaints
NJ Discrimination Complaint Processing Form
Pay Transparency Nondiscrimination Provision (Executive Order 13665-effective January 2016)

AA / EEO Policies and to File a Complaint

To file a complaint by phone via the 24 hr Alertline: 855-431-9967 or via the web:

https://www.rowan.edu/integrityline

Non-complaint related inquiries should be directed to the Office of Equity and Diversity at 856-256-5830
Attestation

Please click on the web link below to acknowledge that you have read, understand and agree to comply with the policies included in the CMSRU Student Handbook.

http://www.rowan.edu/coopermed/students/handbookesign/
Appendix A: Principles of Engagement for Students

- We always interact with others with civility and respect
- We speak openly and without fear of retribution
- We welcome healthy agreement and conflict which is not personal and is always in the best interest of our colleagues, our patients, the CMSRU community, and the wider community
- We foster open communication across and between all sectors of CMSRU
- We readily acknowledge errors and take appropriate action to rectify them
- We value the input of all participants in meetings and discussions
- As members of the CMSRU community, we value each other and embrace peer to peer resolution of conflict
- We assume the good intentions of all members of the CMSRU community and employ a “clear lens” in all interactions
- We work to lift each other up and reject negative comments about individuals, groups, and institutions
- We respect our faculty, staff, and administration and display professionalism in our interactions with them
- We are passionate in our pursuit of excellence
- At all times, our actions are focused on becoming competent, confident, and compassionate physicians
- We abide by the slogan: “Discuss, Debate, but don’t Debase!”
Appendix B: Professionalism Intervention Reporting Form – Academic Issue

Access to this Form Online:
Professionalism Intervention Reporting Form – Academic Issue

**PLEASE SUBMIT THIS VIA EMAIL TO:**
Carolyn Bekes, M.D., Director of Professionalism through the Office of Medical Education
cmsru-ome@rowan.edu

Professionalism Intervention Report-Academic Issue

Subject: Concern about Medical Student Performance

From: Print Name: ____________________________________________
CMSRU Department/Role: ______________________________________

Name of Student who warrants attention: ___________________________

Date Incident(s) reported: __________________________

My concerns about professional behavior of this medical student are based on (check all that apply):

____ critical incident ______ series of “red” flags ______ violation of CMSRU policy(s)

I have notified the student of the concerns: _____Yes _____No
Method of communication and date: ___________________

Breach of Professionalism Details:

Signature (individual filing the report) __________ Date __________
Professionalism Intervention Report

Student Name: ____________________________

Student Response (Optional):

________________________________________

Student Signature                                      Date

________________________________________

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

______ Form received in Office of Medical Education                     Date: ______________

______ Form sent to the Director of Professionalism                     Date: ______________

______ -

2
Professionalism Intervention Report

Student Name: ________________________________

Director of Professionalism Note on Intervention:

___ Successful resolution of problem
___ Remediation still in process (date: ____________)
___ Needs more/different remediation
___ Referred to the Academic Standing Committee:

Comments:

__________________________________________  __________
Signature of the Director of Professionalism Date

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

___ Form sent to Associate Dean for Medical Education as complete Date: ____________
___ Meeting with Student Date: ____________
___ Form sent to Academic Standing Committee via the Date: ____________
   Associate Dean for Medical Education

3
Professionalism Intervention Report

Student Name: ____________________________

Academic Standing Committee Note on Intervention:

___ Successful resolution of problem
___ Remediation still in process (date: ____________)
___ Needs more/different remediation
___ Placed on Probation: ______________________
___ Removed from Probation: __________________ 
___ Recommend Dismissal: ____________________

Comments:


Signature of the Chair, Academic Standing Committee     Date


4
Appendix C: Breach of Professional Conduct Reporting Form – Non-Academic

Access to this form Online: Breach of Professional Conduct - Non-Academic

![Image of form]

**PLEASE SUBMIT THIS VIA EMAIL TO:**
Marion Lombardi, EdD, Chief Student Affairs Officer
studentaffairs@coopermed.rowan.edu

Professionalism Intervention Report-Breach of Professional Conduct

Subject: Concern about Medical Student Performance
From: Print Name:

CMSRU Department/Role: __________________________________________

Name of Student who warrants attention: _______________________________________

Date Incident(s) reported: __________________________________________

My concerns about professional behavior of this medical student are based on (check all that apply):

[ ] critical incident [ ] series of “red” flags [ ] violation of CMSRU policy(s)

I have notified the student of the concerns: [ ] Yes [ ] No

Method of communication and date:


Breach of Professionalism Details:


Signature (Individual filing the report) __________________________ Date ____________
Professionalism Intervention Report

Student Name: ______________________________________

Date of Student Meeting: ______________________________

Chief Student Affairs Officer Note on Intervention:

☐ Successful resolution of problem
☐ Remediation in process (date: ____________)
☐ Referred to the Director of Professionalism:

Comments: ________________________________________

Signature of Chief Student Affairs Officer: ____________________ Date: ____________

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

☐ Copy sent to Assistant Dean for Student Affairs Date: ____________
☐ Form sent to Director of Professionalism Date: ____________ N/A
Professionalism Intervention Report

Student Name: ____________________________

Date Received: ____________________________

Date of Student Meeting: ____________________________

Director of Professionalism Note on Intervention:

☐ Successful resolution of problem
☐ Remediation still in process (date: ____________)
☐ Needs more/different remediation
☐ Referred to the Academic Standing Committee:

Comments:

I agree with the remediation plan as outlined.
☐ I reject the remediation plan as outlined and request an appeal to the Hearing Body for Student Rights.

Student Signature ________________ Date __________________

Signature of Director of Professionalism ________________ Date __________________

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

☐ Copy sent to Assistant Dean for Student Affairs Date: __________________

☐ Form sent to Academic Standing Committee via the Director of Professionalism Date: __________________ N/A __________________
Professionalism Intervention Report

Student Name: ________________________________

Academic Standing Committee Note on Intervention:

☐ Successful resolution of problem
☐ Remediation still in process (date: __________)
☐ Needs more/different remediation
☐ Placed on Probation: _________________________
☐ Removed from Probation: ____________________
☐ Recommend Dismissal: ________________________

Comments:

_____________________________________________

Signature of the Chair, Academic Standing Committee  Date

______________________________  ______________
Appendix D: Medical Student Professionalism Form: Exemplary Behavior within the Medical Education Program

Access to this Form Online:

Report Exemplary Behavior: Medical Student Professionalism

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Medical Student Professionalism Form:
Exemplary Behavior within the Medical Education Program

Student Name (type or print legibly)  Date this form was submitted

PLEASE SUBMIT THIS VIA EMAIL TO CMSRU-OME@ROWAN.EDU OR DROP OFF TO THE OFFICE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION

Comments (the circumstance that resulted in this form being submitted):

Signature  Printed Name  Contact # (Phone/email)