



Clinical Year Remediation Policy

APPLIES TO: Students

DATE OF REVISION: July 26, 2024

BACKGROUND:

Clinical year students are required to take an End of Rotation Exam (EORE) administered through PAEA (Physician Assistant Education Association) at the end of each core rotation, excluding the Elective rotation.

There is a total of 7 EORE disciplines including Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Women's Health, Psychiatry, General Surgery, Pediatrics, and Emergency Medicine. PAEA provides access to two versions of each exam for all disciplines except for Family Medicine which has three. EORE's for each discipline are taken the week following the completion of the rotation.

The PA program is responsible to ARC-PA (Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistants) for maintaining ongoing assessment and remediation for students, (Standards A3.15, A3.17) particularly in the case of clinical year students that do not meet the passing score required for the EORE.

Minimum acceptable pass scores will be published at the beginning of each clinical year in the clinical year handbook as new rotation/exam specific national mean data is provided by PAEA. Students will pass the EORE if their score is within one standard deviation below the determined national mean for the discipline-specific exam.

If scores are between 0.5 and 1.0 standard deviation below the national mean, students will pass but be required to complete appropriate remediation assignments based on feedback provided by PAEA in relation to gaps in their medical knowledge and task areas. This assignment is done to proactively help students with future exam success.

PURPOSE:

To define clear guidelines and action steps for students in the Clinical year regarding remediation for those that are unable to fulfill the academic requirements of the EORE.

DEFINITIONS:

EORE: End of Rotation Exam.

Remediation: The process of improving or correcting a situation. Remediation is an ARC-PA requirement for those students that do not show mastery in a subject. (B4.01b)

Callback: The week between each rotation in which the students return to CMU Campus for testing and lectures.

POLICY:

Students will be allowed a maximum of two attempts to pass an EORE specific to each of the 7 required disciplines. If they do not pass the second version of the exam, they will fail the rotation.



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After one failed rotation due to EORE performance, they will be allowed to move on to the next rotation but are required to repeat the failed rotation later in their clinical year. They will be required to sit for another EORE; determined by PAEA or the PA program for the repeated rotation.

If a clinical year student does not meet the minimum passing score on the first EORE of a rotation following a failed rotation, they will be paused from the next scheduled 5-week rotation.

During that 5-week paused period, the student will enter and participate in remediation with the Director of Clinical Education and PA program faculty.

Remediation will incorporate the creation of a weekly study plan and weekly face-to-face meetings (Teams meetings are allowable) a designated faculty member, along with a weekly quiz. The faculty member will participate in the remediation of the student throughout the process. The face-to-face meetings will consist of discussions about content directly related to the most recent failed EORE and will incorporate the feedback provided by PAEA for the exam. Whenever possible, the program will assign faculty to remediating students based on the faculty member's area of interest, instruction, or clinical practice.

After the 5-week remediation period is complete, the student will sit for the second version of the EORE that was failed during callback for their most recent clinical rotation. This should be completed during the callback immediately following the paused period during regularly scheduled EORE testing times.

If they fail the second version of the EORE after completing remediation, they will fail the rotation. This failure results in 2 failed rotations and failure of the current course as they will have failed 50% of the EORE assessment components of that course.

Please note, if a student fails a final preceptor evaluation, (less than 75%), it will result in a meeting with the Student Progress Committee. Students who fail the preceptor evaluation may face multiple possible remediation plans as well as possible dismissal from the program. Please see procedure below for full details.

PROCEDURE:

1. If a student fails a clinical rotation due to failure of both versions of the EORE exams for the completed discipline, that student is required to repeat the rotation later in the Clinical Year which will result in a delay in program completion.
2. As a student progresses to the next scheduled clinical rotation, if they successfully complete the clinical training but fail the first EORE on that discipline, the student will be "paused" in the clinical schedule to implement 5 weeks of remediation.
3. The student will spend the 5 weeks participating in remediation activities as determined by the Director of Clinical Education and take the second version of the EORE from the most recent clinical rotation at the upcoming callback.
4. If the student does not pass their 2nd attempt at the EORE, which would at that point equate to a total of 4 failed EORE's (2 versions in each discipline), the student will fail that particular rotation *and the course*, resulting in no credit (NC), and will repeat that course the next time it is offered. The student will be responsible for the total cost of the repeated course. Per the Graduate Studies Handbook, a student can retake a course up to 3 times before mandatory dismissal from the PA Program.



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5. Please note, if the student fails a final evaluation from their preceptor, (less than 75%), it will result in a meeting with the Student Progress Committee and could result in dismissal from the program. Please refer to the Graduate Bulletin which states *“In addition, departments involved in clinical programs may evaluate students on the basis of their ability to relate successfully with clients. Students who do not meet the professional standards established by departments may be placed on probation, suspended, or dismissed from a program.”*

Approved by Faculty Executive Committee _____, 2024

Signature

Date

Kathleen Flannery, PA-C
CMU PA Interim Program Director