

APPLIES TO: Students

DATE OF REVISION: July 18, 2025

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, 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 A3.14c, A3.16d, A2.05f) 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 1.5 standard deviations below the determined national mean for the discipline-specific exam.

If a student scores between 1.25 and 1.5 standard deviations below the national mean, students will pass but be required to participate in a targeted academic intervention outlined by the PA Program Faculty. This intervention will be designed on a case-by-case basis dependent on the student's deficiencies. PAEA feedback will be taken into consideration.

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 program-defined process for addressing deficiencies in a student's knowledge and skills, such that the correction of these deficiencies is measurable and can be documented.

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.

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) with 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 remediate 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 they had previously failed. 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 greater than 50% of the EORE assessment components of that course.

Please note, if a student fails a final preceptor evaluation, (less than 74%), 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 a student fails any EORE after already having had a 5-week remediation pause, **they will be decelerated** due to failed academic performance until the course in which they failed is offered again. The student may be asked to audit didactic courses, complete appropriate remediation assignments or decelerate to the next cohort year pending the findings of a Student Progress committee investigation and determination. These steps are taken to improve their medical knowledge and increase the likelihood of success on future EOREs and PANCE and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
5. Please note, if the student fails a final evaluation from their preceptor, (less than 74%), 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.”
6. Students determined to be “at risk” during the didactic year will continue to have support throughout their clinical year starting in PHA 690.

Approved by Clinical Committee July 18, 2025

Kathleen Flannery PA-C

Signature

7/18/2025

Date

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