**Policy Title:** Standards for Promotion and Graduation

**Policy Number** (relate to LCME Element as applicable): UCF COM Policy 9.9.1

**Applies to:** All medical students at the University of Central Florida College of Medicine (UCF COM) beginning with the class of 2028 and onwards.

**Date:** 7/19/2024

1.0 **Purpose:**
This policy relates to LCME Element 9.9 which states that: “medical education program has a single standard for the advancement and graduation of medical students across all locations.”

2.0 **Policy Statement:**
The purpose of this policy is to ensure that there is a single standard for all advancement and graduation decisions.

**Minimum Requirements for Advancement**

The following are the minimum requirements for promotion each year, in addition to meeting professionalism standards as referenced in Policy 9.9.3, and otherwise.

I. **M-1 to M-2:** For promotion, a student must obtain a passing grade in all required courses that comprise the M1 curriculum of the College of Medicine.

II. **M-2 to M-3:** For promotion, a student must have obtained a passing grade in all required courses that comprise the M-2 curriculum of the medical school. Students must also take and pass the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Step 1 for promotion to M-3. Step 1 must be taken prior to the start of the M-3 academic year unless an exception is made by the Student Evaluation and Promotions Committee (SEPC). See the *M.D. Student Catalog* (available on the GPS website) for more information.

III. **M-3 to M-4:** The curriculum in Years 3 and 4 is considered a continuum. As such, there is not an official promotion to the M-4 year, though enrollment in M-4 coursework requires satisfactory completion of all M-3 requirements. Students with deficiencies in clerkship performance or on the Comprehensive Objective Structured Clinical Exam (OSCE) may have special requirements for remediation before beginning M4 coursework, or may be required to repeat all or part of the M-3 year.

IV. **Remediation:** Any student with a deficient grade who is granted approval by the SEPC to remediate the deficiency must complete the required remedial course work with a passing grade within the permitted time frame. Remediation requirements are determined by the appropriate course/clerkship director(s) and approved by the SEPC. Remediation must be completed prior to progression to the next academic year, unless the plan for remediation, submitted by the course/clerkship director(s), and approved by the SEPC, allows continuation into the first months of the next academic year. Students with remediation requirements are expected to forego any optional summer experiences (e.g., research opportunities, preceptorships, fellowships, etc.) in order to focus on their academic performance and successful remediation of deficiencies. Any incomplete academic work or work receiving a (T) grade must be completed within the prescribed...
period or the grade will be converted to an (F). Unsuccessful remediation may result in a failing
grade. The (T) grade is replaced by the final course/clerkship grade when remediation is
successfully accomplished in knowledge, skills, attitudes and/or behavior.

V. Professionalism: Students must have satisfactorily demonstrated professional attitudes and
values. UCF COM defines medical professionalism as the daily expression of the desire to help
people and society as a whole by providing quality health care to those in need, reflected in a
promise to society that physician trainees will be engaged and committed in their learning and
will strive to bring to bear exactly what is necessary to provide the most appropriate care for each
patient in every situation. Demonstrating competence in medical professionalism requires the
habitual and judicious use of communication, knowledge, technical skills, clinical reasoning,
emotions, values, and reflection in daily practice for the benefit of the individual and community
being served. See specific examples in Policy 9.9.3.

Requirements for Graduation

The following are the requirements for graduation.

I. A student must have obtained a passing grade (Pass or better) in all courses or clerkships and
required educational activities of the established curriculum of the College of Medicine leading to
the M.D. degree.

II. All students must take the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Step 1 and pass
at the national standard in order to be promoted to year three. This examination is usually taken
by all students in April or May following the second-year studies. Students must take and pass
USMLE Step 2 CK in order to graduate. The Step 2 CK examination must be completed by no
later than August 31 in the fourth year, but it is recommended that students complete it earlier if
possible.

III. The student must have satisfactorily demonstrated the professionalism and conduct expected of
physicians, as referenced above and in Policy 9.9.3, 9.9.3A, and otherwise.

IV. The student must not have a financial obligation to the university.

Time Limitations for Completing Portions of the Curriculum

I. A student must be eligible for promotion to M-3 of the curriculum within four academic years
from the date of first matriculation. An exception to this policy may be made by the SEPC, such as
for illness or when a student is involved in other programs of academic study (such as study
leading to a graduate degree) or other exceptional circumstances. In these circumstances, a
student must pass all required academic work for the M.D. degree, according to the requirements
at the time of matriculation.

II. A student must be academically eligible to receive the M.D. degree at the regular spring
commencement exercises of the College of Medicine M.D. Program, no later than the sixth year
following matriculation, except for extended time granted as described above. Students in dual
degree programs (e.g. M.D./Ph.D.) may be granted additional time.

3.0 Definitions:
N/A
4.0 Responsibilities:
The Student Evaluation and Promotion Committees are responsible for adherence to this policy.

5.0 Monitoring Procedures:
The application of this policy is monitored by the M.D. Registrar’s Office and the Associate Dean for Students.

6.0 Related Policies:
UCF COM Policy 9.9.2: Student Evaluation and Promotion Committee
UCF COM Policy 9.9.3: Academic/Professionalism, Grading and Assessment Policy and Appeals Process
UCF COM Policy 9.9.3A: College of Medicine Student Code of Conduct, Review Process and Appeals
UCF COM Policy 9.9.4: Leave of Absence

7.0 Key Search Words:

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8.0 Revision History:

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9.0 References:
N/A

Responsible Office: Office of Student Affairs

Policy Contact: Associate Dean for Students

Supersedes: Version 4