



Calculating & Recognizing Student Achievement

Roles and Responsibilities

Policy Contact(s)	Associate or Assistant Deans for Student Affairs
Responsible	Office of Student Affairs
Accountable	Office of Student Affairs (OSA) and Office of Medical Education (OME)
Consulted	MEAC, CCC
Informed	OME, OSA, and Medical Students

LCME Standards

10.3 Policies Regarding Student Selection/Progress and Their Dissemination

The faculty of a medical school establish criteria for student selection and develop and implement effective policies and procedures regarding, and make decisions about, medical student application, selection, admission, assessment, promotion, graduation, and any disciplinary action. The medical school makes available to all interested parties its criteria, standards, policies, and procedures regarding these matters.

11.4 Provision of MSPE

A medical school provides a Medical Student Performance Evaluation required for the residency application of a medical student to align with the AAMC/ERAS residency application timeline.

Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this policy is to establish clear, fair, and consistent criteria for calculating and recognizing the academic and professional achievements of medical students. This policy aims to ensure that all students are evaluated based on their performance, knowledge, skills, and professional behavior, thereby promoting excellence and integrity in medical education. This policy applies to all medical students enrolled in the Doctor of Medicine program.

Policy Statement

The School of Medicine grade point averages (UMSOM GPAs) are calculated at the conclusion of the Clerkship Phase and include all required courses completed to that point. UMSOM GPAs are used only for three purposes:

1. Creating comparative data of students when producing the Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE) for residency.
 - a. Students are ranked relative to other students of their same graduating class.
2. Determination of commencement honors (*summa*, *magna*, and *cum laude*)
 - a. Determination is made relative to other students within the same graduating class.
 - b. Student performance is reviewed first by the Medical Education Advisory Committee and the Advancement Committee for determination of commencement honors and sent to the School of Medicine Executive Committee for approval.

3. Nomination of students for election to Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society
<https://www.medschool.umaryland.edu/osa/handbook/Honor-Societies/Alpha-Omega-Alpha/>
(GPA's for Junior AOA nominations are calculated using Pre-Clerkship courses only).

UMSOM GPA's are calculated using only the required courses and clerkships from the Pre-Clerkship and Clerkship Phases. Grades are weighted by course credit value. For any courses that are repeated, the GPA will include an average of the two course grades. A Pre-Clerkship GPA and a Clerkship GPA are calculated, and the two values are not combined for an overall GPA.

The School of Medicine does not publish UMSOM GPA's or report them to residency programs.

Transfer Students

Transfer and advanced standing students with an exemplary performance may be considered for senior Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society nomination and/or awarding of commencement honors; however, there is inherent difficulty in comparing the content, rigor, and grading of coursework taken at other institutions with that taken at UMSOM. Efforts will be made to accurately judge the relative academic merits of these students in this process.

MSPE

A Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE) that conforms to AAMC guidelines will be provided for each student.

History

Revised: May 2023; December 2024

Approved: CCC, September 2018; May 2023