

University of Northern Colorado
College of Osteopathic Medicine

Policy: Grading

Responsible Party: Associate Dean of Preclinical Education (will be transferred to Assistant Dean of Assessment), College of Osteopathic Medicine

COCA Standard: 9.2

Review Frequency: Annually and as needed

1. Overview

This policy establishes the grading system and examination requirements for students enrolled at the University of Northern Colorado College of Osteopathic Medicine (UNC COM). It outlines the academic performance standards and the expectations for successful progression through the program, culminating in graduation.

2. Grading System

UNC COM utilizes a three-tier grading system to assess student performance in courses, clinical rotations, and examinations. These grades reflect the level of achievement and competency demonstrated by students during the program:

2.1 Grading Scale:

- **Honors (H):** Awarded for **academic excellence**. This grade is given to students who demonstrate superior mastery of course material and clinical skills, performing **in the top 10% of all learners**.
- **Pass (P):** Awarded for **acceptable performance**. This grade indicates that a student has met all course requirements and demonstrated adequate understanding and application of the material.
- **Fail (F):** Awarded when a student has **failed to meet minimum academic or clinical performance** standards. A student receiving this grade on a course or rotation will be referred to the Student Progress Committee, who will perform a comprehensive review of the students' academic performance and will recommend a course of action which may range from remediation through repetition of course requirements or dismissal from the COM.

2.2 Academic Progression:

- Students must pass all coursework in the OMS I year to be eligible for promotion to the OMS II academic year.
- Students must pass all OMS II coursework to be eligible for promotion to the OMS III year. In addition, all students must take the COMLEX-USA Level I Examination to be eligible to begin OMS III clinical rotations.
- Students are required to pass all OMS III clinical rotations and must have taken the COMLEX-USA Level II-CE examination to be eligible for promotion to OMS IV clinical rotations.