



Grades, Grading, and Remediation

Policy Category:	Academic
Policy Applies To:	Students in the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) Program
Policy Contact:	COM Registrar

References and Related Policies:

- COCA Standards for Continuing Accreditation
 - See also: MSUCOM Policy on Retention, Promotion, and Graduation
 - See also: Policy on Student Performance and Academic Standing
 - See also: Policy on Extension
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PURPOSE

This policy describes the assignment, recording, and reporting of course grades in the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) program.

POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Grading Scale

In accordance with university definitions and policy, as approved by the University Committee on Curriculum, the College employs the Pass-No Grade System. The following grades will be used:

1. Pass (“P”): indicates the student has met the course requirements for a passing grade by earning at least 70% in preclerkship and will have a “P” recorded on their official University transcript.
2. No-grade (“N”): indicates the student has failed to meet the course requirements for a passing grade by earning 69.99% or less in preclerkship and will have a “N” recorded on their official University transcript.
3. Extension (“ET”): indicates the course or rotation requires additional time needed to determine the final grade, such as a longitudinal course. The ET grade will be updated to a “P”, indicating the student passed the course, or to an “N”, indicating the student failed the course. Unresolved ET grades will remain until the student and instructor resolve them. If a student is dismissed or discontinues from the D.O. program, any pending ET grades will be changed to N grades.
4. Visitor (audit) (“V”): indicates a student is enrolled as a visitor on a non-graded basis, recorded on the transcript for credit. This status is used when a student repeats a course they have taken and passed.
5. Incomplete (“I”): indicates the course has not been completed as of the published course end date. The I grade must be resolved by the middle of the next semester or will default to an N. An official notice will be sent from the University Registrar before the deadline.
6. No Grade Reported (“NGR”): indicates a final grade has not been submitted by the deadline after the course

has ended.

Course Failures and Remediation in Preclerkship

Remediation refers to a process by which a student who fails a required course may, if eligible, attempt to meet the course requirement through a remediation examination or other process as defined in the course syllabus.

1. Eligibility: Students who receive an “N” grade in a required course may be eligible to attempt remediation in that course under terms defined in the course syllabus.
 - a. If eligible, the student will be notified and must inform the college of their intent to take the remediation exam. Remediation typically consists of re-examination.
 - b. If not eligible to attempt remediation, the student must successfully repeat the course to remain in the DO program.
2. If a student is eligible to remediate and chooses to attempt remediation through reexamination, the transcript will be updated as follows:
 - a. If the student successfully completes the remediation, the official University transcript will be updated from an “N” grade to a “P” grade with the notation “Initial N grade was updated to P via remediation.”
 - b. If the student fails the remediation, the “N” grade will remain on the transcript with a notation “Remediation attempted.”
3. If the student is ineligible to attempt remediation, fails the remediation exam, or chooses not to remediate, they will be placed on an academic extension. Please see the extension policy for more details.
4. Preclerkship elective courses do not provide an option for remediation. If an N grade is earned in a preclerkship elective course, it will remain on the transcript.

Progression and Monitoring Academic Performance

1. In the preclerkship curriculum, a student must pass or successfully remediate each course to progress to the next semester.
2. The Committee on Student Evaluation (COSE) reviews the academic performance of all students in the DO program after the end of each semester, including recent and cumulative course grades.
3. The number of courses a student fails is tracked longitudinally. Failure to pass multiple required courses on initial enrollment will result in an academic standing of academic warning, academic probation, or a recommendation for dismissal from the DO program. Please see the Student Performance and Academic Standing policy for details.

Repeating a Preclerkship Course

Students who earn an “N” grade in a required course and are not eligible for remediation, choose not to remediate, or who fail the remediation requirements must repeat the course. The student will be placed on academic extension until the course is offered the following year (see the academic extension policy for details). If a student enrolls in a second attempt to repeat a course, the student must pass the course with a “P” grade. A student who fails the course on the second attempt will be referred to COSE, which will include a recommendation for dismissal to the Dean and Provost.

Course Failures in Clerkship Rotations

1. If a student receives an N grade in any core course/rotation, the student will enroll in a second attempt to repeat the course/rotation. A student who fails the course/rotation on the second attempt will be referred to COSE, which will include a recommendation for dismissal to the Dean and Provost.
2. If a student receives an N grade on any elective course/rotation, the student would be required to enroll in another elective rotation per the requirements of the clerkship rotations (for example, a failed surgery elective will need to be repeated with another surgery elective if the requirements of 8-weeks are not yet met.)

Honors and High Pass designations on core clerkship rotations

1. Required courses in the clerkship curriculum (OMS-III and OMS-IV) will be graded on the Pass/No-Grade scale.
2. For core clinical rotations, the designation of “Honors” or “High Pass” may be available, in which case criteria will be provided in the syllabus. If such a designation is earned, it will be noted as a comment on the student’s official transcript and on the Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE).

Reporting of Grades

1. Grades according to the college’s grading scale are reported on the student’s transcript.
2. Percentage grades for required preclerkship courses are reported on the MSPE, along with the class average percentage grade for each course.

Change to Policy

1. Effective summer 2025, the Grades and Grading policy is consolidated with the remediation policy, and clarification is added to repeating courses within both the preclerkship and clerkship courses.