

## **M-2 Exam Policy**

### **General**

Proficiency in all courses is required; students must pass all courses in order to progress to the junior year.

All second-year examination grades are reported to students and advisors as percentages. The percentages are interpolated and are recorded on transcripts as Outstanding, Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory.

USMLE Step 1 is administered as a computerized exam which covers the basic sciences studied during the first two years of medical school: anatomy, biochemistry, physiology, microbiology, pharmacology, pathology, behavioral science, and other disciplines. The total score attained on this exam is an important component of residency applications. Students at the University of Illinois College of Medicine are required to sit for USMLE Step 1 as a condition for promotion to M-3 and beginning clerkships.

Problems resulting from failure on USMLE Step 1 or M-2 exams are handled according to College Promotions Policies. The Peoria Site Committee on Student Promotions, the Peoria Executive Committee and the College Committee on Student Promotions will consider each student individually in order to recommend a course of action for each student.

The passing of "progressional exams," are those interim and final course exams, which are required for promotion. Each exam is designed to validly and reliably assess students' knowledge of the course material. Each question is assigned a "Minimal Performance Level" (MPL) index which is based on the difficulty level of that particular question. These individual item MPLs are then averaged to arrive at an overall pass level for the exam.

### **Grading**

M-2 grades are recorded as O (Outstanding - top 15%), S (Satisfactory - at or above the MPL but not top 15%) or U (below the MPL.)

**See the Student Handbook for more details.**