

## **University of Washington School of Medicine**

### **Evaluation and Examination Guidelines for E-18 Students**

In 2012, University of Washington School of Medicine embarked on a continuous curriculum improvement process resulting in a new curriculum for students entering in 2015—the 2015 WWAMI Curriculum. You will be participating in the fourth year of this new curriculum.

The first component of the curriculum, the Foundations Phase, consists of 7 blocks as depicted in the [graphic](#). Three threads (Pharmacology, Human Form and Function, and Histology/Pathology) are purposefully integrated and interwoven throughout all Foundations blocks. Integrated clinical experiences occur throughout the entire Foundations Phase in the Foundations of Clinical Medicine course.

#### **Evaluation and Assessments**

Students are expected to demonstrate mastery of the learning objectives of the curriculum through their performance on assessments. We work hard to ensure that the educational experience is comparable at all six WWAMI sites in the Foundations Phase curriculum, with the same learning objectives and content. Assessments (quizzes, final exams, etc.) are the same across all sites and are conducted at or near the same time at all sites. The grading of student performance in the block is identical at all sites.

The following assessment and grading guidelines apply at all Foundations Phase sites:

- Assessment questions in quizzes/exams emphasize the application of knowledge and problem-solving over the recitation of facts.
- All assessments that account for 10% or more of the grade are computerized and given via Exemplify/Examsoft.
- Blocks have assessments at least every two weeks. In addition, there may be a comprehensive final examination at the end of a block.
- Additional “readiness” quizzes may also be offered to help facilitate student learning and gauge progress; these may count toward the final grade.
- Immediately following assessments, students are allowed to briefly view the exam questions, along with the correct answer and rationales.
- After assessments are completed, block faculty across all sites meet to discuss student performance, and adjust scores as needed. Scores are posted to the gradebook in Canvas (our learning management system) as soon as possible afterward.
- Typically, the student must achieve a cumulative score of 70% in order to pass a block.
- In some blocks, attendance and participation in small groups count toward the final grade. Students will be informed in advance if this is the case.
- Individual summary reports of performance on block learning objectives and threads are available for students to download after each assessment.
- Students have the ability to generate reports on their cumulative thread performance after each exam. Official thread scores will be posted in Canvas at the end of each block. A final determination of thread mastery is made at the end of each of the three terms of the Foundations Phase (term one includes autumn of year one, term two includes winter and spring of year one, and term three includes autumn of year two).
- Students who fail a block or fail to achieve mastery in a thread will be referred to the Student Progress Committee, who will determine the next steps.
- Students will only be allowed to reschedule exams in the event of illness or personal emergency. Please see the attendance/absence policy for more details.