

Grades, Grade/Competency Reports, and Transcript

The official NSU MD transcript is organized by academic year, listing all blocks, courses, and clerkships in the academic year, with the credit hours for each block, course or clerkship, followed by the final grade earned for each block, course or clerkship. The transcript will also record that the student passed the college's internal competency assessments and the USMLE licensing examinations.

Grades

Courses and system blocks (pre-clerkship): Student achievement of competencies results in either a Pass or Fail final grade.

Pass: All competencies demonstrated at least a satisfactory level of performance, no significant portion of the performance has been below the minimum level of competency.

Fail: At least one competency was not demonstrated at a satisfactory level of performance.
REMEDICATION OR REPETITION OF COURSEWORK IS REQUIRED.

Clinical clerkships: Student achievement of competencies is stratified, resulting in a final grade of A, B, C, and F. Clerkship grades will not be weighted, nor will a GPA be calculated.

A (Exemplary): The student has performed consistently in a manner judged as truly outstanding. The performance is worthy as a model.

B (Superior): The student has performed consistently in a manner judged to be clearly above average competency. The performance may occasionally be exemplary but not consistently so.

C (Pass): The student has performed consistently in a manner judged to be at or above the minimum level of competency. The performance may occasionally be superior, but not consistently so. No significant portion of the performance has been below the minimum level of competency.

F (Fail): The student has performed in a manner judged as marginal in relation to the minimal level of competency. In some respects, performance may have been above the minimum level, but in other aspects, or at other times, performance has been below the minimum level. The student has not demonstrated adequate mastery of the pertinent competency. REMEDIATION OR REPETITION OF COURSEWORK IS REQUIRED.

Grade/Competency Reports

In addition to official transcripts, NSU MD will provide students with more detailed information on their performance via internal Grade Reports. Grade reports will provide information such as:

Scores on examinations and other numerically scored assessments,

Written narrative assessments with a designation as to whether they are "Summative" (may be included in the MSPE) or "Formative" (for internal NSU MD use only, to help the student improve performance in future courses),

For each competency assessed in the block or course, a rating of "Satisfactory", "Satisfactory with Concern" or "Unsatisfactory"

An Unsatisfactory (U) rating for any competency will result in a final grade of Fail (F) for the block/course.

A Satisfactory with Concern (SC) rating indicates a student has academic weaknesses and could be at risk of failure.

Students who receive any rating of SC will be monitored by the NSU MD Student Review Committee and referred for support to improve performance. They may also be referred to SPAC or other appropriate parties/committees for further action.

The SC rating will not be reported on the official transcript.

Fail and In Process Grades in Permanent Student Records

Fail: Students who receive a Fail grade in a medical school block, course or clerkship will be referred to SPAC for review of the student's overall academic progress. SPAC will decide as to whether the student must 1) remediate a specific area of unsatisfactory performance in order to receive grade of Pass; 2) repeat the block/course/clerkship; 3) repeat the year; 4) be placed on probation, suspension, or be dismissed from NSU MD. All Fail final grades will be listed on the student's permanent transcript. The transcript will reflect both the initial grade of Fail (F) and the final grade earned in the course or clerkship. Failure to complete the plan for remediation (i.e., work not completed or performed at an unsatisfactory level) will be reported to SPAC for action, which can include requiring that the student to repeat the block/course/clerkship, repeat the year, be placed on probation, suspension, and/or be dismissed from NSU MD. NSU MD follows the AAMC template for the Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE/"Dean's Letter") in which any remediation or repetition of coursework is noted.

IP (In Process): This grade is used for students who have not completed all required components of a block, course, or clerkship. The grade of IP must be remediated before a student progresses to the next academic year, unless an extension is granted by SPAC. In Process grades change to Fail grades if the remediation is not completed in a satisfactory manner within the time limits prescribed by SPAC. The deadline for completion of grades of In Process does not apply while a student is on an approved leave of absence. The In Process grade will be replaced on the transcript when a final grade has been assigned. All In Process grades must be resolved before a student is eligible for graduation. If the grade of IP is given because a student is unable to complete coursework due to serious illness or some other extenuating circumstance, the grade does not convert automatically to a Fail at the end of the academic year.