

I. POLICY

Waiver of MD Program Requirements

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to define eligibility for waiver of pre-specified academic requirements for a module within the first year of the Doctor of Medicine (MD) program. This policy also details the procedure for medical students who graduated from the EVMS Medical Master's (MM) program to follow in order to secure this waiver.

III. RESPONSIBLE PARTY AND REVIEW CYCLE

The MM Program Director and the Assistant Vice Dean for Pre-Clinical Education will review this document annually. The Medical Education Committee (MEC) shall review this document as needed, with input from the Curriculum Policy Subcommittee. The MEC has final authority over the waiver of MD program requirements.

IV. ACCREDITATION REFERENCES

SACSCOC 12.3 Student Rights

V. DEFINITION(S)

Waiver: Previous, successful completion of specific academic requirements within a module from the EVMS MM Program may be utilized to satisfy the same requirement within the first year of the MD program for the following academic year by waiver.

VI. DESCRIPTION

Eligibility

Students who meet all of the following criteria are eligible to request waiver for pre-specified academic requirements for no more than one module per semester in the first year of medical school:

- Completion of the EVMS MM Program in the year directly prior to matriculation into the EVMS MD Program
- Successful completion of module requirements as defined by a MM grade of $\geq 92\%$ in a module
- No significant changes in the module's objectives, content, and/or duration

Process to request waiver

Students must meet with the MM Program Director and Assistant Vice Dean for Pre-Clinical Education prior to the start of the M1 academic year to obtain information and directions on the process, to discuss eligibility for waiver, to understand remaining requirements for module if waiver is approved, and to sign a statement of expectations.

Student Expectations

Students who are granted waivers are expected to engage in multiple modalities of learning and service to others in order to further develop their professional identity, knowledge, and skills. Students who are granted waivers for one of the modules must meet the following expectations:

- Formally enroll in all M1 modules.
- Attend orientation and be present the first day of every module.
- Meet all of the requirements for the domain of Clinical Evaluation (i.e., Clinical Skills and Ultrasound), and Applied Learning for each module as outlined in the Pre-clerkship Phase Assessment and Grading Policy.
- Meet all of the requirements for Health Systems Science and Evidence-Based Medicine.
- Actively engage in the learning environment and community through approved activities. They should plan to contribute an average of 10-15 hours/week in each module for which they were granted waiver status. Recommended activities include but are not limited to the following:
 - teaching assistantships
 - tutoring
 - research/scholarly work
 - community service
 - EVMS service
 - alternate coursework
- Acknowledge their understanding of this regulation with their signature.

Grading

Students who are granted a waiver for a module will have scores from the domain of Medical Knowledge entered into the gradebook in Blackboard by the MM Program Director (or assigned designee).

Regardless of waiver, students must meet **ALL** requirements for the domain of Clinical Evaluation (i.e., Clinical Skills and Ultrasound), and Applied Learning as outlined in each module syllabus in order to pass the module.

If students are granted a waiver, their M1 grade for that module on their transcript will indicate that part of the work was completed during their MM year.

All students will submit a summary report of approved activities by the end of the academic year to both the MM Program Director and the Assistant Vice Dean for Pre-Clinical Education. As needed, the Waiver Committee will be convened to review students' experiences for completion at the end of each academic year.

Student performance within the module as well as these additional activities will be reviewed by the Waiver Committee. The Waiver Committee may refer the student to the Student Review and Advisory Committee for review and possible intervention if requirements were not met.

Tuition

Waivers do not change the tuition costs for any given term.

VII. RELATED DOCUMENTS

Pre-clerkship Phase Assessment and Grading Policy

VII. HISTORY OF APPROVALS AND UPDATES

The following list documents policy approvals and updates by oversight authority, date, and summary of changes. This policy is housed on the MD Student Handbook webpage.

- On July 23, 2020, the Medical Education Committee approved the update to separate the policy from the MD Student Handbook and to reflect MD program assessment changes to domain-based grading.
- On May 27, 2021, the Medical Education Committee approved the update to remove the Professionalism domain.
- On July 14, 2021, the Medical Education Committee approved the update that waivers do not change tuition costs.