Modifications to step 1 policy, beginning 2019

Modification #1: Students will be required to take step 1 no later than 1 week prior to the beginning of the Clinical Skills Experience

Modification #2: Students who defer taking step 1 and therefore defer enrolling in clerkships will be removed from their clerkships one clerkship at a time. Students intending to enroll in their clerkships must sit for step 1 two weeks prior to returning to their clerkships. (See flowchart below)

Each box represents 1 week. Conventional Step 1 study (light grey). Step one academic reassignment (darker grey). The students who take the academic reassignment will take their vacation (darkest grey) before their clerkships instead of before CSE. Students who are due to start FM or IM after their step 1 study will take a one month elective before starting their clerkships.

Modification #3: Students’ readiness to take step 1 will be identified through examination of performance on a variety of measures including NBME customized examination performance in their first two years of medical school and performance on the CBSE examination. Students who perform at or below a level predictive of success will be required to take an additional CBSE examination to assess readiness for step 1 examination.

Modification #4: Students who are assessed by the Academic and Career Counseling team to be in jeopardy of failing the step 1 examination will be placed on academic reassignment in order to participate in an intensive step 1 preparatory experience. The period of academic reassignment will range from 6 to 8 weeks depending on clinical assignment.

Modification #5: Students participating in the Step 1 preparatory experience will be expected meet the following requirements:

a. They will remain on campus and participate in all educational activities involved in the step prep activity
b. They will engage with the academic support and career counseling staff as recommended and take all associated assessments
c. They will respond to communications in a timely fashion
d. They will assume the cost of recommended remediation services and assessment materials with the support of the financial aid office

Modification #6: Following the step 1 preparatory experience, students who remain unprepared as determined by their final assessments in their preparatory program to take step 1 will, apart from
extenuating circumstances, be required to participate in one of the external preparatory programs recommended by the ASCC team. Students will assume the cost of these programs with the support of the financial aid office.

Students who are placed on academic reassignment and who do not participate fully in the Step 1 preparatory experience will be subject to disciplinary action and possible referral to the Academic Progress Committee.

Students who remain unprepared as determined the Academic Support and Career Counseling team to sit for Step 1 after both academic reassignment, participation in an external program, and 6 weeks of post external program prep time may be referred to the Academic Progress Committee.