University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

# Policy on Medical Student Assessment in Courses and Clerkships: Narrative Assessment

## I. POLICY
Narrative assessment will be provided if a student has four or more sessions in a small group or clinical setting of 12 or fewer students with the same instructor at each session of a preclinical course (years 1 and 2).

Narrative assessment will be provided to all students participating in each clinical clerkship or clinical elective (years 3 and 4).

## II. PURPOSE
Faculty assessment of a student's performance, including their non-cognitive achievement, is essential to their ability to reflect and improve. This type of assessment is best achieved in small group or individual learning settings.

## III. SCOPE
This policy applies to:
• Course and clerkship directors
• Teaching faculty, including graduate students, residents, and fellows who participate in the teaching and evaluation of medical students
• Medical Students

## IV. POLICY AUTHOR(S)
• Office of Medical Education

## V. RELATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
• Policy on Timeliness of Evaluations in Courses, Clerkship, Electives and Sub-Internships

## Vl. REFERENCES
LCME Standard 9: Teaching, Assessment, and Student and Patient Safety: A medical school ensures that its medical education program includes a comprehensive, fair, and uniform system

of formative and summative medical student assessment and protects medical students' and patients' safety by ensuring that all persons who teach, supervise, and/or assess medical students are adequately prepared for those responsibilities.

LCME Element 9.5: Narrative Assessment: A medical school ensures that a narrative description of a medical student's performance, including his or her non-cognitive achievement, is included as a component of the assessment in each required course and clerkship of the medical education program whenever teacher-student interaction permits this form of assessment.

**VII. APPROVALS**
Curriculum Committee
Education Policy Council
Dean, School of Medicine, December 22, 2017