

POLICY TITLE: *Narrative Assessment Policy*APPROVAL DATE: *July 22, 2019*RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: *Office of Medical Education*APPLIES TO: *All Students***Policy**

The University of Cincinnati College of Medicine (UCCOM) requires a narrative description of medical student performance, including non-cognitive achievement, whenever teacher-student interaction permits this form of assessment.

Specifically, written narrative assessment of student performance is required for:

- Any course/clerkship in which there is regular, longitudinal contact between a faculty member and a student.
- Any course/clerkship that includes regular contact with patients and/or patient care.

Additionally, course/clerkship directors are required to ensure the following:

- Feedback is timely, and
- Feedback identifies student strengths and strategies on how to improve their performance.

These narrative summative evaluations of student performance are entered verbatim into the student's permanent file. Narrative feedback generated during the clerkship year is included in the Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE), which accompanies applications for residency.

**Monitoring**

To monitor this policy, students complete an end-of-course evaluation that provides them the opportunity to comment on the quality of formative and summative narrative feedback received during the course or clerkship. Additionally, course and clerkship directors may receive feedback as part of the bi-annual student survey as well as the annual focus groups facilitated by the Office of Medical Education (OME). As part of the annual course/clerkship report, course and clerkship directors are required to review the data and identify opportunities to improve both formative and summative narrative feedback. This report will be reviewed annually by EPC to ensure that the requirements of the policy are being met and that if there are any issues, the course/clerkship director has identified an appropriate course of action.

**Related 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.