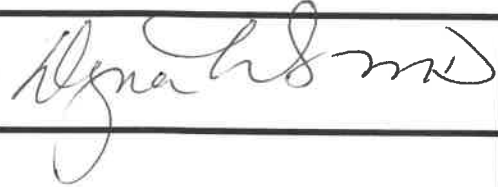


Effective Date: August 16, 2021

Retired:

Revised:

Approved by: **Digna S. Forbes, M.D., FASCP**  
Interim Dean, School of Medicine



Subject: The School of Medicine Grading Policy

**PURPOSE:**

Currently, the School of Medicine does not have a uniform policy for grading preclerkship and clerkship grades. This has created confusion as well as a lack of uniformity with grade calculations. In addition, slight variations of calculations can result in students either passing or failing. Also using rounding, students are focused on every fraction of a point in assignments. This focus results in a mentality of giving and taking points from assignments with students using valuable study time to argue for points. Thus the purpose of this policy is intended to bring needed clarity, uniformity, and standardization to grading. Moreover, with this policy we hope our students will be more focused on learning for retention and less focused on the concern about fractional points.

**POLICY STATEMENT:**

All pre-clerkship final unit and course grades and clerkship grades are to be reported in whole numbers. Therefore there will be no rounding the remaining digits behind the decimal point.

**DEFINITIONS:**

Whole number=no fraction/decimal component in a number. 30, 35, 60 are all examples of whole numbers.

Rounding=using decimals to jump to the next number. For example, 69.5 becomes 70.

Effective Date:

**Subject:**

**PROCEDURE:**

In all pre-clerkship and clerkship syllabi, the School of Medicine grading policy should include: all final grades are reported as the whole number. Thus, 79.9 is 79 and 69.5 is 69. Unit directors and course/clerkship directors do not round to the next whole number when calculating final grades.

**EXHIBITS:**