

University of Michigan  
College of Pharmacy  
APPE Readiness Program<sup>^</sup>  
June 2023

The APPE Readiness Program ensures that students have achieved competency in contemporary educational concepts such that they are ready to enter advanced pharmacy practice experiences (APPE). APPE readiness is determined using embedded assessments that occur throughout the first (P1) through third (P3) professional years. Students can only progress to APPEs after successful completion of all elements of this plan.

1. **Knowledge Assessment:** Students must complete required courses with a passing grade (defined as a C- or higher). Any student receiving a grade of below C- is referred to the Committee on Academic Standing (CAS).
  - a. In addition to the requirement of an overall course grade of C-, some courses also require a 70% average for knowledge exams within the course (e.g., therapeutics course series). Failure to achieve an overall 70% for combined exams in these courses will result in a D grade as the maximum grade for the course, regardless of the overall course grade.
2. **Skills Assessments:** In addition to participating in all simulated patient interactions in a course, **students are required to complete core clinical skills sessions**. Students who miss a class session in which a core clinical skill is taught and/or assessed (Table 1) are required to email the lab coordinator and faculty prior to or within two business days of the absence to determine a plan for making up the clinical skill. Students who do not make up the activity before the end of the semester will receive an incomplete in the course until the skill is successfully completed. This policy applies to both approved and unapproved class absences.

**Table 1: Required Core Skills Assessments**

<b>Perform the following physical assessments</b>
Manual blood pressure and radial pulse assessment
Edema assessment
Cardiopulmonary resuscitation
Foot exam
<b>Educate patients about devices to administer a medication</b>
Inhalers
Injectable medications
Nasal spray
<b>Educate patients about self-monitoring tests</b>
Automatic blood pressure
Blood glucose
<b>Effectively communicate with patients and health care professionals</b>
Demonstrate effective verbal communication skills during simulated patient activities
<b>Fulfill a medication order</b>
Demonstrate reconstitution of an oral suspension
Demonstrate the ability to prepare nonsterile compounded products
Demonstrate proper donning and doffing of personal protective equipment
Demonstrate the ability to prepare an intravenous product
<b>Ensure that patients have been immunized against preventable diseases</b>
Demonstrate the ability to administer an intramuscular injection
Demonstrate the ability to administer a subcutaneous injection

In addition, core embedded benchmark skill assessments exist within various courses in the curriculum. To ensure APPE readiness, students must pass the **core benchmark embedded skill assessments shown in Table 2**. The Office of Experiential Education may use data from the P3-skills assessments to help inform APPE scheduling, placing students who score low on these assessments into clinical rotations early in the year.

3. Standalone Assessments within Courses (Table 3): The Top 200 exam is a standalone high-stakes benchmark assessment that is incorporated into a required course. The Top 100 exam is a standalone medium-stakes assessment that is incorporated into a required course. The consequences for not passing these assessments are defined in the College's Academic Progression and Remediation Policy (see Progression Policy, Appendix I).
4. Introductory Practice Experiences (IPPEs): All students are required to complete IPPEs in their second and third professional years. These experiences provide students the opportunity to apply practice- and patient-care skills taught in the curriculum in a real-world setting. All IPPEs also emphasize interpersonal communication. The required IPPEs include:
  - a. Community IPPE (P603; P2 year): Practice skills in the community pharmacy setting
  - b. Ambulatory Care IPPE (P613; P2 year): Patient-care skills in the ambulatory care setting
  - c. Health system/hospital IPPE (P703; P3 year): Practice skills in the institutional setting
  - d. Direct Patient Care IPPE (P713; P3 year): Patient-care skills in the institutional setting

Students must receive a passing grade on each IPPE to progress through the curriculum.

**Table 2: Embedded Benchmark Practice Skills Assessments across the Curriculum\***

Course	Assessment	Requirement
<b>P1 Year</b>		<b>To be deemed IPPE-Ready:</b>
P506 Communications Fall	SPI- Motivational Interviewing SPI-Patient Counseling SPI-Medication History	70% on the clinical and communication rubrics for each of 3 SPIs
P512 Self-Care Winter	SPI-Patient Counseling SPI-Motivational Interviewing	70% on the clinical and communication rubrics for each of 2 SPIs
<b>P2 Year</b>		<b>To be deemed IPPE-Ready:</b>
P602 Therapeutics I Fall	SPI- Patient Counseling SPI-Healthcare Professional Interaction (patient case presentation) SOAP Note	70% on the clinical and communication rubrics for each of 2 SPIs 70% on the SOAP note
P612 Therapeutics II Winter	SPI – Motivational Interviewing Patient Case Presentation	70% on the clinical and communication rubrics for the SPI  70% on the patient case presentation
<b>P3 Year</b>		<b>To be deemed APPE-Ready:</b>
P723 Clinical Skills III Fall	SPI-Patient Counseling/Device Skills	70% on the third of 3 SPI activities occurring during the term.
P733 Clinical Skills IV Winter	Formal Case Presentation SOAP Note Thumbnail Case Presentation	70% on each of 3 assessments

\*Students must demonstrate competency for all of these assessments in order to pass each course and/or progress in the curriculum.

**Table 3: Standalone Skills Assessments Embedded Within Courses\*\*\***

Course	Assessment	Requirement
<b>P1Year (all are benchmark exams that must be passed to progress)</b>		
P504: Skills I Fall	Top 100 Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Passing grade defined as 70%</li><li>• Medium stakes; course grade affected if retake needed</li></ul>
P514: Skills II Winter P1 year	Top 200 Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Passing grade defined as 70%</li><li>• High stakes; a score of <math>\geq 70\%</math> is required before a student is allowed to begin their community IPPE</li></ul>

\*\*\* See the College Academic Progression Policy and Procedures for the remediation and restudy process