

Monitoring of Student Achievement via Self-Evaluation Exam (SEE)

Policy

The Nurse Anesthesia Program requires MSN students take the SEE at the end of the first and second years of the program to measure student progress in the program. DNP students take the SEE at the end of their didactic phase (second summer) and again in the third year, at the end of their summer semester. Fees for the first two SEE are paid by the program. Any additional examinations are at the student's expense.

Purpose

The SEE exam is a national exam with established validity and reliability. Questions have the same formats and are from the same pool as National Certification Examination (NCE) questions. The Self-Evaluation Examination, administered by the NBCRNA, has three objectives:

1. To provide information to students about their progress in the nurse anesthesia program.
2. To provide information to program directors on how well their programs are preparing students with the knowledge they need for anesthesia practice.
3. To prepare students for the National Certification Examination experience by:
 - a. Adopting of the National Certification Examination (NCE) content outline for question development
 - b. Reporting scores on the four NCE knowledge domains:
 - i. Basic Sciences
 - ii. Equipment, Instrumentation and Technology
 - iii. General Principles of Anesthesia
 - iv. Surgical Procedures and Special Populations
 - c. To prepare students for the National Certification Exam experience

To meet these objectives, the examination has specifications similar to those of the NCE, is administered under secure conditions, and has a reporting system designed to provide maximum feedback to students and program administrators. Although specifications similar to the NCE are used for the SEE, successful completion of the SEE does not guarantee a passing score on the NCE.

Definitions

- **SEE:** The Self-Evaluation Examination is a computerized adaptive test intended to help both students and programs identify their respective strengths and weaknesses before students take the NCE. The SEE includes multiple-choice questions and alternative question formats such as multiple correct response, calculations, hotspot, and drag and drop. The SEE consists of 240 questions over a maximum of 4 hours.

- **Program Benchmark:** Minimum score set by the program which is currently predictive of student success on the National Certification Exam (NCE). However, achieving the program benchmark on the SEE does not guarantee success on the NCE. **Program benchmark on the SEE is 425**

The Clarkson College Nurse Anesthesia Program requires students to achieve a minimum score of 425 on the SEE as a requirement to successfully complete the final Clinical Anesthesia Practicum course. Students must successfully complete the final Clinical Anesthesia Practicum course before graduating and before being allowed to sit for the National Certification Examination.

Procedure

1. The Program Administrator will create a SEE application for each eligible student via the NBCRNA Online Certification Portal.
2. Department-Education Committee will monitor each student's SEE score.
3. Successfully achieving the program benchmarks:
 - a. If a student's end of first year SEE scores successfully achieves the program benchmark of 425, the student will continue successfully in the program. The SEE must be taken again at the end of the second year.
 - b. If a student's end of second year SEE score successfully achieves the program benchmark of 425, the student will continue successfully in the program.
4. Unsuccessfully achieving the program benchmarks
 - a. If a student's end of first year SEE score falls below the program benchmark of 425, the Academic Progression Committee will be notified and the student will be counseled to include writing their study plan, addressing problem areas.
 - b. If a student's end of second year SEE score falls below the program benchmark of 425, the Academic Progression Committee will be notified, an Academic Contract will be developed in partnership with the student and the student will be counseled to include writing/revising their own study plan, addressing problem areas.

Failure to meet the program benchmark of 425 will result in the student being required to retake the SEE until a score of 425 is achieved. Academic Contracts will specify when the SEE must be retaken to assess progress but students are encouraged to assess their own readiness and retake the SEE as they feel prepared.

All additional SEE exams above the two required exams will be at the student's own expense and will require using personal days from their clinical time allotment. It is the student's responsibility to give the Program Director ample notice of their readiness to retake the SEE and the need to complete a SEE application.

SEE exams must be taken one day before the program completion date on record with the NBCRNA. The NBCRNA does not allow students to take the SEE on or after the program completion date on record with the NBCRNA.

MSN and DNP students who fail to achieve the program benchmark of 425 on the SEE by one day before the program completion date on record with the NBCRNA, will receive an incomplete in their final clinical anesthesia practicum course. They may file a Petition for Reconsideration requesting an extension of their end of program date to the end of the spring semester. This allows students additional time to follow their Academic Contract and their study plan, retaking the SEE until the program benchmark of 425 is achieved and the final Clinical Anesthesia Practicum course is successfully completed. Since students cannot graduate mid semester, once the SEE benchmark is achieved, the NCE application will be submitted on the first day of the next semester.

MSN students who fail to achieve the program benchmark of 425 on the SEE before the end of spring semester, may file a Petition for Reconsideration requesting an additional extension of their end of program date to the end of the summer semester. This allows MSN students approximately the same amount of additional time as the DNP students to achieve the 425 benchmark on the SEE.

Failure to achieve the program benchmark as outlined above, will result in an "F" grade in the final Clinical Anesthesia Practicum and administrative withdrawal from the Nurse Anesthesia Program and Clarkson College.

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