

SOP for sequential OSCE year 5

Introduction

The year 5 OSCE is a 21 station sequential OSCE. It is split over 3 days. Days 1 and 2 comprise 6 stations each day while day 3 has 9 stations. Day 1 and 2 are undertaken on consecutive days. Day 3 takes place approximately 2 weeks after day 2.

Passmark

Passmarks for all stations on day 1 and 2 are derived using the borderline regression method.

Passmarks for all stations on day 3 are derived from either historical data from borderline regression applied to previous year 5 student cohorts.

For unmanned stations on days 1, 2 or 3, the modified Angoff method is used.

Sequence of the OSCE

All year 5 students complete the 12 stations (stations 1-12) on day 1 and 2.

Marks are collated from stations 1-12 and the passmark for each station calculated. The combined passmark for stations 1-12 is calculated by combining the individual station passmarks.

Students will be considered to have demonstrated the required academic standard for a potential foundation year 1 doctor and to be EXEMPTED from day 3 of the OSCE if:

1. Their combined scores for stations 1-12 exceed the combined passmark by +3RMSE and
2. They pass at least 2/3 of the individual stations (ie 8 or more stations)

All other students must complete the full OSCE including day 3 (stations 13-21). For these students their combined score over all 21 stations is considered and compared to the passmark derived from combining the passmarks of all 21 stations. Students must pass the overall 21 station OSCE and also pass 2/3rd of the individual stations (ie 14 or more stations)

Any student who does not achieve the overall passmark for all 21 stations and/or fails 8 or more stations has not reached the required standard and will be deemed to have failed the assessment.

Absences

As the OSCE is split over 3 days it is recognised that students may be absent for some or all of the OSCE. In The following considerations will made if absence occurs.

Full absence

If a student is unable to attend for any of the days of the OSCE the student will be deemed to be absent for the exam.

Partial absence

Where a student has been absent for part of the OSCE the following considerations will be given

- If the student has sat less than 9 OSCE stations (ie 8 stations or less), then they will be considered absent for the exam. No mark will be given and the student can sit the exam at the next available opportunity (the following academic year)
- For those students who have sat 9 or more OSCE stations, they will be assessed according to the number of stations they have sat:
 - If the student sat between 9 -14 stations, the student will be deemed to have passed the assessment if they have achieved or exceeded the overall passmark in $\geq 2/3$ of all the stations sat., AND if they have completed all their work place based assessments with a mark above 15 and [a viva component with 3 standardised questions].
 - If the student sat 15 stations or more, the student will be deemed to have passed the assessment if they have achieved a pass in $\geq 2/3$ of stations and achieved the overall passmark for these stations.

Students who fail or are absent from the exams

Candidates are expected to declare if they are unwell on the day of the exam, or if there are any other factors which may affect their performance. If mitigating factors such as COVID or other significant illness or life events prevent a student from completing the assessment, the exam board (including external examiners) will be presented with all available academic information and decide whether a separate OSCE exam opportunity or other assessment should be offered. This will only be in exceptional circumstances.