

In-Training Exam (ITE) Performance

Introduction: The American Board of Family Medicine (ABFM) In-Training Examination (ITE) is a nationally standardized instrument administered to all family medicine residents enrolled in ACGME postgraduate training programs given annually during the last week of October. The ITE has been shown to be a useful predictor of future success on the ABFM specialty examination.

All residents are required to take the ABFM specialty examination in April or May of the PGY-3 year.

The ITE exam tests core knowledge and patient management skills in eight major areas: Internal Medicine, Surgery, Obstetrics, Community Medicine, Pediatrics, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Geriatrics and Gynecology.

All residents are released from other responsibilities in order to be present for the ITE examination, and no vacation or elective time off is allowed during the week of the exam. The examinations are scored by the ABFM and the results reported to the Program Director.

Purpose: To encourage lifelong learning; to ensure residents attain and retain the requisite knowledge to safely advance through the residency program; and to achieve a 100% pass rate for first time takers of the ABFM specialty examination at the end of residency training.

Definition: Using the Bayesian score predictor provided with the ITE, residents are expected to score at a level that is equal to or greater than 90% prediction of passing the certification exam. Residents who attain scores below this level for their training year have a significantly poor prediction for passing the ABFM exam.

Procedure: A resident with low ITE performance will be identified by the program director and the resident's faculty mentor following the receipt of the ITE examination results.

PGY 1 - The first year resident will meet monthly with the advisor to review progress. The resident and mentor will develop an individualized strategy to prepare them for the next year's ITE. This may include:

- Reviewing the ITE exam results to identify areas needing improvement
- Going through all the ITE exam Qs/As in those identified areas and reviewing
- Reading the twice monthly American Family Physician journal and completing the AFP CME quizzes
- Complete 25 AAFP board review questions weekly; focus on topic areas for board questions based on ITE performance areas that were suboptimal
- Take practice quizzes from the ABFM app

PGY 2 – The second year resident will meet with the advisor. A strategy will be developed, which likely will may include:

- Those items listed under PGY 1 remediation above
- Completing the AAFP Family Medicine Board Review Self-Study course (available through the UND CFM residency).

In-Training Exam (ITE) Performance

- Enrolling in an additional Q-bank

PGY 3 – The third year resident will meet with the advisor. A strategy will be developed, and will include

- Taking a 1-month elective dedicated to board review which will include an “away” **live** board review course; the resident would be required to pay for this course out of pocket, unless they have remaining CME dollars available to use

Policy for Unsuccessful Remediation: If remediation is unsuccessful and the resident fails to meet the standard set for performance in the remediation process *and on the follow-up examination*, the resident will immediately be placed on academic probation. Subsequent arrangements will vary and may include a second remediation program to dismissal from the program. The resident’s duration of training could be extended by the time necessary to successfully complete the subsequent remediation.

RESOURCES

American Family Physician (AFP) journal quizzes

AAFP website: www.aafp.org

Log in with your own username and password to obtain appropriate CME credit

Sign into the AFP CME quizzes

Complete the quiz twice monthly

Report CME from quiz completion on your AAFP CME site

Print a copy of your transcript from the AAFP website to place in portfolio for biannual review

AAFP Board Review questions

Enter AAFP website as above using your username and password

Sign into Board Review Questions

Complete 10 board review questions weekly; focus on topic areas for board questions based on ITE performance areas that were suboptimal

Print a copy of your transcript as above for your portfolio for biannual review

ABFM app

Free to download

Take practice quizzes; choose topic areas to focus on topic areas based on ITE performance as above