

USMLE CLINICAL SKILLS EXAM

Financial Issues

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Step 2 Clinical Skills Exam

- Session was scheduled in anticipation of financial issues that would arise in the first year of the exam
- At least at our institution, it is still too early to know the full impact and issues that will arise
- Hope to learn from others of how they have addressed issues that have arisen

Financial Issues for CSE

- \$975 registration fee (in M3 COA)
- Transportation Costs to travel to exam site: Atlanta, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Philadelphia (in M4 COA)
- Indefinite waiver of \$50 rescheduling fee if exam date is rescheduled at least 30 days in advance
- However, applicants who reschedule exam with 30 or fewer days' notice are assessed \$150 fee

Exam Scheduling Issues

- Only AM exam time slots have been scheduled to date; NBME does not plan to open PM time slots until all exam sites are filled to April (first available exam date at present below):
 - Atlanta (3/23/05)
 - Chicago (4/13/05)
 - Houston (3/5/05)
 - Los Angeles (3/9/05)
 - Philadelphia (4/20/05)
- Test date deadlines vary from school to school – some students may have difficulty taking the exam at a site prior to the school-specific deadline
- Students may be forced to schedule at non-ideal test sites instead of the closest available site – impact on their transportation costs

Exam Failures: Financial Aid Issues

- Exam failures: how will these be addressed when exam passage is a graduation requirement?
- Review classes: Will these be included for those who fail and how much will they cost?
- Graduation delays due to failures:
 - How will each school deal with this?
 - Will students be eligible for continued financial aid while they prepare to retake the exam?
 - Will tuition be assessed for extra semesters/session registration?

Exam Failure: Financial Issues, contd.

- Postponing the start of residency positions obtained through the Match to retake the exam
 - Impact on use of grace period
 - Impact on educational indebtedness
 - Impact on residency program
 - Delay in income
 - Impact on home purchases by seniors
- Having to repay the \$975 registration fee and transportation expenses to re-sit for the exam

Continued Discussion

- Hope to have an interaction discussion of the issues that have arisen on your campuses and how these have been handled