

# SOP - Sequential OSCE Year 5 MBChB

## Introduction

The year 5 OSCE is a 21-station sequential OSCE. Part A is comprised of 12 OSCE stations and are undertaken over 2-3 days depending on the size of the student cohort. Part B has 9 OSCE stations and takes place approximately 2 weeks after part A.

## Standard Setting

### Part A

The pass marks for the OSCE stations are derived using the borderline regression method.

### Part B

The pass marks for the OSCE stations for part B are derived from historical data from borderline regression applied to previous year 5 student cohorts.

NB: For any unmanned station, in part A or B, the modified Angoff method is used for setting the standard.

## Sequence of the OSCE and Passing Criteria

### Part A

All Year 5 students eligible to sit the sequential OSCE complete the 12 stations (stations 1-12) over 2-3 days.

The marks for stations 1-12 are collated for each candidate.

The pass mark for each station is calculated and the combined pass mark for stations 1-12 is calculated by combining the individual station pass marks.

Students will be considered to have demonstrated the required academic standard for a newly qualified 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 days 1 and 2 combined pass mark plus  $3 \times$  the RMSE\*.  
**and**
2. They pass at least 2/3 of the individual stations (i.e., 8 or more stations) with the individual station pass mark plus  $1 \times$  RMSE for each station.

### Part B

Candidates who have **not** been exempted from part B must complete the full OSCE i.e., OSCE stations 13-21.

For students completing the full OSCE their combined score over the 21 stations is collated.

The pass mark is derived from combining the individual pass marks of all 21 stations.

\*Root Mean Square Error

To pass the assessment:

1. The candidates combined scores for stations 1-21 must exceed the 21 station OSCE pass mark plus 1 RMSE  
**and**
2. The student must pass at least 2/3rd of the individual stations (i.e., 14 or more stations).

Any student who does not achieve the overall pass mark for all 21 stations and/or fails 8 or more individual stations has not reached the required standard and will have failed the assessment.

## Absences

As Part B of the OSCE is approximately 2 weeks following Part A, it is recognised that students may be absent for some or all the OSCE.

Candidates unable to attend an assessment must report their absence on the day of the exam and no later than three days following the date of the exam (with an accepted explanation for the delay in reporting).

### Partial absence

Where a student has been absent for part of the OSCE the following will apply:

- If the candidate has sat less than 9 OSCE stations (i.e., 8 stations or less), they will be considered absent for the exam. No mark will be given.  
NB: The next available opportunity to sit the exam is at the scheduled date in the next academic year.
- If the candidate has sat 9 or more OSCE stations, they will be assessed according to the number of stations they have sat:
  - Between 9 -14 stations, the student will be deemed to have passed the assessment if:
    1. They achieve or exceed the combined pass marks plus 1× RMSE of the stations they have sat and pass  $\geq 2/3$  the stations they sat.  
**and**
    2. They have successfully completed all their workplace-based assessments (i.e., Mini-CEX and Long Case) within the clinical blocks for Year 5 with a mark of 15 and above where marks are assigned.  
**and**
    3. Only where criteria 1 and 2 have been met, the student will be offered a viva where they must pass at least 2/3 of a viva component with 3 standardised questions.
  - If the student sat 15 or more stations, the student will be deemed to have passed the assessment if they have achieved a pass in  $\geq 2/3$  of stations they have sat and have achieved or exceeded the combined pass mark plus 1× RMSE for the stations sat.