

POLICY NUMBER: III-XXVIII**POLICY TITLE: Clinical Judgment Examination Policy**

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Miami Dade College Students' Rights and Responsibilities; Miami Dade College ASN Student Handbook; Benjamín León School of Nursing clinical course requirements; applicable Florida Board of Nursing standards; BLSON Testing Policy; applicable clinical course syllabi; established program remediation and progression policies.

DATE OF LAST REVIEW: 05/2026

Policy Statement

Students enrolled in clinical nursing courses within the Benjamín León School of Nursing at Miami Dade College are required to successfully complete all assigned Clinical Judgment Examinations (CJEs) as part of clinical course requirements and progression expectations. The Clinical Judgment Examination is intended to evaluate the student's ability to apply clinical reasoning and nursing judgment in response to realistic patient care situations. Each CJE will be administered as an Unfolding Clinical Judgment Case Study and will assess the student's ability to recognize cues, analyze cues, prioritize hypotheses, generate solutions, take action, and evaluate outcomes.

The CJE will be deployed at the end of each clinical rotation to assess student readiness, clinical reasoning, patient safety awareness, and ability to apply nursing knowledge to patient-centered care situations.

Students who are unsuccessful on the first CJE attempt must complete assigned remediation before being permitted to complete a second attempt. Failure to successfully complete CJE requirements may result in remediation requirements, restricted clinical participation, unsuccessful clinical performance, delayed progression, course failure where applicable, or additional corrective action as determined by the Benjamín León School of Nursing.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish standardized expectations regarding Clinical Judgment Examination administration, remediation requirements, second-attempt eligibility, testing procedures, student accountability, and progression standards within the Benjamín León School of Nursing.

The Clinical Judgment Examination is designed to:

- Promote safe clinical decision-making and patient-centered nursing care.
- Assess student competency in clinical judgment at the conclusion of each clinical rotation.
- Evaluate student performance using unfolding case study scenarios that reflect realistic patient care situations.
- Identify students requiring remediation and additional academic or clinical support.
- Strengthen student readiness for clinical practice, course progression, and NCLEX-style clinical judgment expectations.
- Support patient safety, professional nursing standards, and program learning outcomes.

The CJE is aligned with the NCSBN Clinical Judgment Measurement Model, which provides a framework for measuring clinical judgment and decision-making within standardized nursing assessments.

Procedure

Clinical Judgment Examination Requirements

Examination Administration

- Clinical Judgment Examinations will be administered at the end of each clinical rotation or at another designated time determined by course faculty or program administration.
- Each CJE will be structured as an Unfolding Clinical Judgment Case Study.
- The case study may include progressive patient data, assessment findings, laboratory results, medication records, provider orders, clinical notes, and changes in patient condition.
- Students will be required to apply clinical judgment throughout the unfolding case.
- The examination may be administered in Canvas, a proctored testing environment, or another approved testing platform as determined by faculty or administration.
- Faculty reserve the right to administer CJEs in a proctored environment in accordance with the BLSON Testing Policy.
- Students must adhere to all testing instructions, timing requirements, and approved testing procedures.
- Only resources or materials authorized by faculty may be used during the examination.
- Students are prohibited from copying, photographing, sharing, discussing, or distributing examination content.

Clinical Judgment Competency Areas

Each Clinical Judgment Examination may assess the following clinical judgment functions:

- Recognize Cues: Identify relevant and significant patient data.
- Analyze Cues: Interpret the meaning of patient findings.
- Prioritize Hypotheses: Determine the most likely or most urgent patient problem.
- Generate Solutions: Select appropriate nursing interventions or plans of care.
- Take Action: Identify the safest and most appropriate nursing action.
- Evaluate Outcomes: Determine whether interventions were effective and identify next steps.

The six functions above are consistent with the NCSBN Clinical Judgment Measurement Model used to support clinical judgment measurement in nursing education and licensure preparation.

Passing Standard

- The required passing score for each Clinical Judgment Examination will be determined by the course syllabus, clinical course requirements, or program administration.
- Students must demonstrate competency consistent with safe clinical judgment and patient care expectations.
- A student who does not meet the required passing standard on the first attempt will be considered unsuccessful on the initial CJE attempt and must complete remediation before a second attempt is permitted.

Attempts

- Students are permitted two attempts to successfully complete each assigned Clinical Judgment Examination unless otherwise specified by program policy, course syllabus, or administrative directive.

- The first attempt will be administered at the end of the clinical rotation or as scheduled by faculty.
- Students who are unsuccessful on the first attempt must complete required remediation before being permitted to complete the second attempt.
- The second attempt will occur on a designated date established by course faculty or nursing administration.
- Failure to complete the second attempt as scheduled may result in additional academic or clinical consequences in accordance with course and program requirements.

Remediation Requirements

Students who are unsuccessful on the initial Clinical Judgment Examination attempt will be required to complete remediation activities prior to the second examination attempt.

Remediation activities may include:

- Faculty-directed remediation.
- Review of the original clinical judgment performance report.
- Completion of assigned clinical judgment learning modules.
- Completion of NCLEX-style or NGN-style case study practice.
- Written clinical reasoning reflection.
- Case study mapping using the six clinical judgment functions.
- Faculty conference or academic coaching session.
- Simulation-based remediation where appropriate.
- ATI, Elsevier, Kaplan, HURST, or other approved electronic learning modules.
- Individualized remediation plan based on identified areas of weakness.

Additional remediation requirements may be assigned based on student performance, course expectations, clinical safety concerns, and identified deficiencies.

Required Remediation Components

At minimum, students assigned remediation must complete the following before the second attempt:

1. Clinical Judgment Performance Review

The student must review performance areas related to the CJE, including missed concepts or weak clinical judgment categories.

2. Targeted Remediation Activity

The student must complete assigned remediation activities based on the identified area of weakness.

3. Clinical Judgment Reflection

The student must submit a written reflection addressing:

- What clinical judgment errors were made.
- Which cues were missed or misinterpreted.
- What priority decision should have been made.
- What action would be taken differently in a similar patient care situation.
- How the remediation will support safer clinical practice.

4. Faculty Verification

Faculty or designated nursing administration must verify completion of assigned remediation before the student is released to complete the second attempt.

Second Attempt Requirements

Students who are unsuccessful on the first Clinical Judgment Examination attempt must:

- Complete all assigned remediation requirements before being permitted to complete the second attempt.
- Attend all required faculty conferences, tutoring sessions, workshops, or remediation activities assigned by faculty or administration.
- Submit all required remediation documentation by the stated deadline.
- Demonstrate professionalism, accountability, and active participation throughout the remediation process.
- Complete the second attempt on the assigned date and time unless prior approval is granted by faculty or administration.

Failure to complete required remediation activities may result in ineligibility for the second examination attempt.

Clinical Progression Expectations

Successful completion of the Clinical Judgment Examination supports student readiness for safe clinical practice and progression within the nursing program.

Students who are unsuccessful after the second attempt may:

- Be assigned additional remediation requirements.
- Be required to meet with course faculty, the Department Chairperson, or designated nursing administrator.
- Receive documentation of clinical judgment deficiency.
- Be subject to restricted clinical participation.
- Receive an unsuccessful clinical evaluation where permitted by course or program requirements.
- Become ineligible for progression in accordance with course and program standards.
- Receive a course failure where applicable under the course syllabus or clinical evaluation requirements.

The CJE does not replace ongoing clinical evaluation. Faculty retain responsibility for evaluating overall clinical performance, professional behavior, patient safety, and course outcomes.

Student Expectations and Accountability

Students are expected to:

- Arrive on time and prepared for all Clinical Judgment Examinations and remediation activities.
- Complete the CJE independently unless otherwise directed by faculty.
- Demonstrate professional behavior throughout all testing and remediation processes.
- Complete all assigned remediation activities by designated deadlines.
- Maintain academic integrity during all examinations, case studies, reflections, and assignments.
- Refrain from sharing, discussing, copying, photographing, recording, or distributing examination content.
- Utilize remediation opportunities responsibly to improve clinical reasoning and patient care decision-making.
- Communicate promptly with faculty regarding scheduling conflicts or barriers to completing remediation.

Failure to comply with testing integrity standards may result in disciplinary action in accordance with College and School of Nursing policies.

Mandatory Compliance

Compliance with this policy is mandatory. Students assigned Clinical Judgment Examination requirements and remediation activities must complete all components as directed by faculty and program administration.

Failure to comply with this policy may affect:

- Clinical participation eligibility.
- Course success.
- Clinical evaluation outcomes.
- Academic standing.
- Program progression eligibility.
- Eligibility to complete the second CJE attempt.
- Continued enrollment in the clinical course where applicable.

Consequences for Noncompliance

Consequences are outlined in escalating tiers based on the severity and frequency of noncompliance.

Tier 1: Initial Noncompliance

Initial noncompliance may include failure to complete assigned remediation by the deadline, failure to attend a required remediation meeting, or failure to follow CJE instructions.

Possible consequences include:

- Written notification of noncompliance.
- Meeting with course faculty and/or Department Chairperson.
- Assignment of additional remediation activities.
- Required completion of remediation within a specified timeframe.
- Documentation of noncompliance in the student record.

Tier 2: Repeated or Significant Noncompliance

Repeated or significant noncompliance may include repeated failure to complete remediation, failure to attend scheduled testing, failure to demonstrate professional accountability, or failure to meet second-attempt eligibility requirements.

Possible consequences include:

- Mandatory meeting with the Department Chairperson and/or designated nursing administrator.
- Formal warning documented in the student record.
- Placement on remediation status or administrative probation.
- Additional faculty-directed remediation or academic intervention.
- Delay in second-attempt testing eligibility.
- Restricted clinical participation where appropriate.

Tier 3: Persistent or Egregious Noncompliance

Persistent or egregious noncompliance may include refusal to complete remediation, violation of testing security, academic misconduct, repeated unsuccessful CJE performance with unresolved clinical safety concerns, or failure to comply with administrative directives.

Students may face further academic or disciplinary action in accordance with Miami Dade College and Benjamín León School of Nursing policies.

Potential consequences may include:

- Restricted clinical participation.
- Ineligibility for progression.
- Unsuccessful clinical performance evaluation.
- Course failure where permitted by course or program requirements.
- Administrative probation.
- Referral for academic misconduct or professional behavior review.
- Dismissal from the nursing program following appropriate review and due process.

Examples of Allowable Penalties

Mandatory Remediation

Students may be required to complete additional tutoring, case study assignments, simulation activities, electronic learning modules, written reflections, faculty-developed remediation, or clinical judgment practice activities before being permitted to complete the second attempt or continue in clinical activities.

Restricted Clinical Participation

Students may be prohibited from participating in clinical experiences until Clinical Judgment Examination requirements and assigned remediation activities are successfully completed.

Administrative Probation

Students may be placed on administrative probation for a designated period during which strict compliance with all program requirements, remediation expectations, professional conduct standards, and testing procedures is expected.

Program Dismissal

Repeated or serious noncompliance may result in dismissal from the Benjamín León School of Nursing in accordance with established College procedures.

Alignment with Institutional Policies

This policy aligns with the Miami Dade College Student Handbook and applicable Benjamín León School of Nursing policies related to:

- Academic accountability.
- Clinical safety.
- Clinical judgment development.
- Professionalism.
- Student remediation.
- Testing integrity.
- Academic progression.
- Corrective action procedures.
- Patient safety and safe nursing practice.

Participation in Clinical Judgment Examination and remediation activities demonstrates a student's commitment to safe nursing practice, professional responsibility, patient safety, and the standards of the Benjamín León School of Nursing.

References

Miami Dade College Students' Rights and Responsibilities.

Miami Dade College ASN Student Handbook.

Benjamín León School of Nursing Testing Policy.

Applicable clinical course syllabi and requirements.

Florida Board of Nursing standards.

Existing BLSN remediation and progression policies.

National Council of State Boards of Nursing. Clinical Judgment Measurement Model.