

## Department of Neurological Surgery Written Boards Policy

The primary goal for neurological surgery residents is that they pass the American Board of Neurological Surgery (ABNS) written exam the first time taken for credit. A secondary goal is that residents achieve a nationally-competitive score.

- Residents will have the opportunity to take the ABNS written exam for self-assessment starting PGY-2.
- Residents are expected to have achieved at least a score in the 10<sup>th</sup> percentile on the ABNS written exam prior to starting the PGY 4/5 Research Rotation. Residents that have not met this minimum standard will undergo remediation determined by the Program Director and Clinical Competency Committee. This remediation may include extended time on service, monthly progress meetings with the Program Director and taking a written exam preparation course at the resident's own expense.
- Residents may take the ABNS written exam for credit after achieving at least a score in the 30<sup>th</sup> percentile.
- The PGY-4/5 resident will not be allowed to move on to the PGY-6 year without having passed the ABNS written exam.
- If a resident has passed the ABNS written exam but not yet attained a score of at least the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile, they will be required to take it for self-assessment at their own expense until such a score is achieved or until the chief resident year.