

Sample New Child Adjustments (NCA) by Curricular Phase

LAST UPDATED JUNE 2019

Foundation Phase Examples

A student's partner has delivered a child, and the student would like to take 1 week off to help. The student obtains administrative excuses for that week and makes up the work during subsequent weekends. The student delays one midterm but eventually takes it 3 days late. The student takes the final on time. No leave would be noted on the student's MSPE or transcript.

A student is pregnant and has a due date in April. The student desires an NCA leave of 6 weeks, causing them to miss the end of one Block and the beginning of another in Medical Science. They would also miss a standardized patient encounter during PCC. They decide to attend the patient encounter as scheduled. They finish the semester with a final grade for PCC and an INC for Medical Science. They use the first few weeks of MS1 summer to remediate the required elements and exams of both blocks.

A student or their partner has a complicated pregnancy and is on bedrest for the final 4 weeks of pregnancy and the student desires to take 6 weeks of leave after the baby arrives giving them a total NCA of 10 weeks, disrupting two blocks of Medical Science and also PCC. During this time, they continue to study for Medical Science and video calls into small group sessions. They are able to complete the first missed block. They remediate the second block during the summer of MS1 year. They work with PCC tutors to remediate during the summer as well.

Application Phase Examples

A Central or Wilmington Campus student takes an NCA of 16 weeks. They attend Trimester 1 orientation for the first Application Phase course and leaves the course after 4 weeks. They return to their rotation during Trimester 2, week 5, making their total leave 16 weeks as planned. They have consulted and coordinated with course directors in advance. They have one elective from Foundation Phase and complete an additional elective during their NCA. They finish Application Phase in June and take their Step 2 exams in July. At this point, they still have 9 additional courses (including Transition to Residency in that 9) to complete Individualization Phase and 9 months to do so if they want to graduate on the original graduation date. This student's options are:

- To forfeit their interview time (not recommended).
- Take Step 2 during Application Phase (not recommended) and forfeit one month of interview time.
- To take an MPH year which will decrease their requirements to 8 additional courses. Students receive one elective course credit if they complete their MPH work by July before returning to medical school. Electives can be substituted for SHS5 and SOM requirements.
- To graduate in December of their original graduation year so that they have time to interview. They will Match the following spring. They must take Transition to Residency (TTR) in March since it is only offered once per year in Block 13 of the Individualization Phase.

Forfeit interview time											
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dedicated Step 1 study period		Trimester 1: Student completes 4 weeks of First Course	Student takes NCA period. Trim 2 starts in July. During this time, Student completes a research elective by working from home, earning one credit towards Individualization Phase requirements.				Student completes final 3 months of First Course			Student completes Second Course in Trimester 3	
Student completes Second Course in Trimester 3		Student completes Third Course in Trimester 1 of following year				Student takes Step 2 exams	Indiv Phase 1	Indiv Phase 2	Indiv Phase 3	Indiv Phase 4	Indiv Phase 5
Indiv Phase 6	Indiv Phase 7	Transition to Residency Course	Indiv Phase 9	Graduation							

Take Step 2 during Application Phase											
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dedicated Step 1 study period		Trimester 1: Student completes 4 weeks of First Course	Student takes NCA period. Trim 2 starts in July. During this time, Student completes a research elective by working from home, earning one credit towards Individualization Phase requirements				Student completes final 3 months of First Course			Student completes Second Course in Trimester 3	
Student completes Second Course in Trimester 3		Student completes Third Course in Trimester 1 of following year AND takes Step 2 exams				Indiv Phase 1	Indiv Phase 2	Indiv Phase 3	Indiv Phase 4	Indiv Phase 5	Residency interviews
Indiv Phase 6	Indiv Phase 7	Transition to Residency Course	Indiv Phase 9	Graduation							

Pursue an MPH											
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dedicated Step 1 study period		Trimester 1: Student completes 4 weeks of First Course	Student takes NCA period. Trim 2 starts in July. During this time, Student completes a research elective by working from home, earning one credit towards Individualization Phase requirements				Student completes final 3 months of First Course			Student completes Second Course in Trimester 3	
Student completes Second Course in Trimester 3		Student completes Third Course in Trimester 1 of following year				Student takes Step 2 exams and starts MPH. Usually MPH starts in mid/late August giving additional time to prepare for Step 2 exams.		MPH			
MPH						Indiv Phase 1	Indiv Phase 2	Indiv Phase 3	Indiv Phase 4	Residency interviews	
Indiv Phase 5	Indiv Phase 6	Transition to Residency Course	Indiv Phase 8	Graduation							

Graduate in December											
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dedicated Step 1 study period		Trimester 1: Student completes 4 weeks of First Course	Student takes NCA period. Trimester 2 starts in July. During this time, Student completes a research elective by working from home, earning one credit towards Individualization Phase requirements.				Student completes final 3 months of First Course			Student completes Second Course in Trimester 3	
Student completes Second Course in Trimester 3		Student completes Third Course in Trimester 1 of following year				Student prepares for Step 2 exams	Student takes an extra month for Step 2 exams	Indiv Phase 1	Indiv Phase 2	Indiv Phase 3	Free
Indiv Phase 4	Indiv Phase 5	Transition to Residency Course	Free	Indiv Phase 6	Indiv Phase 7	Free	Indiv Phase 8	Indiv Phase 9	Student takes an extra month to interview	Student goes on residency interviews and graduates in Dec and Matches in following spring	

A Central or Wilmington Campus student takes an NCA of 8 weeks. They participate in Trimester 1 orientation for the first App Phase course and leaves the course after 4 weeks. They return during Trimester 1, week 13, making their total leave 8 weeks as planned. They have consulted and coordinated with course directors in advance. They have one 6-hour elective from Foundation Phase. They take an incomplete for their First Course and continues into their Second and Third Courses, returning to their First Course in March to complete it. They finish Application Phase at the end of April and takes their Step 2 exams in May. At this point, they have 10 additional courses (including Transition to Residency in that 10) to complete Individualization Phase and 11 months to do so if they want to graduate on their original graduation date. Their options are:

- To take only one interview month and/or to take an elective that is flexible and allows that student to interview during that month (e.g. Emergency Medicine, educational/nonclinical elective).
- To take an elective during NCA.
- Prepare for and take Step 2 exams while completing Application Phase (not recommended).
- To take two months for interviewing and take a longitudinal elective in the fall working on an educational project, putting in 160 hours on top of their other courses.
- To graduate in December of their original graduation year. They will Match the following spring. They must take Transition to Residency (TTR) in March since it is only offered once per year in Block 13 of the Individualization Phase. In this case, they can take an additional month for Step 2 prep.

Takes one month for interviews and/or flexible elective in December											
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dedicated Step 1 study period		Trimester 1: Student completes 4 weeks of First Course	Student takes NCA period		Trimester 1: Student returns to take 4 more weeks of First Course	Trimester 2: Second Course as originally scheduled				Trimester 3: Third Course as originally scheduled	
Trimester 3: Third Course as originally scheduled		Student goes back and completes First Course		Student takes Step 2 exams	Indiv Phase 1	Indiv Phase 2	Indiv Phase 3	Indiv Phase 4	Indiv Phase 5	Residency interviews	Indiv Phase 6
Indiv Phase 7	Indiv Phase 8	Transition to Residency Course	Indiv Phase 10	Graduation							

Take an elective during NCA

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dedicated Step 1 study period		Trimester 1: Student completes 4 weeks of First Course	Student takes NCA period AND Indiv Phase 1		Trimester 1: Student returns to take 4 more weeks of First Course	Trimester 2: Second Course as originally scheduled				Trimester 3: Third Course as originally scheduled	
Trimester 3: Third Course as originally scheduled		Student goes back and completes First Course		Student takes Step 2 exams	Indiv Phase 2	Indiv Phase 3	Indiv Phase 4	Indiv Phase 5	Indiv Phase 6	Residency interviews	
Indiv Phase 7	Indiv Phase 8	Transition to Residency Course	Indiv Phase 10	Graduation							

Prepare for and take Step 2 during Application Phase

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dedicated Step 1 study period		Trimester 1: Student completes 4 weeks of First Course	Student takes NCA period		Trimester 1: Student returns to take 4 more weeks of First Course	Trimester 2: Second Course as originally scheduled				Trimester 3: Third Course as originally scheduled	
Trimester 3: Third Course as originally scheduled		Student goes back and completes First Course AND takes Step 2 exams		Indiv Phase 1	Indiv Phase 2	Indiv Phase 3	Indiv Phase 4	Indiv Phase 5	Indiv Phase 6	Residency interviews	
Indiv Phase 7	Indiv Phase 8	Transition to Residency Course	Indiv Phase 10	Graduation							

Take a longitudinal elective

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dedicated Step 1 study period		Trimester 1: Student completes 4 weeks of First Course	Student takes NCA period		Trimester 1: Student returns to take 4 more weeks of First Course	Trimester 2: Second Course as originally scheduled				Trimester 3: Third Course as originally scheduled	
Trim 3: Third Course as originally scheduled		Student goes back and completes First Course		Student takes Step 2 exams	Indiv 1 with longitudinal elective Indiv 6	Indiv 2 with longitudinal elective Indiv 6	Indiv 3 with longitudinal elective Indiv 6	Indiv 4 with longitudinal elective Indiv 6	Indiv 5 with longitudinal elective Indiv 6	Residency Interviews	
Indiv Phase 7	Indiv Phase 8	Transition to Residency Course	Indiv Phase 10	Graduation							

Graduate in December												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Dedicated Step 1 study period		Trimester 1: Student completes 4 weeks of First Course		Student takes NCA period		Trimester 1: Student returns to take 4 more weeks of First Course		Trimester 2: Second Course as originally scheduled			Trimester 3: Third Course as originally scheduled	
Trim 3: Third Course as originally scheduled		Student goes back and completes First Course		Student takes Step 2 exams		Indiv Phase 1	Indiv Phase 2	Indiv Phase 3	Free	Indiv Phase 4	Indiv Phase 5	
Indiv Phase 6	Free	Transition to Residency Course	Indiv Phase 7	Indiv Phase 8	Free	Free	Indiv Phase 9	Indiv Phase 10	Free	Student goes on residency Interviews and graduates in Dec and Matches in following Spring		

Individualization Phase Examples

As a frame, there are 14 blocks of time that comprise Individualization Phase, and 11 blocks of requirements leaving 3 blocks open. Students typically use this time to study for Step 2 (1 block) and interview (2 blocks). A student who is going to take an NCA period during Individualization Phase should try to fulfill these block requirements. Possible ways to do this are to:

- Take a 6 credit hour Foundation Phase elective, decreasing Individualization requirements by 1.
- Take Step 2 while taking a Course, decreasing Individualization Phase requirements by 1.
- Take only 1 month to interview, increasing Individualization Phase open blocks by 1.

Take 0 designated months to interview and take a flexible elective (e.g. Emergency Medicine rotation) during interview season to go on interviews, decreasing Individualization Phase requirements and increasing Individualization open blocks by 2.