

2025 CU LCME Reaccreditation: The Independent Student Analysis

Allison Bevel and Josiah Shaw, the University of Colorado School of Medicine

Introduction

- US Allopathic Medical School accreditation is completed by the Liaison Committee of Medical Education (LCME).
- Accreditation is important for maintaining educational standards, obtaining federal funding, eligibility for standardized exams and residency applications, and graduate licensure.
- The Independent Student Analysis (ISA), a required component of reaccreditation, is a survey of student perspectives covering student services, faculty relationships, learning environment, and the curriculum.

Materials and methods

- A 252-question survey was developed using a previous 2017 CUSOM ISA survey and 69 LCME-required items, primarily using a 4-point Likert scale with some yes/no questions.
- Focus groups and town halls across all four years informed item development and pretesting, and the survey was administered via Qualtrics with question sets tailored to students' curricular stage.
- Data were analyzed in SPSS with subsequent qualitative analysis.
- Participants received a small incentive - either lunch or gift card - for completing the survey.

Student Services

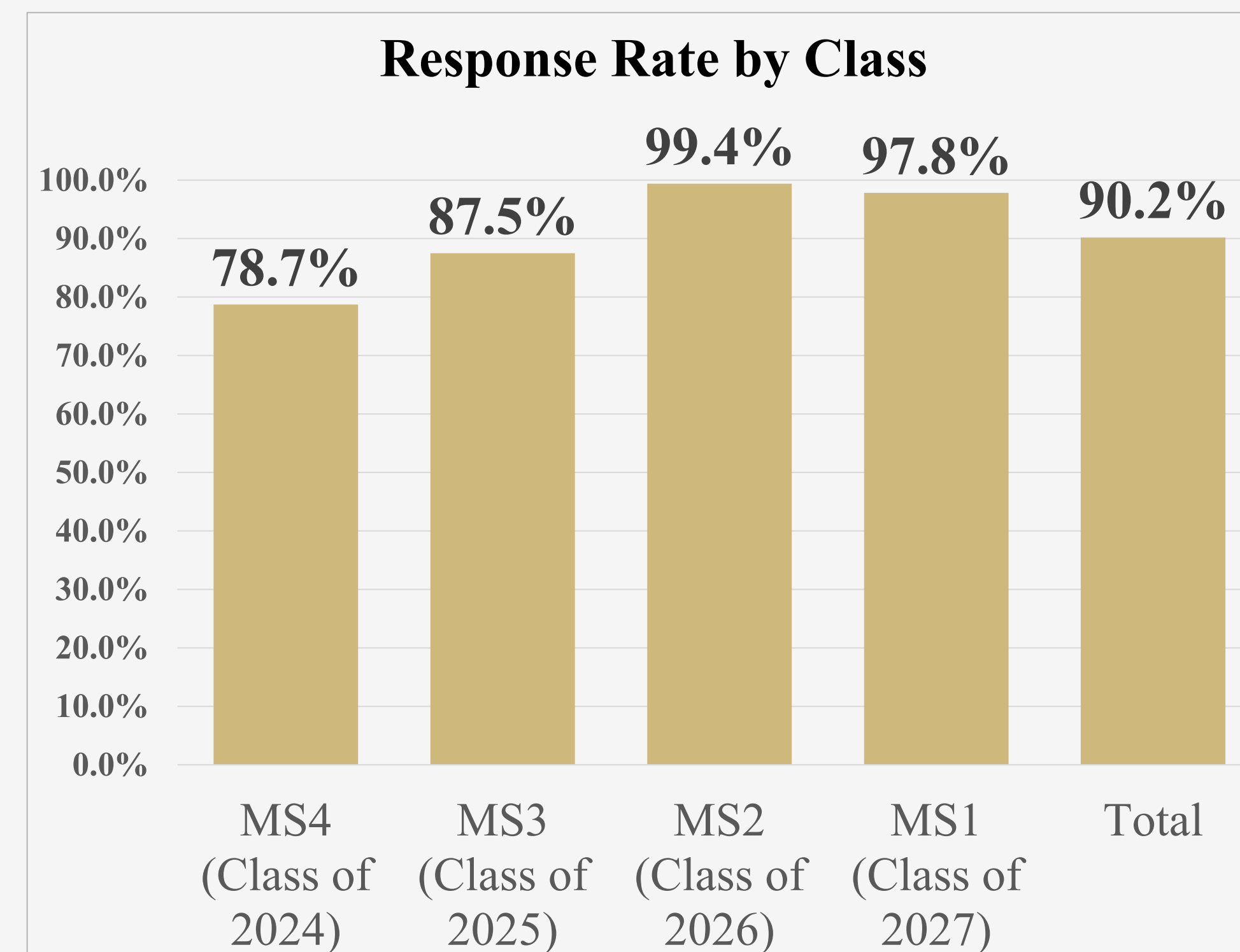
- Students were satisfied with adequacy of the education provided regarding prevention of and procedures to follow with regards to exposure to infectious and environmental hazards.
- MS4s were less satisfied with debt management counseling.
- Students were overall not satisfied with the availability and accessibility of student mental health service.

Learning Environment and Facilities

- Overall students were satisfied with teaching spaces, especially in the pre-clerkship period.
- Students were often dissatisfied with available relaxation and personal storage space at facilities used throughout the curriculum.
- Students felt both the medical school and clinical campus sites were safe

Results

Response Rate by Class



Student and Faculty/Admin Relationships

- Students were very satisfied with OSL's accessibility and awareness of students concerns, however, there was slightly less satisfaction with the responsiveness to those concerns.
- Students are overall satisfied with faculty accessibility, finding faculty members respectful and effective in their teaching.
- Students felt the Office of Curriculum and Education was less aware of and responsive to student concerns.

Medical Education Program

- Students were satisfied with the adequacy of education in diagnosis, management, and prevention of disease.
- Overall, the quality of the pre-clerkship and clerkship curriculum was satisfactory to most students.
- Students often were more dissatisfied with the opportunities and time available for self directed learning in the pre-clerkship phase.
- Students reported more dissatisfaction with the workload of assignments in required clerkships.
- Surveyed MS4s expressed dissatisfaction in the adequacy of elective and career advising.

Library and Information Resources

- Overall students were satisfied with the quality of and access to library and technology resources and support.
- Students became less satisfied with online learning resources in the later years of the curriculum

Conclusions

- A total of 767 students received the ISA Student Survey, and 692 responded. Given the high degree of participation (90.2%), we have confidence that the findings and trends summarized are representative of the CUSOM student body.
- Overall students appeared satisfied with their overall experience at CUSOM, particularly with the curriculum. Availability and accessibility of various student services and supports, especially between the AMC and FCB campuses were areas with high dissatisfaction
- Preliminary results were presented to school leadership throughout 2024. A final report was included in the Self Study Report provided to the LCME for the site visit in March 2025.
- After a site visit the University of Colorado School of Medicine received a full accreditation status from the LCME in the Fall of 2025.
- The School of Medicine has continued to work with students, faculty, and staff to explore and address issues identified in the ISA survey.

Acknowledgments

- ISA Executive Committee members
- Nancy Asdigian, PhD