



AIM INTERMEDIATE PRACTICAL EXAMINATION (IPE) 2026

Criteria for REQUIRED Direct Mentorship Hours (must be completed prior to registering for the Advanced Course):

- **Critical safety concerns observed** - observations suggesting that the candidate may compromise patient safety without structured remedial support.

Examples:

- major knowledge gaps such as informed consent
 - very poor handling techniques that is likely to result in unsafe practice
- **Competence is below threshold in multiple core domains** - these are patterns of deficiencies noted in the same rubric domains across two or more questions/stations.

Examples

- Poor handling across 2 or more similar techniques
- Ineffectiveness demonstrated across 2 or more similar techniques
- Poor communication in 2 or more questions/stations
- Lack of or poor demonstration of clinical reasoning in 2 or more scenarios

Criteria for RECOMMENDED Direct Mentorship Hours:

- **Competency Reached but has Isolated Areas for Improvement** - candidate has met minimum standards overall but shows 1 or 2 specific areas for refinement.

Examples:

- minor knowledge gaps
 - minor technique inefficiencies
- **Competency Reached but with Uncertainty/Hesitancy/Inefficiency** - candidate can perform tasks effectively but expresses or shows uncertainty, hesitancy, and/or inefficiencies, and therefore would benefit from supported practice.
 - **Competency Reached but Clinical Reasoning is Inconsistent** - candidate can articulate sound reasoning but struggles to do so without prompting.