Here is an assortment of various policies and procedures created by the IONM program.
Policies on Advanced Placement

Master of Science in Surgical Neurophysiology

1. The program understands that employment opportunities may be offered to the students throughout the program by either neuromonitoring providers or in-house IONM entities. The employment under this circumstance does not disqualify students from participating and completing the program.

2. The employers promise the program that students are allowed to complete a minimum of 8 hours of Clinical Practicum each week during the academic semesters under the supervision of the mentors and the information regarding their case coverage will be provided to the Clinical Director of the program.

3. Students shall not be paid for the weekly 8 hours of Clinical Practicum. Receiving payments during these hours disqualify the students from continuation of their Clinical Practicum.

4. A fair interview process will be open to all the students. All students interested can apply to the program.

5. Once employed, the employer will take over the responsibilities of general and professional liabilities of the students along with assuring they are properly credentialed to enter any healthcare facility they are assigned to.

6. Students who are hired and their respective mentors need to continue to submit evaluation reports on the intervals requested by the Clinical Director of the program similar to other students that are not hired (as described in Policies and Procedures for Clinical Practicum).

7. Any corrective measure(s) that are recommended based on the students’ progress in the Clinical Practicum, need to be implemented and the evaluation of the students will be monitored by the Clinical Director of the program to assure student’s successful progression in the remainder of the program.
Criteria for Successful Completion of Each Segment of the Curriculum

Master of Science in Surgical Neurophysiology

University of Connecticut

The students in the Master of Science in Surgical Neurophysiology complete a condensed 1-year program that include four semesters: Summer Session I, Summer Session II, Fall and Spring. The criteria to pass each segment of the curriculum based on the semester is as follow:

**Summer Session I:**

Includes 3 core courses:

- PNB 5101 - Anatomy and Physiology for Intraoperative Neuromonitoring – 4 Credits
- PNB 5102 - Fundamentals of Intraoperative Neuromonitoring – 3 Credits
- PNB 5103 - Applied Intraoperative Neuromonitoring – 2 Credits

**Grading Scale:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>97-100</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93-96</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-92</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-86</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63-66</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-62</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;60</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students need to obtain a cumulative B or higher grade in the three courses (and at least B- or higher in each course individually) to be able to progress to the next semester.

**Summer Session I:**

Includes 1 core course:

- PNB 5104 - Clinical Practicum in Intraoperative Neuromonitoring (1) – 3 Credits

Students need to obtain a B or higher grade to continue in the program.
**Fall Semester:**

Includes 2 core courses:

PNB 5104 - Clinical Practicum in Intraoperative Neuromonitoring (2) – 3 Credits

PNB 5105 - Seminar in Intraoperative Neuromonitoring (1) – 2 Credits

And 1 or 2 of these elective courses:

PNB 3251 - Biology of the Brain – 3 Credits

PNB 4400 - Biology of Nervous System Diseases – 3 Credits

PNB 5390 - Membrane Transport in Health and Disease – 3 Credits

PNB 6418 - Integrative Neurobiology – 3 Credits

Students need to obtain a cumulative B or higher grade in the courses they take (and at least B- or higher in each course individually) to be able to progress to the next semester.

**Spring Semester:**

Includes 3 core courses:

PNB 5104 - Clinical Practicum in Intraoperative Neuromonitoring (3) – 3 Credits

PNB 5105 - Seminar in Intraoperative Neuromonitoring (2) – 2 Credits

PNB 5106 - Advanced Modalities in Intraoperative Neuromonitoring – 4 Credits

And 0 or 1 of these elective courses:

PNB 6426 - Molecular and Cellular Neurobiology – 3 Credits

Students need to obtain a cumulative B or higher grade in the courses they take (and at least B- or higher in each course individually) to be able to graduate. Total of 32 credits required for graduation.
Policies and Procedures for Clinical Practicum

Master of Science in Surgical Neurophysiology

1. All students enrolling in Clinical Practicum need to complete Criminal Background Screening, Immunizations, Drug Testing and Physical Exam as required by healthcare affiliated partners and be cleared before they can start their hospital visits.

2. If any student becomes non-compliant with the requirements mentioned at any time during the program, his/her Clinical Practicum will be halted until the requirement is satisfactory met.

3. Students need to follow any specific affiliate healthcare partners individual rules and regulations while on their facilities grounds.

4. Students must meet their assigned mentor for the day preferably one hour prior to the start of the procedure.

5. Each student is only allowed one missed clinical day each semester with prior notification to the Clinical Director of the program unless the students is ill and in that case the student with coordination with the Clinical Director will be taken out of the Clinical Practicum until the student has recovered from their illnesses.

6. Missing more than one clinical day without coordination with the Clinical Director of the program can result in failing the course and if it continues more than two clinical days, may result in disqualification from continuation of the Clinical Practicum for the semester and all the consecutive semester(s).

7. The University shall withdraw any Student from the Facility at the Facility’s request, if the Facility determines that due to health, performance, or other reasons, such Student's continued participation in the Program is detrimental to the Student, the Facility, and/or the Facility’s patients or personnel.

8. Students would need to adhere to all the recommendations provided to them by the Clinical Director of the program based on the feedback from mentors and show improvement in the deficient areas.

9. All the tasks assigned out of the Operating Room including case presentations, paper presentations, etc. need to be completed on the deadlines provided.

10. All students shall complete the program evaluation forms on a frequency recommended by the program’s Clinical Director.

11. All mentors shall complete the program evaluation forms on a frequency recommended by the program’s Clinical Director.
12. The students must not disclose any confidential material or information connected with the Facility or any of its patients, except as required by federal or State law, including the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Students are required to comply with the Facility’s policy on confidentiality.

13. The students must keep all the proprietary information of the neuromonitoring providers they may be exposed to while with the mentors in the Operating Room environment confidential.

14. The students must also abide with any specific requests by the neuromonitoring providers as it relates to their activity while training under the supervision of assigned mentors by these providers.

15. In case of any needle stick incident, the students shall immediately notify the Circulating Nurse in the operating room and the program Clinical Director so appropriate follow-ups can be completed.

16. Any case of misconduct, harassment, violence, etc. occurring while on the healthcare facilities shall be reported immediately to the Clinical Director of the Program, for HR or any other UConn appropriate bodies be informed and for follow-up measures to be put in place appropriately.
Policy on Credits for Experiential Learning

Master of Science in Surgical Neurophysiology

1. The Clinical Practicum is offered over a period of 3 consecutive semesters (Summer Session II, Fall and Spring) to the students. Each semester includes 3 credits over its course.

2. Students will complete close to 250 clinical hours during these three Clinical Practicums.

3. In addition to these clinical hours, the students need to complete a variety of tasks and assignments:
   a. Participation in roundtable format Question and Answer (Q & A) sessions regarding their experience in the first few weeks of starting their clinical practicums (Summer Session II).
   b. Presenting their monitored cases to the class and responding to questions about them (Fall Semester).
   c. Presenting research articles in the field of IONM and a follow up discussion about the points made by the author(s) (Spring Semester).

4. Each student must submit an evaluation report on a weekly basis (or other intervals recommended by the Clinical Director of the program) to report their experience with their clinical training and emphasize on areas in need of improvement (either by them or by their mentors).

5. A comprehensive exam is conducted at the end of each semester that the Clinical practicum is offered. The exam not only tests the students understanding of the concepts related to IONM, but also includes testing the students’ abilities in writing protocols appropriate for modalities tested, placement of electrodes on the mannequin models and offer monitoring plans suited for different types of surgical procedures. The content of the exam will be more expansive towards the end of the program corresponding to students’ progress in the program.

6. Final grading and awarding the credits in each semester is based on successful completion of the assigned tasks, continuous participation in covering assigned surgical cases (no more than one missed day per semester with prior coordination with the Clinical Director of the program), meeting certain competency level evaluated by the mentors and successful completion of the end of the semester exam.