Residents in the UNMC Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery residency program are expected to take the American Society of Plastic Surgery In-Service Exam during each year of their training. The in-service exam covers the entire scope of plastic surgery and is divided into four categories: Comprehensive, Hand/Extremity, Craniomaxillofacial, and Cosmetic/Breast. The exam is updated yearly and provides the most current information on the core curriculum of plastic surgery and is administered on the first Thursday in March annually.

The exam is designed to allow residents the opportunity for self-directed learning and review of all aspects of plastic surgery. It also provides residents the chance for self-assessment and to compare their knowledge base to plastic surgery residents around the country. In addition, it may identify areas of training needing further concentrated educational efforts.

Residents are expected to study and take this exam seriously as this also is considered an excellent preparation for the eventual Board Exam. A score of at least 50th percentile as compared to residents in their year of training is expected of each UNMC plastic surgery resident. Failure to meet this basic minimum requirement may result in some form of remediation; (required chapter readings, oral presentations, additional testing, repeating rotation, etc.). The exact measure will be determined by the Clinical Competency Committee.