

UTHSCSA Graduate Medical Education Policies

Section 2	General Policies and Procedures	Effective:	April 2007
		Revised:	May 2016
Policy 2.1.1	Fifth Pathway	Responsibility:	Designated Institutional Official

Fifth Pathway

Policy The Fifth Pathway program is an academic year of supervised clinical education provided by an LCME-accredited medical school. This option is not one that is universally available, and it is the program’s responsibility to obtain written verification that applicants meet all requirements as listed below, prior to enrollment in the GME program.

According to the ECFMG, accessed April 19, 2016:
 Currently, the USMLE program accepts either a valid Standard ECFMG Certificate or a valid Fifth Pathway certificate (issued through December 31, 2009) from international medical graduates for purposes of meeting Step 3 eligibility requirements. The governing committee of the USMLE program and the USMLE parent organizations (the Federation of State Medical Boards and the National Board of Medical Examiners) have determined that **the USMLE program will cease acceptance of Fifth Pathway certificates for the purpose of meeting Step 3 eligibility requirements, effective January 1, 2017.** Individuals who hold valid Fifth Pathway certificates, and are otherwise eligible, may use their Fifth Pathway certificates to meet Step 3 eligibility requirements, and may apply for Step 3, through December 31, 2016.

A checklist follows:

Item	Met?	Comments
1. Applicant has completed, in an accredited college or university in the United States, undergraduate premedical education of the quality acceptable for matriculation in an accredited United States medical school;		
2. Applicant has studied at a medical school outside the U.S. and Canada but listed in the World Health		

UTHSCSA Graduate Medical Education Policies

Organization Directory of Medical Schools		
3. Applicant has completed all of the formal requirements of the foreign medical school except internship and/or social service		
4. Applicant has attained a score satisfactory to the sponsoring medical school on a screening examination;		
5. Applicant has passed either the Foreign Medical Graduate Examination in the Medical Sciences, Parts I and II of the examination of the National Board of Medical Examiners, or Steps 1 and 2 of the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE).		