

Undergraduate Medical Education (UME) Policy

Title: Student Requirements for USMLE Step 1 Exam			
<i>Origination Date: 10/18/2012</i>	<i>Last Amended Date: 5/16/2019; 01/16/2015</i>	<i>Next Scheduled Review Date: 5/16/2023</i>	<i>Policy Reaffirmed Date:</i>
Purpose:	It is essential that medical students meet required benchmarks that lead to medical licensure. Although designed for the purpose of licensing physicians, results on the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) licensure exams are used by graduate medical education programs in decisions to interview and rank medical students for residency positions. It is therefore incumbent upon the Long SOM to establish policies pertaining to the timing and passage of USMLE exams in order to optimize career outcomes for our students and to ensure that our graduates meet at least minimal licensing requirements.		
Definitions:	<p>United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) is jointly sponsored by the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) and the Federation of State Medical Boards. A passing score on the USMLE is accepted by medical boards in every state as evidence of core competency to practice medicine. The current required exams are Step 1, Step 2 CK (clinical knowledge), Step 2 CS (clinical skills), and Step 3. The Step 3 exam is taken after medical school graduation.</p> <p>LCME Element 10.3 Policies Regarding Student Selection/Progress and Their Dissemination - The faculty of a medical school establish criteria for student selection and develop and implement effective policies and procedures regarding, and make decisions about, medical student application, selection, admission, assessment, promotion, graduation, and any disciplinary action. The medical school makes available to all interested parties its criteria, standards, policies, and procedures regarding these matters.</p>		
Policy:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passage of the USMLE Step 1 is a requirement to graduate from the M.D. Degree program. • Students must take and pass USMLE Step 1 by established deadlines. • A student who fails to achieve a passing score on USMLE Step 1 within three attempts meets criteria for dismissal from the Long SOM. 		
Process:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students must take the USMLE Step 1 by July 1 of the fourth year of the medical curriculum. If the student has not made a first attempt on the USMLE Step I by this deadline, the student will be placed on mandatory administrative Leave of Absence (LOA) until the exam is taken. Graduation may be delayed. • If a passing score is not achieved on the first attempt, the student will have the option to immediately make a second attempt to pass USMLE Step 1 or to complete additional coursework prior to a second attempt. • Clinical course work can resume while awaiting the score from a second attempt on USMLE Step 1. • A second failure on USMLE Step 1 will result in the student being placed on a mandatory LOA until he/she completes and receives a passing score on a third attempt on USMLE Step 1, after which time course work can resume. Graduation may be delayed. • A student who fails to achieve a passing score on USMLE Step 1 within three attempts meets criteria for dismissal from the Long SOM. 		

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Approval Body: Long School of Medicine, Curriculum Committee

CERTIFIED BY:

Curriculum Committee Chair

Name: Kevin Schindler, MD

Title: Associate Professor, Medicine

ACCEPTED AND AGREED TO:

Responsible Officer

Name: Florence Eddins-Folensbee, MD

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Responsible Executive

Name: Robert Hromas, MD, FACP

Title: Dean/Vice President for Medical Affairs, Long School of Medicine

References to regulations and/or other related policies:

- **LCME Elements:**
 - 10.3 Policies Regarding Student Selection/Progress and their Dissemination
- **Other Relevant Policies/Guidelines/Procedures/Forms:**
 - [Long School of Medicine Doctor of Medicine \(M.D.\) Degree Requirements](#)
 - [General Academic Progression and Professionalism Requirements for Doctor of Medicine \(M.D.\) Degree Program](#)