

I. INFORMATION DOCUMENT

Adjustments to the USMLE Procedures Policy for the MD Class of 2023

II. PURPOSE

This document specifies adjusted procedures and policies for the Doctor of Medicine (MD) Class of 2023 for completion of the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Step 1 and Step 2 Clinical Knowledge (CK) to progress through and graduate from the MD program. These changes were made for this cohort only in response to the decision of the National Board of Medical Examiners to convert the scoring of USMLE Step 1 to Pass/Fail, effective January 2022.

III. ACCREDITATION REFERENCES

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| LCME 9.6 | Setting Standards of Achievement |
| LCME 9.9 | Student Advancement and Appeal Process |
| LCME 11.1 | Academic Advising |
| LCME 11.2 | Career Advising |
| SACSCOC 12.3 | Student Rights |
| SACSCOC 12.3 | Student Complaints |

IV. DESCRIPTION

All students in the MD program are required to pass USMLE Step 1 and Step 2 CK as requirements for graduation. Specifically for the MD Class of 2023, students are required to observe the following deadlines:

- Sit for USMLE Step 1 before August 15, 2022.
- Sit for USMLE Step 2 CK before October 31, 2022.

Students in the MD Class of 2023 who defer USMLE Step 1 into the M3 year will work with the Associate Dean for Clinical Education to arrange an M3 and/or M4 schedule to meet the above USMLE deadlines and complete academic requirements.

Step 1 Preparation

The Comprehensive Basic Sciences Exam (CBSE) is offered in the M2 year to provide a benchmark for readiness for USMLE Step 1. All students in the MD Class of 2023 are required to pass a CBSE as a pre-requisite for taking USMLE Step 1 and for starting M3 clinical rotations. In addition to the details in the USMLE Procedures Policy, the following procedures are specific to the MD Class of 2023:

- No CBSEs will be scheduled during the Transition in Practice Series (TIPS): Clerkship course (i.e., the M3 orientation) and students will not be permitted to miss TIPS: Clerkship sessions to take Step 1.
- Students who have not passed a CBSE by the start of TIPS: Clerkship will have three options available to them:

1. Take a leave of absence (LOA) for the duration of the first clerkship. This option requires the following:
 - Participate in TIPS: Clerkship with their cohort.
 - Pass a CBSE prior to starting M3 clinical rotations.
 - Start M3 clinical rotations with the second clerkship.

NOTE: MD Class of 2023 students on an LOA who do not pass a CBSE during the time span of first clerkship will be required to take a year-long LOA and return as a member of MD 2024, pending successful completion of USMLE Step 1.
 2. Take an LOA for the entire academic year and return to participate in TIPS: Clerkship as a member of MD 2024. This option requires taking and passing both a CBSE and USMLE Step 1 prior to starting TIPS: Clerkship.
 3. Withdraw from the MD program.
- MD Class of 2023 students who defer USMLE Step 1 into the M3 year will be required to pass a CBSE within a proximal period of time prior to their Step 1 date, even if they previously passed a CBSE.

Delays in Sitting for USMLE

As noted in the USMLE Procedures Policy, students must obtain approval from the Vice Dean for Academic Affairs or the Associate Dean for Clinical Education for an extension of a USMLE deadline. No extension will be granted to the requirement to pass a CBSE prior to starting M3 clinical rotations.

V. RELATED DOCUMENTS

Clerkship Phase Assessment and Grading Policy
Pre-clerkship Phase Assessment and Grading Policy
M4 Elective Phase Assessment and Grading Policy
Standards for Advancement and Graduation Policy
Student Progress Committee Structure and Function Policy