

Graduate Medical Education Institutional Policy

USMLE COMPLETION FOR CLINICAL TRAINEES

- Documentation of successful completion of USMLE Step II Clinical Knowledge (CK) and Clinical Skills (CS) is required for initial appointment as a Resident or Clinical Fellow (or for reappointment, if not previously provided).
- Documentation of successful completion of USMLE Step III is required for appointment (or reappointment) at the PGY 3 level or higher and should be confirmed by all programs.
- Documentation of successful completion of USMLE Step III is required for graduation from all Partners residency and fellowship programs.
- Program Directors may grant individual Step III exceptions for one year at a time with approval from the Vice President for GME. Permanent exemptions may be granted to international medical graduates in fellowship programs who plan to return to their home country after completion of their training.
- Canadian physicians and Doctors of Osteopathy who are eligible for licensure may substitute documentation of successful completion of LMCC/MCCQE and COMLEX examinations, respectively, in lieu of USMLE examinations.

Note: Policies approved by the Partners Education Committee apply to GME trainees in programs sponsored by the Brigham and Women's Hospital, Brigham and Women's Faulkner Hospital, Massachusetts General Hospital, McLean Hospital, Newton Wellesley Hospital, North Shore Medical Center, and Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital.

Reviewed and approved by Partners Education Committee 4/24/2017

Revision approved by PEC 10/29/2014

Revised 4/7/2010, effective 6/1/2010

Approved by Partners Education Committee, 5/18/05

Updated 03.03.21: The Mass General Brigham GME USMLE Completion Policy is currently suspended due to applicants/trainees not being able to reliably take USMLE exams during the pandemic, as well as the recent termination of the USMLE Step 2 Clinical Skills exam. These exams are not required for hospital credentialing. We await information from the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine (BORIM) re: any revision of their licensing standards to account for disruptions in USMLE examination administration.