

I. POLICY STATEMENT

All residents and fellows (hereinafter “Housestaff”) must pass all three parts of the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) or the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination (COMLEX) prior to completion of training in programs associated with board certification.

II. REASON FOR POLICY

This policy provides a minimum standard for all training programs sponsored the University of Florida (UF) College of Medicine for USMLE or COMLEX.

III. SCOPE

This policy applies to all residents and fellows (hereinafter “Housestaff”) in training programs other than one year preliminary programs accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), or approved by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), and/or sponsored by the UF College of Medicine.

IV. DEFINITION OF TERMS

- a. ACGME Core residency programs (Hereinafter “core programs”) – ACGME accredited structured educational activity with physician matriculation occurring immediately following medical school or after one year of preliminary training.
- b. For the purposes of this policy, COMLEX Step 3 may be substituted for USMLE Step 3 in every instance.

V. PROCEDURES

- i. Residents in all core programs must register and take the USMLE Step 3 for the first time no later than September of their PGY-2 year
- ii. Residents who do not pass USMLE Step 3 on first attempt must successfully pass this examination by the conclusion of their PYG-2 year. At the discretion of the individual program director, residents who do not pass by March 1 prior their PGY-3 year are at risk for non-renewal of their resident training contract.
- iii. At the discretion of the Program Director, residents may, without passing USMLE Step 3, receive the step increase in salary for the PGY-3 year and/or be promoted to PGY-3 clinically.
- iv. Residents transferring into core programs from other institutions who have not already passed USMLE Step 3 will have one calendar year from the time of matriculation into the program to pass USMLE Step 3.
- v. Applicants to any fellowship program must have passed USMLE Step 3 prior to beginning training or receive approval from the Designated Institutional Official (DIO) for an exemption.
- vi. For successful completion of training, all Housestaff must have documentation of successful passing of USMLE Step 3.
- vii. Adverse academic action associated with this policy may be appealed according to the Graduate Medical Education Grievance policy.

Revised and Approved by GMEC, 01/31/2022