

Undergraduate Medical Education (UME) Policy

<b>Title: Student Progress Based on NBME Comprehensive Basic Science Exam Performance</b>			
<i>Origination Date: 10/19/2015</i>	<i>Last Amended Date: 5/08/2019</i>	<i>Next Scheduled Review Date: 5/8/2023</i>	<i>Policy Reaffirmed Date:</i>
Purpose:	<p>It is essential that medical students meet required benchmarks that lead to medical licensure. Although designed for the purpose of licensing physicians, scores on the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Step 1 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 School of Medicine (LSOM) to establish policies pertaining to successful performance on USMLE Step 1 in order to ensure that graduates meet at least minimal licensing requirements and to optimize career outcomes for our students.</p>		
Definitions:	<p><b>National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) Comprehensive Basic Science Exam (CBSE)</b> - an achievement test covering material typically learned during basic science education. The CBSE is designed to reflect the content of USMLE Step 1 exam, and is typically used to gauge readiness for USMLE Step 1 and to identify areas of individual strength and weakness. Scores on the CBSE correlate to scores on USMLE Step 1.</p> <p><b>LCME Element 10.3 Policies Regarding Student Selection/Progress and Their Dissemination</b> - 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"> <li>All students must take the CBSE at the conclusion of the preclinical phase of the curriculum at the date, time, and location established by Office for Undergraduate Medical Education (OUME). Inability to test on this date may delay planned coursework and/or limit participation in co-curricular activities.</li> <li>Students are required to meet CBSE score benchmarks established by OUME in order to progress to the clinical/elective phase of the curriculum, including core clerkships.</li> <li>Prior to administration of the CBSE, the associate deans for student affairs and curriculum will communicate the established score benchmarks to students.</li> <li>A student who misses testing or does not meet established score benchmarks will remain in the USMLE Step I Readiness Pathway and will take the CBSE at the next offered opportunity.</li> <li>A student who takes the USMLE Step I before completing the USMLE Step I Readiness Pathway will be reported to the Student Progression and Promotions Committee (SPPC).</li> </ul>		
Process:	<p>On the initial CBSE administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students who meet or exceed the CBSE score benchmarks may proceed to take clerkships, electives, sit for USMLE Step 1 and/or participate in co-curricular activities.</li> <li>Students who score below the benchmarks cannot proceed to take clerkships, nor electives, nor sit for the USMLE Step 1, nor participate in co-curricular activities. The</li> </ul>		

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	<p>student will continue in the USMLE Step 1 Readiness Pathway until they demonstrate a score that equates to or exceeds a passing score on USMLE Step 1.</p> <p>On subsequent CBSE administrations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students who meet or exceed the CBSE score benchmarks may proceed to take clerkships, electives, sit for USMLE Step 1 and/or participate in co-curricular activities.</li> <li>• Students who do not meet or exceed a score that equates to a passing score on USMLE Step 1, but develop an individualized preparation plan that receives approval from the associate dean for student affairs may proceed to sit for USMLE Step 1 following conclusion of the approved plan. Until sitting for USMLE Step 1, those students may not take clerkships, take electives, nor participate in co-curricular activities.</li> <li>• Students who do not meet or exceed a score that equates to a passing score on USMLE Step 1, but exhaust all opportunities to sit for CBSE are required to create an individualized preparation plan that receives approval from the associate dean for student affairs. This individual preparation plan will include self-assessments to assure readiness and may include a delay in the transition to the subsequent academic year.</li> </ul> <p>Students who remain in the USMLE Step 1 Readiness Pathway into a subsequent academic year may experience a delay in graduation.</p> <p>All students remain subject to the timelines for taking and passing USMLE Step 1 exam as outlined in LSOM Curriculum Committee Policy “<i>Student Requirements for USMLE Step 1 Exam</i>”.</p>
<p><i>Approval Body: Long School of Medicine, Student Progression and Promotions Committee</i></p>	
<p><b>CERTIFIED BY:</b></p> <p><b><i>Student Progression and Promotions Committee Chair</i></b>  <i>Name: Sadie Trammell-Velasquez, MD</i>  <i>Title: Associate Professor, Medicine</i></p> <p><b>ACCEPTED AND AGREED TO:</b></p> <p><b><i>Responsible Officer</i></b>  <i>Name: Florence Eddins-Folensbee, MD</i>  <i>Title: Vice Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education</i></p> <p><b><i>Responsible Executive</i></b>  <i>Name: Robert Hromas, MD, FACP</i>  <i>Title: Dean/Vice President for Medical Affairs, Long School of Medicine</i></p>	

### 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:**
  - [Student Requirements for USMLE Step 1 Exam](#)