



LCME Contacts at the School of Medicine

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We Value Your Feedback

Your perspectives on the School of Medicine's educational programs are important to us. [Email us](#) if you have comments or suggestions.

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This Month's Topic: Revised USMLE Board Exam Policy

The Committee on Curriculum and Educational Policy (CCEP) passed a revised policy outlining student requirements for taking the [US Medical Licensing Examination \(USMLE\) Board Exam](#), outlined below.

The CCEP is the faculty body that approves all policies in medical education. If you have any concerns or questions about the CCEP policy process, please email bridges@ucsf.edu.

USMLE Board Exam Overview & Principles:

UCSF School of Medicine requires students to pass three USMLE exams (Step 1, Step 2 CK, and Step 2 CS) to graduate.

1. Students must pass Step 1 and Step 2 CK and CS licensing examinations to be eligible for graduation and to begin residency.
2. Students should take licensing examinations early enough for scores to be returned and, if necessary, to retake an examination prior to matching and graduating.

Policy Highlights:

Step 1:

- All students should take Step 1 of the USMLE by the completion of the USMLE Step 1 Licensing Exam block and before beginning Career Launch or taking an extended curriculum or leave of absence.

Step 2 CK and CS:

- Students are encouraged to take Step 2 CK and Step 2 CS as soon as possible after completing Foundations 2.
- Students planning to graduate in the Spring quarter must take Step 2 CS no later than the first week* in September of their fourth year, and Step 2 CK no later than November 30 of their fourth year. Students do not need to be

currently enrolled in the School of Medicine at the time they take Step 2 CK or CS.

- Students intending to participate in that year's residency match must demonstrate passage of Step 2 CK and CS exams by the date the school must certify their match participation with NRMP (usually the third week of February).

Please read the entire policy in its entirety:

LCME Related Student Advancement Policies:

LCME Requirement: Student Advancement and Appeal (9.9): "The LCME requires a medical school has a single standard for the advancement and graduation of medical students across all locations and a fair and a formal process for taking any action that may affect the status of a medical student."

In addition to our new USMLE Board Exam Policy, please be aware of our appeal policy for summary evaluation or course grade regarding students' ability to challenge grades. Please also review the standards and procedures for the evaluation, advancement, and graduation of students. These policies can be found in the Academic Senate Bylaws: sections V) grades and credit, VI) disqualification, and VII) withdrawal.

For More Information

Find LCME-related information on the Medical Education website.

Review archives of previous LCME Bulletins, [here](#).

Find answers to frequently asked questions about LCME.



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