

**Policy: USMLE & COMLEX Examinations Policy**Original Approval:
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In this document, “Resident” refers to both specialty Residents and subspecialty Fellows.

Purpose

To ensure that Residents enrolled in training programs meet eligibility requirements to obtain medical licensure in Colorado beyond the level of the Physician Training License.

The USMLE program recommends that, for USMLE Step 3 Exam eligibility, applicants should have completed, or be near completion of, at least one post graduate training year in an accredited US graduate medical education program that meets state board licensing requirements.¹

Policy

All Residents in GMEC approved programs must have successfully completed the USMLE Step 1 or the COMLEX Level 1 examination, and the USMLE Step 2 (CK) or the COMLEX Level 2 (CE) examination, as evidenced by obtaining a passing grade for that examination, prior to entering a residency.

- This policy does not apply to PhD-only post-doctoral residents and fellows entering an ACGME-accredited program following graduation from an accredited doctoral program in a clinically related discipline.
- This policy does not apply to residents and fellows entering a GMEC approved program with a CUSOM primary appointment type of Instructor/Fellows.

All Residents in GMEC approved programs must successfully complete the USMLE Step 3 examination or the COMLEX Level 3 examination as evidenced by obtaining a passing grade for that examination, by the midpoint of the second post-graduate year (PGY2) for promotion to the third post-graduate year (PGY3).

- Exam transcripts must be provided to the GME office no later than December 31st during PGY2.
 - Residents must schedule their exam sit date no later than October 31st during PGY2 to receive their transcripts by December 31st because USMLE process takes ~6-8 weeks.
- Residents who are non-compliant will be paid a PGY2 stipend until the required documentation is provided to the GME office.
- Failure to demonstrate passage within the stated timeline may result in academic and/or disciplinary actions such as placing the Resident on a focused

¹ <https://www.usmle.org/bulletin-information/eligibility>



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review/academic probation up to non-renewal or termination from the training program at the end of the academic year.

All Fellows entering GMEC approved programs must have successfully completed the USMLE Step 3 examination or the COMLEX Level 3 examination as evidenced by obtaining a passing grade for that examination prior to starting a fellowship.

Original transcripts of exam score(s) must be provided at least six weeks prior to an incoming Resident or Fellow's appointment start date.

Academic actions including non-renewal or termination as a consequence of failure to meet requirements in this policy are not grievable under the terms of the GME Remediation, Disciplinary Action, and Grievance Policy.