

**SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
POLICY ON USMLE EXAMINATION AND CLINICAL  
COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS**

Issue Date: June 9, 2015

Supersedes: USMLE Examination and Clinical Competency Examination Requirements for the NYMC SOM dated August 26, 2021

Last Review: May 17, 2022

**I. PURPOSE**

To provide guidelines for students regarding requirements for the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) and New York Medical College School of Medicine (NYMC SOM) Clinical Competency Assessments (CCA).

**II. POLICY**

It is the policy of NYMC SOM that all students must pass the USMLE Step One and Step Two Clinical Knowledge (CK) examinations to graduate from the M.D. Program. In addition, all students must achieve established competency benchmarks on the Year 3 Comprehensive Clinical Assessment (CCA-3) as a graduation requirement.

**III. SCOPE**

This policy applies to all medical students.

**IV. PROCEDURES**

**A. USMLE Examinations:**

- a. The SOM will certify eligible students to register for each USMLE examination a maximum of three (3) times. Three (3) failures on any one of the USMLE examinations is a dismissible action by the Student Academic Performance Review Committee (SAPRC).
- b. The SOM recommends that students attempt the USMLE examinations only after completing prerequisite course curriculum. Any exceptions must be approved by the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs in advance of student registration for these examinations.
- c. The **USMLE Step One examination** should not be attempted prior to successful completion of the Year Two/ Phase One curriculum in its entirety. Passing this examination is a requirement for promotion into Year Three/ Phase Two of the M.D. Program. Exceptions to this requirement will be considered only by formal written request and must be approved by the Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs.
- d. The **USMLE Step Two CK examination** should not be attempted prior to successful completion of the Year Three/ Phase Two curriculum in its entirety,

including the Transition to Fourth Year course. Passing this examination is a requirement for both certification and participation in the National Resident Matching Program® (NRMP®), Military Match, SF Match, AUA Match, and/or CaRMS Match and for graduation. Students must take the USMLE Step 2CK examination no later than eight weeks after the end of the Transition to Fourth Year Course. Exceptions to this requirement will only be considered by formal written request and must be approved by Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs.

**B. Year Three Comprehensive Clinical Assessment (CCA-3)**

- a. The CCA-3 examination is a multi-station standardized patient exam administered during the third year of the M.D. Program, designed to assess the students' medical knowledge, interpersonal communication skills, and diagnostic and critical thinking skills as they relate to patient care.
- b. Students who do not achieve established competency benchmarks in all domains on the CCA-3 examination will be subject to individualized remediation programs. If a student is unsuccessful after formal remediation is completed, the student may be subject to additional actions by the SAPRC.

**V. EFFECTIVE DATE**

This policy is effective immediately.

**VI. POLICY MANAGEMENT**

Executive Stakeholder: Dean, School of Medicine

Oversight Office: Office of Undergraduate Medical Education