



**THE GEORGE  
WASHINGTON  
UNIVERSITY**  
WASHINGTON, DC

Responsible University Official: Associate Dean for Graduate  
Medical Education, DIO  
Responsible Office: SMHS Office of GME  
Most recent revision: 9/20/2021

## USMLESTEP III AND COMLEX-USA LEVEL 3 POLICY

### **Policy Statement**

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This policy is designed to ensure that graduates of all George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences ACGME accredited training programs are capable of competent, independent practice in their respective specialties and qualified to obtain a full, unrestricted medical license.

### **Who Needs to Know This Policy**

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This policy applies to all residents and fellows who participate in an ACGME-accredited postgraduate medical education (GME) training program sponsored by the George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences (SMHS).

### **Policy Contact**

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Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education, DIO

### **Who Approved This Policy**

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Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC)

### **History/Revision Dates**

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Effective Date: July 1, 2007

Reviewed and Approved by GMEC: June 25, 2007

Revised, reviewed and approved by GMEC: February 28, 2011

Revised, reviewed and approved by GMEC: January 22, 2018

Revised, reviewed and approved by GMEC: August 17, 2020

Revised, reviewed and approved by GMEC: September 20, 2021

## **Policy**

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1. All residents must take and pass the USMLE Step III or COMLEX-USA Level 3 examination by January 31 of their PGY 2 year. If a resident is off-cycle, they must pass the examination by the end of the 7<sup>th</sup> month of their PGY 2 year.
2. The USMLE Step III or COMLEX-USA Level 3 score needs to be uploaded into MedHub by the January 31 deadline. Residents who have taken Step III or Level 3 but have not received their scores by January 31 must notify the GME Office of the date they expect to receive the results.
3. Residents who ultimately fail to pass the Step III or LEVEL 3 examination (including the second or third attempt) will be dismissed from the training program at the end of their PGY 2 year. This is a non-appealable action.
4. Program Directors are required to notify the GME Office when a resident has failed Step III or LEVEL 3 and are at risk of dismissal under this policy.
5. All residents entering a program at the PGY 3 level and higher and any fellow entering a fellowship who has not had prior training in an ACGME-accredited program, must have a passing score on all steps of USMLE or all levels of COMLEX-USA to be eligible for appointment to the program.