

## USMLE Step 3 Requirements

<b>Effective:</b>	July 1, 2016
<b>Reviewed by GMEC:</b>	April 12, 2016
<b>Initial Approval by GMEC:</b>	August 10, 2004

### Statement

All residents (other than Dental) must pass the USMLE Step 3 exam (or the equivalent, COMLEX Step 3 exam) before the end of PGY 2.

### Associated Policy (ies)

Promotion/ Reappointment

### Responsible Positions (Title)

Residents & Fellows  
Program Directors  
Program Coordinators  
GME Office

### Equipment Needed

*None*

### Procedure Steps, Guidelines, Rules, or Reference

1. Taking the USMLE Step 3 exam requires advance registration of at least 2 months prior to the anticipated exam date. Residents are advised to consult their residency program coordinator and/or the administrative director of resident and student services for details early in their residency. A flowchart is provided for guidance.
2. Palmetto Health will pay the exam fee (budgeted amount) for residents who apply for the exam within 12 months of their initial appointment at Palmetto Health. Palmetto Health will reimburse the exam fee, up to \$705, only once per resident. All residents are encouraged to take the exam within 18 months of their educational training. These 18 months include training from any prior institution or program.
3. All residents must pass USMLE Step 3 and provide results to their residency program and the GME office no later than one month prior to the end of their PGY---2 year, otherwise they will not be reappointed.
4. All residents accepted into Palmetto Health programs at PGY---2 who have not already passed USMLE Step 3 must pass the exam and provide results to their residency program and the GME office no later than 11 months after their transfer to Palmetto Health, otherwise they will not be reappointed.
5. If a resident transfers between programs at Palmetto Health after their initial appointment, they must pass the exam and provide results to their residency program and the GME office no later than 11 months after the transfer date, otherwise they will not be reappointed.

6. All residents and fellows accepted into Palmetto Health programs at PGY---3 or above must have passed USMLE Step 3 prior to entering the program.
7. Exceptions to this policy may be made only by the DIO, and only in rare circumstances.

**Reference**

*None*