

## TEMPLE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

NUMBER: **TUH GMEC - 306**  
 TITLE: **Medical Licensing Examination Requirements**  
 EFFECTIVE DATE: **11/1/2002**  
 LAST REVIEWED: **09/01/2005, 08/01/2006, 05/22/2007, 08/2009, 2/2012**  
 LAST UPDATED: **3/11/13; 10/31/2014**  
 REFERENCES:

### PURPOSE

Temple University Hospital is committed to providing Residents with an excellent educational opportunity and resources to become competent and successful physicians. The purpose of this policy is to set forth the requirements for successful completion of the licensing examination requirements for graduates of allopathic and osteopathic medical schools, including international graduates.

### POLICY

It is the policy of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Temple University Hospital that all allopathic and osteopathic residents in graduate medical education programs obtain a graduate medical training license. The graduate medical training license indicates the resident’s specialty of training and level of training.

#### Allopathic Medical School Graduates or Foreign Medical Graduates

1. It is required by the Pennsylvania State Board of Medicine, for applicants of a graduate medical training license, to complete and provide documentation of the successful completion of the appropriate examinations, as listed below:

#### USMLE

Graduate Training Level	USMLE Step 1	USMLE Step 2 CK	USMLE Step 2 CS	USMLE Step 3
PGY-1				
PGY-2	X	X	X	
PGY-3 and above	X	X	X	X

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**FLEX**

Graduate Training Level	FLEX I	FLEX II
PGY-1		
PGY-2	X	
PGY-3 and above	X	X

**Combination of FLEX and USMLE Examinations for PGY-3 and above**

Graduate Training Level	FLEX I	FLEX II	USMLE Step 1	USMLE Step 2 CK	USMLE Step 2 CS	USMLE Step 3
PGY-3 and above	X	X				
	X					X
		X	X	X	X	

2. Residents must meet the requirements of the Pennsylvania State Board of Medicine and obtain a graduate training license that is consistent with the resident’s level of training within the residency program.
3. Residents who are entering their first year of post-graduate training must schedule and take the USMLE Step III within nine (9) months of beginning the program. Residents are required to provide the Program Director with the results of the USMLE III within one week of the results being available.
4. Residents who begin training at Temple University Hospital at the second year of post-graduate training must schedule and take the USMLE Step III within three (3) months of beginning the program. Residents are required to provide the Program Director with the results of the USMLE III within one week of the results being obtained.
5. If a Resident has failed the USMLE Step III, the resident should consider taking a preparation course to better prepare for the examination. .
6. A resident who fails to meet the examination requirement to advance at the next level of training will not be allowed to continue in the graduate medical education program. Therefore, the resident’s contract will not be renewed.
7. A Program Director may petition the DIO, in writing, for an extension of the resident’s training to complete an examination requirement. If the request is approved, the resident may be granted an unpaid leave of absence, not to exceed 4 months, in order to fulfill the

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examination requirement. The time off during leave of absence will not count towards the residents training.

8. In addition to the specific graduation requirements for each residency program, a resident shall not be allowed to graduate from a program nor shall the resident be certified as eligible for entry into the specialty board certification process, unless the resident has met the examination requirements necessary to obtain an unrestricted license to practice medicine in Pennsylvania.
9. Residents will be notified of this policy at the time of their initial orientation to Temple University Hospital and the policy will be included in the Resident Manual.

### **Osteopathic Medical School Graduates**

Temple University Hospital requires that graduates of osteopathic medical schools must meet the following examination requirements:

#### **COMLEX**

Graduate Training Level	COMLEX Level 1	COMLEX Level 2	COMLEX Level 3
PGY-1			
PGY-2	X	X	
PGY-3 and above	X	X	X

1. Residents must meet the requirements of the Pennsylvania State Board of Osteopathic Medicine and obtain a graduate training license that is consistent with the resident's level of training within the residency program.
2. Residents who are entering their first year of post-graduate training must schedule and take the COMLEX Step III within nine (9) months of beginning the program. Residents are required to provide the Program Director with the results of the COMLEX III within one week of the results being available.
3. Residents whose training at Temple University Hospital begins at the second year of post-graduate training must schedule and take the COMLEX Step III within 3 months after they have begun the second year of post-graduate training. Residents are required to provide the Program Director with the results of the COMLEX III within one week of the results being obtained.
4. If a resident has failed the COMLEX Step III, the resident should consider taking a preparation course to better prepare for the examination. A list of resources are attached.

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5. A resident who fails to meet the examination requirement to advance to the next level of training, will not be allowed to continue in the graduate medical education program. Therefore, the resident's contract will not be renewed.
6. A Program Director may petition the Director of Graduate Medical Education, in writing, for an extension of the resident's training to complete an examination requirement. If the request is approved, the resident may be granted an unpaid leave of absence, not to exceed 4 months, in order to fulfill the examination requirement. The time off during leave of absence will not count towards the residents training.
7. In addition to the specific graduation requirements for each residency program, a resident shall not be allowed to graduate from a program nor shall the resident be certified as eligible for entry into the specialty board certification process, unless the resident has met the examination requirements necessary to obtain an unrestricted license to practice medicine in Pennsylvania.
8. Residents will be notified of this policy at the time of their initial orientation to Temple University Hospital and the policy will be included in the Resident Manual.

Reference: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Code, Title 49 §17.5

Note: ACGME makes no distinction between interns, residents, and fellows. All levels are referred to as "residents".

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## **APPROVALS**

*Note: The signed original of this policy is on file in the Office of Graduate Medical Education*

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