Successful completion of all National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) United States Medical Licensure Examinations (USMLE) is required to obtain a training license for residency and to practice medicine. Successful completion of the USMLE examinations is one of the components of Academic Progress considered by the School of Medicine (SOM) MD Committee on Student Promotions and Academic Achievement (MDPC).

Beginning with students who matriculated to Baylor College of Medicine in 2015 (Class of 2019) all students at Baylor College of Medicine must successfully pass USMLE Step 1, Step2CK and Step2 CS in order to graduate.

**Deadlines for taking USMLE examinations**

All USMLE examinations must be taken in a timely fashion in order to document academic progress. The following are the deadlines to sign up for and take these exams.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>DEADLINE TO SIGN UP FOR THE EXAM</th>
<th>DEADLINE TO TAKE THE EXAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Step 1</td>
<td>December 31 of the third year of medical school</td>
<td>March 30 of the third year of medical school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 2CK</td>
<td>June 30 of the third year of medical school</td>
<td>September 30 of the fourth year of medical school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 2CS</td>
<td>June 30 of the third year of medical school</td>
<td>September 30 of the fourth year of medical school</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Deadlines do NOT apply to students in dual degree programs. Please see below.

Students pursuing dual degrees must take Step 1 prior to starting their leave of absence from the School of Medicine. All students pursing dual degrees must meet with a Dean of Student Affairs prior to re-entry to clinical rotations to determine an individualized plan and deadlines for the Step 2CK and Step 2CS examinations. Students in the Medical Student Research Track must also meet with a Dean of Student Affairs at least three months before starting their research year to determine an individualized plan and deadlines for the USMLE examinations.

Failure to apply for or take any examination by the deadlines above or, in the case of dual degree/MSRT students, by the deadlines set by a Dean of Student Affairs, will be reported to the MDPC by the Dean of Student Affairs. The Deans of Student Affairs will meet with any student who has not met these deadlines to discuss the remediation required by the MDPC. Failure to meet the requirements of this remedial plan may result in Probation.

Students may submit, in writing, a petition to consider delays in these deadlines due to family emergencies, illness or other factors not in the control of the student. This petition must be submitted to the Senior Associate Deans of Student Affairs by email or letter prior to the date of the deadline to enroll for the examination(s), when possible.
Students graduating in 2019

Students graduating in 2019 are expected to meet the requirements described above. Students graduating in 2019 must submit, in writing, by email or letter, an explanation to a Dean of Student Affairs explaining why they are unable to meet these requirements. This email or letter must be received before January 1, 2018. Students in the class of 2019 who fail to submit this explanation and who then exceed the deadlines for taking any USMLE examination will be reported to the MDPC.

Failures of USMLE Step 1, Step2CK and/or Step 2CS

All students who fail a USMLE examination are required to meet with a Dean of Student Affairs to develop a remediation plan and establish a deadline to retake the examination. This plan will be presented to the MDPC by the Dean of Student Affairs and may be approved, modified or rejected by the MDPC.

Students must successfully pass any failed examination no later than six months following receipt of the initial failing grade. Students who fail to enroll or take the examination(s) within the six-month period after receipt of the failing grade may be subject to Probation or Dismissal.

Students who fail any USMLE examination twice will be placed on academic leave of absence until the exam is successfully passed.

Students who are unable to pass any USMLE examination on the third attempt will be dismissed from Baylor College of Medicine.

USMLE and Transcripts

USMLE scores are not a component of the official transcript and are not released by the Office of the Registrar to any outside person or organization. Students should retain documentation of USMLE scores. Official copies must be requested from the National Board of Medical Examiners.