USMLE and COMLEX Examinations Policy

GMEC approved: March 2015
GMEC reviewed and approved: April 2017

Purpose
To ensure that Residents enrolled in training programs meet eligibility requirements to obtain medical licensure in Michigan beyond the level of the Educational Limited License.

Policy
All Residents in GMEC approved programs are required to sit for the USMLE Step 3 examination or COMLEX Level 3 examination by June 30th of their first year of training (PGY 1). Failure to sit for the examinations before June 30th will result in the resident being suspended from clinical duties (see Performance Improvement and Due Process policy) until documentation of sitting for the exam has been submitted to the program. If they fail to sit for the exam by November 1st of their PGY-2 year they may be terminated from the training program.

Residents who fail the examinations on their first attempt will enter an educational enhancement plan as determined by their residency program and will need to pass the examination by March 1st of their PGY 2 year. Failure to pass the examination will result in non-renewal of appointment to the residency program.

All Transitional Year Residents who will be transferring to other institutions after completing their preliminary year are responsible for ascertaining if passage of USMLE Step 3 is a requirement for matriculation into their specialty program. To successfully complete the TY residency they are required to sit for the exam prior to the end of the residency.

All Fellows and PGY-2 Residents entering GMEC approved programs must have successfully completed the USMLE Step 3 examination or COMLEX Level 3 examination, as evidenced by obtaining a passing grade for that examination prior to starting a fellowship or categorical program.

Exceptions to this policy may only be granted upon approval by the GMEC.

Academic actions including non-renewal or termination as a consequence of failure to meet requirements in this policy are not reviewable under the terms of the Performance Improvement and Due Process Policy.

Monitoring
- Review by the program’s CCC
- Promotion/Reappointment forms to GME office
- Advancement Checklist on the resident management system.