UT Health San Antonio
Joe R. & Teresa Lozano Long School of Medicine

Undergraduate Medical Education (UME) Policy

Title: Graduation Requirements for the Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) Degree			
Origination Date: 04/18/2019	*Revision History: 05/21/2026; 04/18/2024; 10/06/2021*	*Last amended/reaffirmed: 05/21/2026*	*Review frequency: 2 years*
Purpose:	Specifies the academic requirements for a student to be recommended for graduation from the Long School of Medicine's (LSOM) medical education program leading to the Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) Degree.		
Definitions:	**United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE)** is jointly sponsored by the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) and the Federation of State Medical Boards. A passing score on the USMLE is accepted by medical boards in every state as evidence of core competency to practice medicine. The current required exams are Step 1, Step 2 CK (clinical knowledge), and Step 3. The Step 3 exam is taken after medical school graduation.		
Policy:	• The University of Texas System Board of Regents officially awards the M.D. degree. • Degree candidates must: o be at least 18 years of age at the time the degree is awarded; o present evidence of good moral character; o offer evidence of having satisfactorily fulfilled all academic requirements of the medical education program; and o comply with all necessary legal and financial requirements. • Students must successfully complete the following requirements within established guidelines for academic progression to be recommended for graduation: o All required courses in the preclinical phase of the curriculum o 48 weeks of clerkships in eight core specialties (Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Obstetrics & Gynecology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Neurology, and Surgery) o Exploring Clinical Medicine modules 1, 2, and 3 o Didactics (3 required courses and 4 elective courses) o 20 weeks of electives o 8 weeks of selectives (4 weeks inpatient/4 weeks outpatient), per the official course designation of the Office of the University Registrar o Take and pass USMLE Step 1 o Take and pass USMLE Step 2 CK • Graduation requirements can be modified from above in certain circumstances, such as students with advanced standing. The Curriculum Committee holds the authority to modify graduation requirements in these situations.		
Process:	• The M.D. degree is awarded by the Board of Regents upon a student's successful completion of the degree requirements consisting of 174 total program hours, certification of this completion and presentation by the Student Progression & Promotion Committee to the Dean of the LSOM, and certification by the Dean of the LSOM to the President of The University of Texas at San Antonio. • In cases where a modification of graduation requirements is requested for an individual student, the Associate Dean for Student Affairs or their designee will present the rationale for the modification to the Curriculum Committee. The decision to modify or uphold graduation requirements will be determined by a vote of the Curriculum Committee members.		

Approval Body: Long School of Medicine Curriculum Committee

CERTIFIED BY:

Elizabeth Hanson

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Date: 2026.05.29 15:47:32 -05'00'

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Curriculum Committee Chair ***Date***

Name: Elizabeth Hanson, MD
Title: Professor, Pediatrics

ACCEPTED AND AGREED TO:

Deborah Conway

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Date: 2026.06.01 11:46:58 -05'00'

Responsible Officer ***Date***

Name: Deborah Conway, MD
Title: Vice Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education

Robert Hromas

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Date: 2026.07.23 14:18:59 -05'00'

Responsible Executive ***Date***

Name: Robert Hromas, MD
Title: Dean, Long School of Medicine

Related regulations, policies, and accreditation standards:

LCME Element 10.3 Policies Regarding Student Selection/Progress and their Dissemination
LSOM Faculty Assembly Bylaws
SPPC Authority and Oversight Policy
Impact of Course Failure on Academic Progression
Student Requirements for USMLE Step 1 Exam
Student Requirements for USMLE Step 2 CK Exam