I. Policy Summary
The USMLE Step 1 exam is taken at the end of the second year of medical school. Students must sit for the USMLE Step 1 prior to entry into the third year of medical school. A passing score must be received in order to continue in 3rd year clerkship.

II. Definitions
USMLE Step 1 – The United States Medical Licensing Examination Step 1 is designed to measure basic science knowledge. The USMLE Step 1 exam consists of seven separate areas of evaluation; these are biochemistry, physiology, anatomy, pathology, behavioral sciences, pharmacology, and medical microbiology. It also includes pathophysiology of disease, doctoring, and physical diagnosis. Step 1, starting in 2022 is now a Pass/Fail exam.

III. Policy Text
Students who are not consistently passing NBME practice exams, in consultation with the learning specialist, can be approved for an additional four weeks of studying to take their USMLE Step 1. This would result in a delayed start of the third year of medical school by four weeks.

IV. Responsibilities
N/A

V. Procedures
A. Students approved to defer the start of the third year to expand study time before USMLE Step 1 will delay the start of their third year of medical school by four weeks.
B. Students approved to defer will need to attend all components of Clinical Foundations – Third Year Orientation
C. Students approved for the delay will need to make up missed rotations due to delay during their selective periods. This will result in loss of all selective time in the first 6 months of their third year.
VI. Forms/Instructions
N/A

VII. Related Information
N/A

VIII. Revision History
N/A

Approvals:

MEDICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE (01/20/2022)

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8/5/2022 | 1:15 PM PDT
8/5/2022 | 3:24 PM PDT
8/7/2022 | 9:02 PM PDT

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