

POLICY NUMBER: DCOM 230.1

POLICY TITLE: COMLEX-USA Level 2 and Academic Progress

I. PURPOSE

To establish a policy describing student progress in the Lincoln Memorial University-DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine (LMU- DCOM) curriculum related to 1) attaining eligibility to take COMLEX-USA Level 2 and, 2) failing COMLEX-USA Level 2.

II. POLICY STATEMENT

In accordance with the Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (COCA) Standard 11.4a, LMU-DCOM students must pass COMLEX-USA Level 2. Additionally, it is the policy of LMU-DCOM to establish and implement criteria for student eligibility to take COMLEX-USA Level 2 with the intent of optimizing the opportunity for students to pass COMLEX-USA Level 2.

III. DEFINITIONS

COMLEX-USA- Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensure Examination – United States of America.

COMLEX-USA Level 2 – “a one-day, computer-based assessment that integrates application of knowledge in clinical and foundational biomedical sciences with other physician competencies related to the clinical care of patients and promoting health in supervised clinical settings.” <https://www.nbome.org/assessments/comlex-usa/comlex-usa-level-2-ce/>).

Benchmark COMSAE (Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Self-Assessment Examination) – A COMSAE Phase 2 examination delivered by LMU-DCOM, the score of which is utilized as part of the process to determine eligibility for students to pursue COMLEX-USA Level 2 testing.

IV. AUDIENCE

This policy applies to all stakeholders (faculty, staff, students, administration, and community members) interested in learning about eligibility requirements for students pursuing the COMLEX-USA Level 1 examination.

V. COMPLIANCE

COCA Standard 11.4a:

“Prior to graduation, all students must demonstrate osteopathic medical knowledge and osteopathic clinical skills by passing the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination of the United States (COMLEX-USA) undergraduate examinations (Level 1 and Level 2) and meeting a national standard for osteopathic clinical skills competency.”

VI. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

LMU-DCOM Office of the Dean: To monitor student pass rates on the COMLEX-USA Level 2; to oversee matriculation of all OMS-III OMS-IV clinical rotations.

Responsible Office: DCOM Office of the Dean; Assessment Department, Office of Clinical Education

Responsible University Officer: Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, Assistant/ Associate Dean(s) of Preclinical Academic Affairs/Basic Medical Science, Assistant/ Associate Dean(s) of Curricular Innovation, Assistant/ Associate Dean(s) of Clinical Affairs; Assistant/ Associate Dean(s) of Clinical Medicine

Policy Oversight Committee: LMU-DCOM Policy Process Committee

VII. STANDARDS

N/A

VIII. PROCEDURE

As per DCOM Policy 6.12 COMLEX-USA, all LMU-DCOM medical students are required to take and pass COMLEX-USA Level 2 in order to graduate. LMU-DCOM assesses the readiness of an individual student to pursue COMLEX-USA Level 2 testing by utilizing a variety of data points including a score on a Benchmark COMSAE (Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Self-Assessment Examination) and COMAT scores.

Students must follow DCOM Policy 6.12 COMLEX-USA and the related process (as described in the Student Handbook).

Not attaining eligibility to take COMLEX-USA Level 2:

Students who do not meet eligibility requirements to take COMLEX-USA Level 2 by the **end of the second rotation time period of the OMS-IV year** will be referred to the Community Standards Committee and **will not be approved to continue clinical rotations**. Such students will be placed on Recessed Professional Leave of Absence and will be required to take an LMU-DCOM-approved board review course.

Failing COMLEX-USA Level 2:

A student who fails the COMLEX-USA Level 2 exam **will be removed from OMS-IV rotations**. Students **must attain a passing result before resuming OMS-IV rotations**.

First Level 2 Failure Protocol:

- Student will meet with the Community Standards Committee (Establish expectations and identify support needs) or Student Progress Committee (SPC) if the student has already met with the Community Standards Committee.
- Meet with Student Services Academic Support regularly as directed by Student Services.
- Failure to communicate or follow recommendations will result in referral to the Student Progress Committee (SPC).

- Complete an LMU-DCOM-approved standard licensure exam curriculum. (Examples below)
 - In-Person or Online CE Prep
 - Virtual Wolf Pack
 - Virtual Pass program
- Complete 3,000 test mode questions in prep for the exam at the target level. (questions are additional to any number of questions previously performed)
- Demonstrate readiness by completing a secure/proctored COMSAE and/or a COMLEX Readiness Exam (CRE)
 - COMSAE score > 460

Second Level 2 Failure Protocol

- Meet with the Student Progress Committee.
- Meet with Student Services Academic Support regularly as directed by Student Services. Failure to communicate or follow recommendations will result in referral back to the Community Standards Committee.
- Complete an **in-person** LMU-DCOM-approved Licensure preparation course.
- Complete 3,000 test mode questions in prep for the exam. (questions are additional to any number of questions previously performed)
- Demonstrate readiness by completing a secure/proctored COMSAE and/or a CRE
 - COMSAE score > 460

Failure at any time to follow the requirements will result in a referral to the SPC.

The student will be required to make up any rotations missed. This may result in a delay in graduation, resulting in ineligibility to participate in the current National Resident Matching Program (NRMP) Match cycle. Please refer to LMU-DCOM Policy 9.2 (Academic Standards) for specific graduation requirements.

The deadline to remain on target for eligibility for the NRMP Match is to achieve a passing score on COMLEX Level 2 by the end of the 1st week of October (end of 4th rotation of Academic Year) of OMS-IV.

IX. CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information regarding this policy, please contact the Assistant/Associate Dean(s) of Clinical Medicine/Affairs at LMU-DCOM, 423-338-5721.

X. DOCUMENT HISTORY

Approved by LMU Office of General Counsel: 05/10/2024

XI. FORMS

LMU-DCOM Clinical Rotation Manual

<https://www.lmunet.edu/debusk-college-of-osteopathic-medicine/documents/ClinicalRotationsManual.pdf>

LMU-DCOM Student Handbook

<https://www.lmunet.edu/debusk-college-of-osteopathic-medicine/documents/DCOMStudentHandbook.pdf>

LMU-DCOM Student Outcomes webpage

<https://www.lmunet.edu/debusk-college-of-osteopathic-medicine/do/student-outcomes>