



Guidelines for Temporary Alternate Pathway for COMLEX-USA Level 3 Attestation

Effective March 2018, the NBOME requires an attestation from a residency program director indicating a resident is in good academic and professional standing in order to take the COMLEX-USA Level 3 examination. Good standing denotes that s/he meets the academic and professional requirements of the residency program and is eligible to continue as a resident in the program. This attestation requirement is consistent with the NBOME's mission to protect the public, the Federation of State Medical Board/licensing board's interest in "duty to report," and professional self-regulation.

The NBOME has created a temporary, alternate pathway for candidates who are not in a residency program and therefore unable to attain a residency program director attestation. NBOME plans to study and reassess this alternate pathway in 2020, as the single accreditation system for graduate medical education is fully implemented and data regarding this alternate pathway can be analyzed. The following conditions must be met in order to obtain an attestation via an alternate pathway:

- The candidate has met the COM graduation requirements and has been awarded a graduation diploma. The attestation will be required from the candidate's dean of their college of osteopathic medicine who will attest that, as of the date of meeting the graduation requirements listed above, the candidate was in good academic and professional standing.
- The candidate cannot be a participant in an accredited GME program where the candidate could receive an attestation from a residency program director.
- The candidate agrees the score report and transcript will include an "O" annotation for this COMLEX-USA Level 3 score when reported indicating the candidate was not in an active GME program and an alternate pathway for COMLEX-USA Level 3 attestation was obtained in order to take the examination.
- The candidate agrees to supply additional information to the NBOME after the examination in order to complete a comprehensive study of the alternate pathway by 2020. This information will include the candidate's future status in obtaining a residency position or other opportunity with the related details.
- The candidate will comply with all requirements, terms and conditions as listed in the COMLEX-USA Bulletin of Information.

Please submit the petition to your dean's office for completion. Once completed, your dean will return the signed petition to the Vice President for Administration/ Chief Operating Officer of the NBOME at the address listed on the form, or email clientservices@nbome.org.