

University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences

Policy on Resident Completion of USMLE Step 3, COMLEX Series, and Licensure

All residents participating in University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences residency training programs must receive and maintain a North Dakota Resident Training License in order to begin and continue training.

All UND residents must pass the USMLE Steps 1, 2, 3 or COMLEX 1,2,3 exams within eighteen months of beginning their first post-graduate year of training. Residents who enter a UND program in other than the PG-1 year must pass the exam within six months of entry. This applies to U.S. and international medical school graduates alike. It does not apply to residents who participate only in the UND Transitional Year Program.

All residents must meet criteria for full medical licensure within the state of North Dakota, though they are not required to acquire the actual license. Residents must meet these criteria within eighteen months of beginning their PG-1 year, or within six months of post-PG-1 entry into a UND program. Requirements can be found on the North Dakota Board of Medical Examiners web site at http://www.ndbomex.com/MD_Req.htm.

For the USMLE STEP 3, and COMLEX series, a grace period of an additional six months may be granted by individual residency program directors if, in the director's judgment, extenuating circumstances have affected a resident's ability to meet the requirement.

Failure to pass USMLE STEP 3, COMLEX 3, or to meet criteria for full licensure as defined in this policy, will result in either termination of training or non-renewal of contract -- the program director will decide which.