

## Step 2 Policy Statement

MS-IV students MUST sit for both the USMLE Step 2 CS and Step 2 CK no later than the Sit By Date designated on the Academic Calendar for the year they complete their 4<sup>th</sup> year requirements in order to be eligible for graduation in May of their designated class year. Passing both Step 2 CS and Step 2 CK is required in order to graduate.

Students who delay taking the exam after the Sit By Date, whether compelling reasons were granted or not, will not be guaranteed eligibility for graduation in May of their designated class year.

It is the student's responsibility to register to take the exams and to make any necessary transportation and housing arrangements. The earlier a student registers for the Step 2 exams, the more choices a student will have in terms of testing location and dates. There are limited test sites where the Step 2 CS exam is administered and students are encouraged to register for the examination as soon as possible due to limited space availability.

Only those students who can demonstrate compelling reasons (such as personal or family illness, tragedy) for not sitting for the exam by the Sit By Date will be allowed to register after the Sit By Date. Students requesting a delay must submit a written statement to the Office of Academic Affairs explaining the reason(s) along with any requested documentation no later than August 15<sup>th</sup> to be considered. Emergent compelling conditions will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Unacceptable compelling reasons include lack of exam preparation, testing anxiety or difficulty in scheduling a preferred testing site or date.

Students have three attempts to pass Step 2 CS and three attempts to pass Step 2 CK. Failure to successfully complete either of these two exams on the third attempt will result in automatic dismissal from the School of Medicine. Additional attempts to take the exams may be given at the discretion of the Dean.

Approved by Curriculum Committee: February 12, 2009

Approved by President's Designee Nerhood: September 1, 2009