

# 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 have never participated in any 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 has never participated 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 Strategy and Quality Initiatives of the NBOME at the address listed on the form, or email [clientservices@nbome.org](mailto:clientservices@nbome.org).

# Petition for Temporary Alternate Pathway for COMLEX-USA Level 3 Attestation for DO Graduates

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.

The NBOME will accept a request from a dean of a college of osteopathic medicine for a temporary alternate pathway for COMLEX-USA Level 3 attestation. The dean will attest the candidate was in good academic and professional standing based on the conditions outlined on the petition guidelines.

Instructions to complete the form: Sections 1 and 2 are to be completed by the CANDIDATE and then forwarded to your DEAN to complete Section 3. Once the form is completed, please mail or email to the address provided below. By submitting to your dean, you have accepted these conditions.

MAIL OR EMAIL PETITION TO:

**National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners**

Attn: Vice President for Strategy and Quality Initiatives  
101 W. Elm Street, Suite 100  
Conshohocken, PA 19428

[clientservices@nbome.org](mailto:clientservices@nbome.org)

## 1. COM

Name of College of Osteopathic Medicine:

## 2. CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Name of Candidate:

Date of Graduation:

NBOME ID Number:

## 3. CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to the candidate's request, I attest this candidate has met the COM graduation requirements and has been awarded a graduation diploma and has not yet matched in an accredited GME program. As of the date of meeting graduation requirements listed above, I attest this candidate was in good academic and professional standing. By signing this document, I also attest that I have reviewed the conditions as outlined in the Petition Guidelines with the candidate and therefore request that s/he be provided the opportunity to take the COMLEX-USA Level 3 examination.

Signature:

Print Name:

Title:

Date: