

**B12**  
**American Medical Student Association**  
**House of Delegates 2022**  
**Resolution:**

**Introduced by:** Nadiya Yerich, Zoreed Mukhtar, Israa Ismail, Chelsea Shu

**School(s):** UNC Chapel Hill School of Medicine, Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine, CUNY Brooklyn College, Harvard College

**Subject:** Principles Regarding Graduate Medical Education – Curriculum Content

**Type:** Addition to Principles

---

WHEREAS it was announced on February 12, 2020, that the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) STEP 1 score reporting will transition from a 3-digit numeric score to pass/fail reporting only. The transition will take place with exams taken on or after January 26, 2022. (*USMLE Step 1 Transition to Pass/Fail Only Score Reporting* | USMLE, n.d.; Whelan, 2020)

WHEREAS a survey of U.S. residency program directors indicated that they believe STEP 2 Clinical Knowledge (CK) examination scores will matter more in the residency selection process once STEP 1 is pass/fail. (Makhoul et al., 2020)

WHEREAS the majority of U.S. medical schools incorporate a designated study period for the USMLE STEP 1 exam into their curriculum.(Blood & Kwon, n.d.) However, STEP 2 CK is often left to the discretion of the student for whether they want to take time off from rotations for a dedicated study period.

WHEREAS when a panel of experts discussed the impact of STEP 1 going pass/fail, they suggested STEP 2 CK will likely hold greater weight in the residency selection process than it has in the past. They also advocated for increased support for the USMLE STEP 2 CK exam in the medical school curriculum. (Belovich et al., 2021)

WHEREAS the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) suggests a period of study time up to four to five weeks for the USMLE STEP 2 CK.(*The Step 1 Exam Is Going Pass-Fail. Now What?* | AAMC, 2022)

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Principles Regarding Graduate Medical Education – Curriculum Content (pg.11) be **AMENDED BY ADDITION** to state:

The American Medical Student Association

1. SUPPORTS a designated study period of at least two weeks for the USMLE STEP 2 Clinical Knowledge examination within the allopathic medical school curriculum considering the USMLE STEP 1 pass/fail transition.

Fiscal Note: None

Citations:

Belovich, A. N., Bahner, I., Bonaminio, G., Brenneman, A., Brooks, W. S., Chinn, C., El-Sawi, N., Haight, M., Haudek, S. B., Ikonne, U., McAuley, R. J., McKell, D., Rowe, R., Taylor, T. A. H., & Vari, R. C. (2021). USMLE Step-1 is Going to Pass/Fail, Now What Do We Do? *Medical Science Educator*, 31(4), 1551.

<https://doi.org/10.1007/S40670-021-01337-4>

Blood, A., & Kwon, R. (n.d.). Survey Results: Designated Step 1 Study Period by Institution. *Association of American Medical Colleges*.

Makhoul, A. T., Pontell, M. E., Ganesh Kumar, N., & Drolet, B. C. (2020). Objective Measures Needed — Program Directors' Perspectives on a Pass/Fail USMLE Step 1. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 382(25), 2389–2392.  
[https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMP2006148/SUPPL\\_FILE/NEJMP2006148\\_DISCLOSURES.PDF](https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMP2006148/SUPPL_FILE/NEJMP2006148_DISCLOSURES.PDF)

*The Step 1 exam is going pass-fail. Now what?* | AAMC. (2022). Association of American Medical Colleges. <https://www.aamc.org/news-insights/step-1-exam-going-pass-fail-now-what>

*USMLE Step 1 Transition to Pass/Fail Only Score Reporting* | USMLE. (n.d.). Retrieved January 16, 2022, from <https://www.usmle.org/usmle-step-1-transition-passfail-only-score-reporting>

Whelan, A. J. (2020). The Change to Pass/Fail Scoring for Step 1 in the Context of COVID-19: Implications for the Transition to Residency Process. *Academic Medicine*, 1305–1307. <https://doi.org/10.1097/ACM.0000000000003449>