

Questions about the USMLE[®] process?

Don't just rely on word of mouth or internet forums. Consult the official *Bulletin of Information*.



The United States Medical Licensing Examination[®] (USMLE[®]) *Bulletin of Information* (BOI) is a comprehensive document that covers all the essential aspects of the exam process, including rules and expectations.

How important do we consider the BOI? It's so important that we don't let you register for an exam until you read it! (Yes, really.) Additionally, since the BOI is updated every calendar year, it's also your responsibility to check the USMLE website for any updates to the BOI that may be in effect when you test.

Here's an overview of some of the topics covered in the *Bulletin of Information*.

Eligibility requirements and scheduling

The BOI outlines eligibility criteria for the three USMLE Step exams, specifying enrollment, graduation and school accreditation requirements.

It also covers the number of attempts allowed to pass each Step and what to do if your eligibility status has changed.

Additionally, the BOI provides important details on scheduling test dates to help you understand when and how to register for your exams.

Exam rules and regulations

The BOI includes the rules that all examinees must adhere to and outlines the guidelines and regulations for test administration.

Details on what you can and cannot bring into the testing room, as well as accepted forms of government-issued photo identification, are also provided.

Reporting exam day issues

In the rare case of any technical issues or irregularities during the exam (such as major malfunctions, sustained interruptions or other unexpected events), it is critically important that you report them promptly.

The BOI specifies how much time you have and how to report an exam day issue to the USMLE program and test center staff. FYI: making a comment in the post-examination survey does not qualify as providing notification to the USMLE program.

NOTE: All exam day issues must be reported to the USMLE program within 10 days of taking the exam!

Scoring and score reporting

The BOI provides scoring and score reporting information, including when and how examinees receive results.

Please be aware that the USMLE program provides a recommended pass or fail outcome for all Step examinations. Passing standards are based on a specified level of proficiency and, as a result, no predetermined percentage of examinees will pass or fail the examination.

Security violations and consequences

Security is paramount to the USMLE. The USMLE program uses comprehensive measures that help ensure that examinees answer only with knowledge gained from their education and training and that medical licenses are granted only to those who have demonstrated a national standard level of competence.

The BOI provides examples of what constitutes irregular behavior or cheating and more information about the investigation process. It also lists the serious consequences of security violations — which include score invalidations, reporting to medical licensing authorities or even legal action.



Rx for Success

To ensure you have the information you need to make the USMLE process as smooth as possible, download and read the latest edition of the BOI today!

To learn more, visit [usmle.org/bulletin-information](https://www.usmle.org/bulletin-information)

