

TENNESSEE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

POLICY: DETERMINATIONS OF STANDARDS FOR INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL SCHOOLS and GRADUATES OF UNAPPROVED FOREIGN MEDICAL SCHOOLS

The Board of Medical Examiners issues the following policy to clarify its position on what international medical schools admission standards meet or exceed those of schools accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME).

In order for an international medical school to meet the curriculum requirements of the board, “the school’s admission standards must meet or exceed those of medical schools accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME).” *Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 0880-02-.04(3)(d)*, the Board of Medical Examiners adopts the following list of accreditation bodies:

- Medical Board of California list of approved medical schools
- Caribbean Accreditation Authority for Education in Medicine and other Health Professions (CAAM-HP)
- Accreditation Commission of Colleges of Medicine (ACCM)
- In addition, the National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA) provides a list of countries whose designated accreditation process or designated organization used for their accreditation has comparable standards used to evaluate medical schools in the United States by the LCME. Medical schools in those countries and accredited by the listed accrediting authority will be deemed to meet the criteria required in Tennessee.

This presumption of compliance with *0880-02-.04(3)(d)* will apply as long as the medical school was accredited at the time of the applicant’s graduation. It need not have been accredited for the entirety of the period of attendance. Further, the relevant school is the school of graduation. The applicant need not have completed all or a majority of training at that institution. The effective date of the presumption will be the earliest date of accreditation (including provisional accreditation).

Any applicant who attended an international medical school not found on the approved lists of the accreditation bodies pursuant to this policy has the burden of presenting evidence sufficient to satisfactorily establish to the board by a preponderance of the evidence that the school meets or exceeds the LCME standards in order to meet the curriculum criteria.

Applicants who obtained a medical degree from an international medical school not meeting the requirements of *Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 0880-02-.04(3)(d)* but who are board-certified by a board of the American Board of Medical Specialties and who otherwise meet all other requirements for licensure will be deemed to have met the requirements for licensure.

Adopted by the Board of Medical Examiners on September 15th, 2015.

Michael Zanolli, M.D., President
Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners