

POLICY STATEMENT

TENNESSEE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

POLICY REGARDING TIME FRAME FOR COMPLETION OF THE USMLE

Tennessee Code Annotated § 63-6-207(b) requires that applicants for medical licensure in Tennessee utilizing the USMLE as their qualifying examination must successfully complete all three steps of the examination within seven years from the date of whichever step of the examination was successfully completed first. However, that statute also allows the Board to promulgate rules to extend the seven year time frame. The Board has developed this policy to clarify its position on this statute until a rule or statute regarding the seven year time frame is enacted that obviates the need for all or part of this policy.

The Board may approve an exception to the seven year time frame provided for in statute when the applicant shows satisfactory proof of the following:

- Board certification by an ABMS member board;
- That the applicant has been and is currently in active clinical practice in a single state or territory for a period of at least one year and has held a full unencumbered license in that state for at least one year since successfully completing the USMLE; or
- Evidence of an extreme circumstance as determined by the Board which prevented the applicant from completing all steps of the USMLE within a seven year time frame.

**ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS ON THE 27TH DAY OF
JANUARY, 2016.**