

TEXAS Medical Board

Instructions for 2010 USMLE Step 3

These instructions are applicable to individuals registering for Step 3 between September 15, 2009 and September 3, 2010. Please read and print these instructions for Texas before either registering online for Step 3 or mailing in a paper Step 3 application.

The 2010 Step 3 application must be received by September 3, 2010. Online applications must be submitted via the Federation website by 5:00 p.m. CT on that date; mailed paper application forms must arrive on or before this date. (See the section “Completing the Step 3 application” elsewhere in these instructions for more specific information and dates relative to any associated paperwork and/or fees that must accompany this application.)

To download any forms on this page, you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader **installed and open** on your computer. If you do not have Adobe Acrobat Reader, install it free of charge by clicking on the image below. After downloading Adobe Acrobat Reader, you will be able to open any forms.



General Information

The 2010 USMLE CD containing an interactive tutorial, sample test questions and case simulations are available on the USMLE website at www.usmle.org.

Consult the USMLE *Bulletin of Information* for policy information regarding eligibility requirements, examination content, testing conditions, scoring and score reporting.

Consult the USMLE section of the Federation website (www.fsmb.org) for detailed information on monitoring the status of your application, fees, scheduling for Step 3, scheduling permits, eligibility period extensions, score reports, et. al.

Please consult the notary guide for instructions on any notarized form(s) that must be submitted with the Step 3 application.

Eligibility

All Step 3 applicants for the Texas Medical Board must meet the core USMLE eligibility requirements and the following state-specific requirements

Post-Graduate Training: None

Attempt Limits: All Texas applicants have 3 (three) attempts to pass each Step or Step Component, with a few exceptions; contact the Texas Board at (512) 305-7030 for more information. (Incomplete examinations count as an attempt)

Time Limit:

Single Degree Applicants

- (1) The time between the first step that was passed and the last step that was passed cannot exceed 7 years
- (2) The time frame for passage of all parts of the examination may be extended to 10 years if the applicant:
 - (a) Is specialty board certified by an ABMS or BOS board, or,
 - (b) Has practiced under a faculty temporary license issued by the board for at least 12 months and is recommended by the institution

Dual Degree Applicants (MD/Ph.D. or DO/Ph.D.)

- (1) All exam steps must be passed no later than two years after completion of the required post graduate training (currently one year for US/Canadian graduates and 3 years for international medical graduates)
- (2) The time frame for passage of all parts of the examination may be extended to no more than 10 years after completion of the required postgraduate training (currently one year for US/Canadian graduates and 3 years for international medical graduates) if the applicant:
 - (a) Is specialty board certified by an ABMS or BOS board, or,
 - (b) Has practiced under a faculty temporary license issued by the board for at least 12 months and is recommended by the institution

Dual degree candidates must submit a notarized copy of their PhD diploma with the Step 3 application. Contact the Texas medical Board at (512) 305-7030 with any questions.

Copy of Fifth Pathway Certificate (if applicable):

****Please note:** *The USMLE program will cease acceptance of Fifth Pathway certificates issued after December 31, 2009 for the purpose of meeting Step 3 eligibility requirements. ***

All applicants who are graduates of international medical schools and not certified by the ECFMG, must submit a notarized copy of their pre-medical education (Baccalaureate) diploma, medical school diploma and Fifth Pathway Certificate.

If it is determined that you do not meet eligibility requirements at the time your application is received, your registration will be cancelled and a portion of the application fee withheld.

Completing the Step 3 Application

Online applications

After registering for Step 3 online, you will need to mail the Certification of Identity page (if one is not already on file) and post-graduate training (PGT) form (if applicable) and any other supporting documentation, to FSMB. Certification of Identity pages and/or PGT forms or other supporting documentation received after September 3, 2010 will not be accepted and your online application cancelled.

Mail all required documents to:

<p><i>Via First Class US Postal Service ONLY</i> <i>Without tracking or signature required services:</i></p> <p>Attn: Wholesale Lockbox Exam Dept Federation of State Medical Boards PO Box 970172 Dallas, TX 75397-0172</p>	<p><i>Via express tracking services for FedEx, Airborne, UPS or US Postal Service ONLY:</i></p> <p>Attn: Exam Dept Federation of State Medical Boards Suite 300 400 Fuller Wiser Road Eules, TX 76039 <i>No Saturday or Sunday deliveries accepted</i></p>
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Mailed applications

If you decide to mail a paper Step 3 application, you will need to submit the current application form (including Certification of Identity page if one is not already on file), a check or money order for \$705, and the required post-graduate training (PGT) form and any other supporting documentation to FSMB for receipt no later than September 3, 2010.

Mail all materials to:

<p><i>Via First Class US Postal Service ONLY</i> <i>Without tracking or signature required services:</i></p> <p>Attn: Wholesale Lockbox Exam Dept/Extension Request Federation of State Medical Boards P O Box 970172 Dallas, TX 75397-0172</p>	<p><i>Via express tracking services for FedEx, Airborne, UPS or US Postal Service ONLY:</i></p> <p>Attn: Exam Dept/Extension Request Federation of State Medical Boards Suite 300 400 Fuller Wiser Road Eules, TX 76039 <i>No Saturday or Sunday deliveries accepted</i></p>
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Note: The wholesale lockbox address above does not accept “tracking” or “signature required” service. If you wish to mail your materials via an express tracking service courtesy of DHL, FedEx, UPS or USPS, you must use the address referenced above:

ELIGIBILITY PERIOD AND EXTENSIONS

Once your application is approved, your 105-day eligibility period begins immediately. (90 days plus 2 weeks to allow access through the Candidate website for the scheduling permit.) Under most circumstances, a one-time 90-day extension of your eligibility period is possible. **Eligibility extension request forms must be received by FSMB no later than ten days after the expiration of the original eligibility period.** The Federation charges \$55 for this service. For further details, consult the USMLE section of the Federation website.

[Proceed](#) to register for Step 3 online