# Administration of the U.S. Medical Licensing Examination Step 3:
## Time Limits for Completion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SMB</th>
<th>Number of times candidates for licensure may take USMLE Step 3</th>
<th>Requirements to repeat Step 3 if not passed in designated number of attempts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AL</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Further education or training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AK</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AZ-M</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AZ-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AR</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Must have either completed additional PGT or be ABMS certified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA-M</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Minimum of 4 years continuous licensure in another state and ABMS certified may be considered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DE</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DC</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>After failed attempts, 1 additional yr ACGME- or AOA-approved GME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL-M</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1 yr of additional Board-approved training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GU</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HI</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID</td>
<td>After 2 failed attempts, licensee may be interviewed or evaluated by the Board</td>
<td>Remedial training; may be required to be interviewed, evaluated, or examined by the Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IL</td>
<td>5 combined all steps</td>
<td>A person who has failed any combination of steps 5 times must undergo remedial education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IN</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IA</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>After 3 failed attempts, 3 yrs of progressive GME required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KS</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>After 3 failed attempts, must appear before Board for approval to take a fourth or subsequent attempt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KY</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LA</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ME-M</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>After 3 failed attempts, applicant may request waiver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ME-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MD</td>
<td>No limit – However, physicians are required to meet certain criteria if they fail an exam 3 or more times</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MA</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MI-M</td>
<td>Not more than 3 attempts for any Step</td>
<td>Must pass within 4 yrs of first sitting for Step 3; Otherwise, must complete 1 yr of postgraduate training before re-sitting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MI-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN</td>
<td>3 (4 if currently licensed in another state and specialty board certified)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>After failed attempts, 1 additional yr ACGME- or AOA-approved GME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MO</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MP</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NV-M</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NV-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Further education, training, or experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NJ</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Further education, training, or experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NM</td>
<td>6 (within 7 yrs of first pass)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NY</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NC</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ND</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OH</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>No applicant may have failed any step more than 5 times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OK-M</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OK-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>After 3 failed attempts, 1 yr of GME required before 4th attempt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA-M</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RI</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD</td>
<td>3 as long as other steps have no failure</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TN-M</td>
<td>3 then show ABMS cert &amp; proof of meeting requirements</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TN-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TX</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Remedial training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT-M</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Remedial training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VT-M</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VT-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VA</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WA-M</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Remedial training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WA-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WV-M</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WV-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WI</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Board Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WY</td>
<td>7 attempts (all 3 steps)</td>
<td>1 additional year of training or other assessment, training, or evaluation program(s)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Administration of the U.S. Medical Licensing Examination Step 3:
### Time Limits for Completion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SMB</th>
<th>Time limit for completion of all steps of USMLE</th>
<th>Time limit for MD/PhD or dual-degree candidates</th>
<th>Time limit may be waived in event of extenuating circumstances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AL</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>Yes (if ABMS or AOA certified)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AK</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AZ-M</td>
<td>7 yrs (initial applicants only)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AZ-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AR</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA-M</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CO</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DE</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DC</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL-M</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GA</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>9 yrs</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GU</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HI</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IL</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IN</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IA</td>
<td>10 yrs (if not, then active ABMS or AOA board certification or proof delay was due to participation in joint MD/PhD program)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KS</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KY</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LA</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ME-M</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ME-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MD</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td>No limit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MA</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>7 yrs with a maximum of 10 yrs</td>
<td>May request waiver under special conditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MI-M</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MI-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN</td>
<td>Within 5 yrs of passing Step 2 or by end of training</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Yes (medical illness)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MO</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>Waived for MD/PhD candidates</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>Exception may be granted</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NV-M</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NV-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NJ</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NM</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NY</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NC</td>
<td>No limit</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ND</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>Exception may be granted</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OH</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OK-M</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OK-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>Exception may be granted</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA-M</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PR</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RI</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>10 yrs must be a dual-degree program</td>
<td>Yes (if ABMS certified)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TN-M</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TN-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TX</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>2 years after required GME</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT-M</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UT-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VA</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>Yes (if ABMS certified)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WA-M</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WA-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WV-M</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WV-O</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WI</td>
<td>10 yrs</td>
<td>12 yrs</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WY</td>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>8 yrs</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>