

Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine
Student Handbook 2021-2022
COMLEX-USA®

All candidates for the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree are required to successfully complete Level 1, Level 2-CE and Level 2-PE of the COMLEX-USA® examination series prior to graduation. These examinations are produced by and administered under the auspices of the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners.

Examination Sequence

Students are required to sit for the Level 1 examination following completion of coursework in Year Two and prior to beginning coursework for Year Three. This is a cognitive, computer-based examination that addresses learning objectives covered in the first two years of the curriculum.

Level 2 is in two parts including a cognitive, computer-based examination (Level 2-CE) and a clinical skills examination utilizing standardized patients (Level 2-PE). These examinations are designed to assess a competence in the clinical practice of medicine. Students are eligible to sit for these examinations after receiving a passing score for Level 1.

Computer-based examinations are administered off-campus at Prometric testing centers around the United States. The clinical skills examination is only offered at special testing centers in Pennsylvania and Illinois. Students are responsible for the timely scheduling of these examinations and will receive instructions from the Office of Academic Affairs as they become eligible.

COMLEX-USA® also provides a Level 3 examination that students may take following graduation. Graduates successfully completing all three levels of the COMLEX-USA® series are eligible for licensure in all fifty states.

Performance Requirements

Students are allowed to begin clinical rotations in Year Three following completion of the COMLEX-USA Level 1 examination and before scores are reported. If a student receives a failing score after their first attempt, the student will be placed on Academic Probation. The Student Performance Committee may remove that student from clinical rotations until a passing score is obtained. A student will be placed on Academic Suspension if he or she fails to pass a second attempt of COMLEX-USA Level 1. Removal from clinical rotations to remediate a failure of this examination may result in a delay in completing all degree requirements. A student failing any single level of a COMLEX-USA exam for a third time will be Administratively Withdrawn from the College.

Students generally will sit for the Level 2-CE examination after completing all Year Three core rotations but are eligible any time after receiving a passing score for Level 1. Students are encouraged to sit for the Level 2-PE examination when they are confident in their clinical skills and have performed satisfactorily on preparatory mock examinations administered by the College. Since passage of both parts is required for graduation, students are asked to schedule these examinations with sufficient opportunity to retake parts that may not be successfully passed.

The SPC and/or the Dean reserve the right to modify the above process at their discretion. For complete information regarding the COMLEX-USA® testing program please see:

<http://www.nbome.org/Content/Flipbooks/ComlexBOI/index.html#p=1>