



## UCF Residency Eligibility Policy (IV.A)

Purpose/Intent: Sponsoring institutions must have written policies regarding resident eligibility.

Policy summary: Each program director will ensure all applicants under consideration for residency training in the program meet the eligibility requirements of the training sites and the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) detailed below.

Applicants must meet the following qualifications to be eligible for appointment

1. **Medical Education:** Applicants must meet **one** of the following criteria **and** be eligible either for Florida Board of Medicine intern/resident/fellow registration (training license) or a Florida unrestricted license at the time of matriculation.
  - a) Graduates of medical schools in the United States and Canada accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME).
  - b) Graduates of colleges of osteopathic medicine in the United States accredited by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA).
  - c) Graduates of medical schools outside the United States or Canada and meeting one of the following additional qualifications: (1) Holds a currently valid certificate from the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) OR (2) Holds a full unrestricted license to practice medicine in a U.S. licensing jurisdiction in which they are training OR (3) Graduates of medical school outside U.S. who have completed a Fifth Pathway program provided by an LCME-accredited medical school. If foreign medical student has not graduated yet at time of application, he/she must have applied for an ECFMG certificate before appointment and must have a valid ECFMG certificate before starting the program and clinical training.
  - d) **Entry of Graduates without U.S. Citizenship/permanent status:** The entry of medical graduates without U.S. citizenship or permanent resident status to the United States is governed by the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act, which is administered by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). It is a violation of federal law to provide employment to a non-U.S. citizen who does not hold an appropriate Visa. The applicant must hold a visa valid for graduate medical education [exchange visitor (J-1), temporary worker (H-1B), or immigrant visa]. A J-1 visa is preferred and H-1B visas will only rarely be supported for candidates with special or exceptional qualifications. International medical graduates (other than Canada) must also hold a currently valid certificate from the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG). If applicant is not a U.S. citizen or does not possess U.S. permanent residency, and has not graduated from a foreign medical school yet, he/she must apply for an ECFMG certificate before appointment and must have a valid ECFMG certificate before starting the program and clinical training. In addition, PRIOR to appointment, a letter from the student's medical school must be sent to the GME office confirming a graduation date and that all graduation requirements are fulfilled.
2. **Resident Transfer:** If a resident transfers from a residency program at another institution, written verification of the previous educational experiences and an assessment of competency level using ACGME or CanMEDS milestones must be received from the prior training program prior to acceptance into a UCF residency program. Any prior GME training that is counted for credit must have been completed in an ACGME-accredited residency program, or in a Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC)-accredited or College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC)-accredited residency program in Canada.

*UCF Policy on Residency Eligibility (IV.A)*

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3. **Fellowship eligibility requirements:** All required clinical education for entry into an ACGME accredited fellowship program must have been completed in an ACGME, RCPSC, or CFPC-accredited residency program. Fellowship programs must receive verification of each entering fellow's level of competency using ACGME or CanMEDS milestones assessment.
4. **Physical Examination:** All newly-appointed residents must complete the UCF Health screening requirements (see separate policy) and are subject to drug testing.
5. **United States Medical Licensing Examinations (USMLE) or National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners COMLEX-USA Examinations:** All residents accepted or continuing in a program must comply with the requirements below:
  - a. **USMLE Step 2 or COMLEX-USA Level 2:** All residents, regardless of postgraduate year, must possess a passing score for both Step 2 Clinical Skills or COMLEX Level 2 Performance Evaluation and Step 2 Clinical Knowledge or COMLEX Level 2 Cognitive prior to matriculating into a UCF residency program.
  - b. **USMLE Step 3 or COMLEX-USA Level 3:** All residents must possess a passing score for the USMLE Step 3 or COMLEX Level 3 by completion of postgraduate year two. They must have taken Step/Level 3 no later than September of the PGY2 year. Residents will not be permitted to be promoted to the PGY3 year or higher without achieving a passing score and are at risk for non-renewal of their employment contracts.
6. **Florida Medical License:** All residents accepted into a program must complete Florida Board of Medicine intern/resident/fellow registration within the requested time frame (must be renewed every two years) or obtain a Florida unrestricted license.