

Barbara Barzansky, PhD, MHPE
Co-Secretary
Liaison Committee on Medical Education
American Medical Association
330 North Wabash Avenue, Suite 39300
Chicago, IL 60611-5885
Phone: 312-464-4933
E-mail: barbara.barzansky@ama-assn.org



Veronica M. Catanese, MD, MBA
Co-Secretary
Liaison Committee on Medical Education
Association of American Medical Colleges
655 K Street, NW, Suite 100
Washington, DC 20001-2339
Phone: 202-828-0596
E-mail: vcatanese@aamc.org

LCME Update of Medical Students, Patients, and COVID-19: Approaches to Suspension of USMLE Step 2 CS Testing

On May 26, 2020, the USMLE announced its decision to suspend Step 2 CS test administrations for 12-18 months. The following principles and information are offered as guidance to medical schools as this period begins.

- Although the LCME does require that medical students learn and are assessed on the core clinical skills specified in the medical school's educational program objectives, it does NOT require that students take/pass Step 2 CS. If the medical school requires taking or passing Step 2 CS for graduation, then the school's faculty, through the school's curriculum committee and student advancement and promotion committee, can determine how it does and/or will assess core clinical skills and can eliminate any graduation requirement it currently has for taking/passing Step 2 CS.
- The Data Collection Instrument (DCI) for AY 2021-22 has been revised to eliminate any requests for Step 2 CS data for AY 2020-21 and beyond. Schools completing the AY 2020-21 DCI should respond to questions regarding Step 2 CS with whatever data they have for AY 2019-20.