



Step 2CS FAQs

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How will the suspension of Step 2CS impact my transition into residency?

We are working with leading groups in medical education and medical regulation to make sure that the Step 2CS shutdown does not prevent or delay the transition to residency.

In March the AAMC provided guidance on how to think about transitions related to Step 2CS suspension.

<https://www.aamc.org/system/files/2020-03/AAMC%20response%20to%20USMLE%20Step2CS.pdf>

I don't have a CS score, but I will be competing in the 2021 National Residency Matching Program (NRMP) with peers who do. Will this affect my chances to match in my desired specialty?

We understand why some residency applicants might be concerned about not having a Step 2 CS result while some of their peers have completed the exam. We will work across undergraduate and graduate medical education as much as possible to encourage schools and programs not to disadvantage applicants who do not have a Step 2 CS result.

How will this impact licensure requirements?

As a cosponsor of USMLE, FSMB is working with State Medical Boards to ensure that the suspension of Step 2CS will not impede an individual's ability to be licensed for supervised and unsupervised practice.

What will the requirements be for IMGs?

ECFMG is committed to ensuring that IMGs are Certified and ready to enter US GME this upcoming season. While ECFMG has used the USMLE Step 2 CS exam to satisfy its clinical skills requirement for Certification, other alternatives are being explored. An update on alternatives to fulfill the ECFMG Certification clinical skills requirement will be available in the coming weeks.

When (and how) do I get a refund?

We are committed to providing refunds for all of those who were unable to take Step 2CS due to the suspension of testing. We will work to expedite these refunds and will announce a process for doing so in the upcoming weeks.

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What is going to happen in 12-18 months?

We remain committed to the valid, standardized measurement of clinical skills for licensure and are going to take this time to determine the optimal approach to do so; i.e., an assessment that provides the best measurement for our state medical board stakeholders and a better experience for examinees. We will engage with the medical education and medical regulatory communities as we determine the most appropriate exam format and the most relevant competencies to be assessed.