

CERTIFICATION FOR USMLE STEP 1, CK & CS

Students who are eligible to apply for the Step 1, Step 2 (CK or CS) are required to register for these exams via the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates' (ECFMG) website. The ECFMG interactive web application, IWA, is the only version of the application materials available on the website for Step 1, Step 2 (CK & CS).

AIMU Credential verification committee is responsible for reviewing and confirming student eligibility to sit for these exams. In addition to the University's academic requirements, students must be in good standing and have met all AIMU financial obligations.

MEDICAL LICENSURE IN THE UNITED STATES

Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG)

The purpose of ECFMG Certification is to assess whether international medical graduates (IMGs) are ready to enter U.S. residency and fellowship programs that are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). To enter such a program, ACGME requires all IMGs to be certified by ECFMG before starting the program. ECFMG Certification is also required before applying to take Step 3 of the USMLE. In the United States, to obtain a license to practice medicine, physicians must apply directly to the jurisdiction where they plan to practice medicine. Licensing jurisdictions in the United States require that IMGs applying for unrestricted licensure be certified by ECFMG.

Application for USMLE Exams

Before applying for the USMLE Step 1 exam, students must:

- Submit an Application for ECFMG Certification
- Read the appropriate editions of the ECFMG Information Booklet and the USMLE Bulletin of Information.

To apply for USMLE Step 1, Step 2 CK, and/or Step 2 CS, students will use ECFMG's Interactive Web Applications (IWA). A complete application consists of the on-line part; the Certification of Identification Form 186 which students obtain through IWA; and any other required documents, as outlined by ECFMG.

Transfer students must stay current on ECFMG's documentation requirements for the Step applications as well as ECFMG's policies on transfer credits.

Certification of Identification Form 186

After completion of the Step 1 application on IWA, students will be prompted to print the Certification of Identification Form 186. The student must notarize the form and mail to the ECFMG. The ECFMG then forwards the form to AIMU for verification and review of authenticity of submitted documents. The verification is done online. Once submitted to ECFMG, Form 186 is valid for 5 years. The administrative and processing fee to be paid by student to AIMU is \$300.00USD. Along with the documents the student must submit the following documents for completion of verification.

- Clearance form for credential verification (download from AIMU website)
- Police clearance certificate from the places where student stayed during last 6 months
- No Objection Letter from Chair of Disciplinary committee
- Background screening report preferably from an accredited background checking agency
- Reference letter from the Asst Dean or Dean of Clinicals
- Self-affidavit for No judgment or lawsuits (notarized)
- Self-affidavit for no fraudulent activities. (notarized)
- Fees clearance or loan current documents from funding bank or company.
- Letters of recommendations one from clinical program and two from campus.
- For Indian and Nigerian students an internship completion certificate from the institution where the student had completed the internship and a letter of reference from the Hospital Director is necessary.

For students writing the USMLE step 1 immediately after completing the basic sciences and for students who had graduated and left the campus less than six months before some of these requirements may be waived. For more information about these cases kindly contact the Registrar at registrar@aimu.us

Verification for Step 2 CS and CK

The student should complete the Step 2 application in the ECFMG's IWA website. After successful completion of application, ECFMG forwards the application to AIMU for verification. AIMU verifies and authenticates the submitted documents online. There is no verification fee for this process to students. If any other fees such as transcript fees are required, the student must pay to AIMU.

ECFMG Certification

Medical licensing authorities in the United States require that AIMU graduates be certified by ECFMG, among other requirements, to obtain an unrestricted license to practice medicine. Once students receive their diploma, it is their responsibility to begin the process of becoming ECFMG certified. For more detailed information on ECFMG's policies and procedures please visit www.ecfm.org.

The National Resident Matching Program/NRMP

The NRMP oversees the Match, matching students with residency programs. The NRMP website, www.nrmp.org, contains valuable information on the process.

The Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS)

The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) developed the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS) to allow medical students and graduates to apply electronically for residency in accredited U.S. programs of graduate medical education. The two websites are:

www.aamc.org/students/eras

www.ecfmg.org/eras

The Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB) provides a listing of the state medical boards and contact information at: <http://www.fsmb.org/state-medical-boards/contacts>.

Procedure for Applying for Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE)

One of the important documents required for applying residency/matching is the Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE). Medical Student Performance Evaluation (MSPE) is a comprehensive assessment of your performance in achieving the educational objectives of AIMU medical school curriculum. A student can apply for this letter by completing the AIMU-MSPE request form (available from the downloads section on the AIMU website) and submit with a administrative and processing fee of \$800.00 USD. Please refer the request form for additional documents required to be submitted. Once the letter is approved by the Dean, a copy is electronically transmitted to ERAS.

Credential Verification Procedure

The students of AIMU are required to complete the credential verification. The form for this process may be obtained from AIMU website under the downloads section. The student is required to complete the form and submit to AIMU before the student attempts to proceed with ECFMG application. There are no fees for this process.