

Administration of the U.S. Medical Licensing Examination Step 3: Time Limits for Completion

SMB	Number of times candidates for licensure may take USMLE Step 3	Requirements to repeat Step 3 if not passed in designated number of attempts
AL	3	Further education or training
AK	2	
AZ-M	No Limit	
AZ-O	N/A	
AR	3	Must have either completed additional PGT or ABMS certified
CA-M	4	Minimum of 4 years continuous licensure in another state and ABMS certified may be considered
CA-O	N/A	N/A
CO	No Limit	
CT	No Limit	None
DE	6	
DC	3	After 3 failed attempts, 1 additional year ACGME- or AOA-approved GME
FL-M	No Limit	N/A
FL-O	N/A	N/A
GA	3	1 year of additional Board-approved training
GU	No Limit	
HI	No Limit	
ID	After 2 failed attempts, licensee may be interviewed or evaluated by the board	Remedial training; may be required to be interviewed, evaluated, or examined by the Board
IL	5 combined all steps	A person who has failed any combination of steps 5 times must undergo remedial education
IN	3	
IA	3	After 3 failed attempts, 3 years of progressive GME required
KS	3	After 3 failed attempts, must appear before Board for approval to take a fourth or subsequent attempt
KY	4	
LA	4	
ME-M	3	After 3 failed attempts, applicant may request waiver
ME-O	N/A	N/A
MD	No limit - however physicians are required to meet certain criteria if they fail an exam 3 or more times	
MA	3	
MI-M	Not more than 3 attempts for any step	Must pass within 4 years of first sitting for Step 3; Otherwise must complete 1 year of postgraduate training before re-sitting
MI-O	N/A	N/A
MN	3 (4 if currently licensed in another state and specialty board certified)	
MS	3	After 3 failed attempts, 1 additional year ACGME- or AOA-approved GME
MO	3	
MP		
MT	6	
NE	4	
NV-M	3	
NV-O	N/A	N/A
NH	3	Further education, training, or experience
NJ	5	Further education, training, or experience
NM	6 (within 7 years of first pass)	
NY	No Limit	
NC	3	
ND	3	
OH	6	No applicant may have failed any step more than 5 times
OK-M	3	
OK-O	N/A	N/A
OR	4	After 3 failed attempts, 1 year of GME required before 4th attempt
PA-M	No Limit	
PA-O	N/A	N/A
PR	No Limit	
RI	3	
SC	4	
SD	3 as long as other steps have no failure	None
TN-M	3 then show ABMS cert & proof of meeting requirements	
TN-O	N/A	N/A
TX	3	
UT	3	Remedial training
VT-M	3	
VT-O	N/A	N/A
VI	N/A	
VA	No Limit	
WA-M	3	Remedial training
WA-O	N/A	
WV-M	6	
WV-O	N/A	
WI	3	Board review
WY	7 attempts (all 3 steps)	1 additional year of training or other assessment, training, or evaluation program(s)