



## COMLEX-USA and GME Placement Rate Review Policies

### **Scope of This Policy**

Information from colleges of osteopathic medicine (COMs) is collected each year to monitor compliance with COCA standards. Below is a description of two measures that are collected as part of this process and the actions taken as result of specific outcomes.

### **COMLEX-USA**

#### **Data Collection**

Data is received annually through an agreement with the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME). The COCA receives data for all levels of the COMLEX-USA exam for both first-time takers and all takers.

#### **Reporting**

COMLEX first-time pass rates will be reported highlighting scores that are one and two standard deviations below the mean of all pass rates. Three-year data will be reviewed by the DRC and reported to the COCA.

#### **Notification**

- A. For COMs with first-time pass rates in any section of the COMLEX-USA exam that is more than two standard deviations below the mean of all the pass rates and the pass rate is less than 90%:
  - i. Occurs in a single year:

A letter will be sent to the dean (CAO) concerning the findings, requesting an explanation for the findings and a description of any corrective plan in place. These COMs will not be able to apply for substantive change requests for a planned class size increase, an additional location, or branch campus for three years.
  - ii. Occurs two years in a row:

A letter will be sent to the dean (CAO) and the university president concerning the findings with a request for an updated corrective action plan.
  - iii. Occurs three years in a row:

A letter will be sent to the dean (CAO) and the university president concerning the findings, with a request for an updated corrective action plan with notification that if the COM's COMLEX pass rates remain below the minimum requirement for a fourth year, the COCA may request a focused site visit, other monitoring reports, and/or a reduction in class size until the COM can demonstrate improvement in COMLEX outcomes.

**Graduate Medical Education (GME) Placement****Data Collection**

COMs report GME placement data for the most recent graduates on the COCA Annual Supplemental Report. Placement is defined as post-graduate employment that occurs during the NRMP match week, SOAP, or through other means by July 1 of that year.

**Reporting**

Overall placement rate will be reported for each COM highlighting rates that are below 95%.

**Notification**

- A. For COMs with GME Placement rate below 95%.
  - i. Occurs in a single year:

A letter will be sent to the dean (CAO) concerning the findings requesting an explanation for the findings and a description of any corrective plan in place. These COMs will not be able to apply for substantive change requests for a planned class size increase, an additional location, or branch campus for three years.
  - ii. Occurs two years in a row:

A letter will be sent to the dean (CAO) concerning the findings and the university president concerning the finding with a request for an updated corrective action plan.
  - iii. Occurs three years in a row:

A letter will be sent to the dean (CAO) and the university president concerning the findings with a request for an updated corrective action plan with notification that if the COM's placement rate remains below the minimum requirement for a fourth year, the COCA may request a focused site visit, other monitoring reports, and/or a reduction in class size until the COM can demonstrate improvement in placement rate outcomes.