



**University of Pikeville  
Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine  
Office of the Dean**

**COMLEX-USA**

**Policy Contact:** Academic Affairs, Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine  
**Policy Category:** Administration  
**Policy Number:** 11.4(a)-1  
**Review:** Annually

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**Purpose**

University of Pikeville – Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine (KYCOM), is committed to ensuring that all osteopathic medical students successfully pass COMLEX-USA Level 1 and Level 2-CE prior to graduation from osteopathic medical school. KYCOM publishes the COMLEX-USA Level 1, Level 2-CE, and Level 3 first time pass rate for all students in each class.

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In order to successfully advance and graduate from KYCOM's osteopathic medicine program, students are required to pass the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME) COMLEX-USA series of examinations including COMLEX Level 1 and COMLEX Level 2 Cognitive Evaluation (CE). KYCOM students are limited to a maximum of three attempts to pass each required COMLEX-USA examination in order to meet graduation requirements. Failure of three attempts on any COMLEX-USA examination will result in dismissal from KYCOM.

**Level 1**

Before entry into the third year of osteopathic medical education, all students must sit for COMLEX-USA Level 1 on a date approved by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. An approved form of the COMSAE will be administered by Academic Affairs prior to a student's COMLEX exam date; a minimum score of 450 is required to sit for COMLEX. Upon completion of the Level 1 exam, the student will be permitted to enter third year clinical rotations at the beginning of the next scheduled rotation period. Failure of Level 1 may result in removal from third year clinical rotations. The student will be required to meet with the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs to develop a study plan, which may include enrollment in an in-person or online commercial board preparation program. The student must retest no later than 90 days from learning of their COMLEX failure.

If the second Level 1 attempt is unsuccessful, the student must meet with the Academic Progress Committee and adhere to the committee's recommended study plan and timeline for their third and final attempt. Failure to achieve a passing score by the end of the spring semester of the third year will result in a hearing with the Academic Progress Committee for possible dismissal.

*General Disclaimer:*

*The information available is not to be treated as a contract, but rather a unilateral statement of policy. The university reserves the right to revoke, modify or suspend any of its policies and procedures at any time without notice.*



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## **Level 2 CE**

KYCOM requires the Level 2 CE examination to be taken after successful completion of Level 1 and years one, two, and three of osteopathic medical education, which includes successful completion of all core rotations and the Capstone course. An approved form of the COMSAE will be administered by Academic Affairs prior to a student's COMLEX exam date; a minimum score of 450 is required to sit for COMLEX. Upon successful completion of Level 1, NBOME will notify students of their eligibility to register for COMLEX-USA Level 2 examinations. KYCOM students may register for Level 2 CE anytime between the NBOME notification and December 1<sup>st</sup> of the fourth year of study. All students are required to take the Level 2 CE examination. Failure to take the examination prior to December 1<sup>st</sup> of the fourth year will result in a referral to the Academic Progress Committee for consideration of disciplinary action.

Failure of the Level 2 CE examination may result in the removal of the student from clinical rotations and enrollment in a commercial board study program. In consultation with the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, a plan of study will be developed by the student and approved by the Academic Progress Committee. The Academic Progress Committee will determine the appropriate length of time to be devoted to studying for the retake of the examination. The second Level 2 attempt must occur within 90 days from learning of the first board failure or the student will be referred to the Academic Progress Committee.

If the second Level 2 attempt is unsuccessful, the student must meet with the Academic Progress Committee and adhere to the committee's recommended study plan and timeline for their third and final attempt. Failure to successfully complete the COMLEX-USA graduation requirements within two years from the start of the student's fourth year of study will result in dismissal from KYCOM.

## **Related References**

[KYCOM Student Handbook](#)

**Dean**

April 29, 2025

**Last Approved Date**

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