



**Policy Title**  
Length of Exam

**Identifier**  
UofSCSOMG – ACAF – 7.02

<b>Prepared by:</b> Office for Academic Affairs	
<b>Reviewed by:</b> Associate Dean for Curriculum	<b>Review Date:</b> 08/21/2018
<b>Approved by:</b> UofSCSOMG Policy Committee	<b>Approval Date:</b> 08/21/2018
	<b>Effective Date:</b> 12/21/2018

**LCME Standards**

NA

**Scope**

University of South Carolina (UofSC) School of Medicine Greenville faculty.

**Policy Statement**

The Department of Biomedical Sciences in conjunction with the Office for Academic Affairs standardizes exam policies and procedures for the M1 and M2 academic years. The *Length of Exam* policy provides an outline for the length of written exams in the M1 and M2 academic years.

**Reason for Policy**

The purpose of this policy is to provide UofSC School of Medicine Greenville faculty with parameters for M1 and M2 module written exams excluding laboratory exams and EMT. The parameters contained within this policy are designed to prepare students for the amount of time allotted per question on the USMLE Step 1.

**Procedures**

For the M1 year — prior to winter break — students are allotted two minutes per question. After winter break, M1 students are allotted one minute and forty-five seconds per question. For the M2 year — prior to winter break — students are allotted one minute and forty-five seconds per question. After winter break, M2 students are allotted one minute and thirty seconds per question. The allotted time applies to both summative and formative exams. All sessions on both formative and summative exams should have equal representation (i.e. equal number of questions asked per hour). The minimum number of questions per one hour session should be two with a maximum of four.

The maximum length of time for a summative exam is four hours.

**Sanctions**

NA

## **Additional Contacts**

Office for Academic Affairs

## **Related Information**

USMLE Step 1

## **History**

<b>Date of Change</b>	<b>Change</b>
July 2019	Editorial changes made due to branding updates and titles; formal approval not required.
Aug 2018	Policy created to align with NBME expectations