

Osteopathic Physicians Licensure Examination Requirements

For those candidates who are eligible and have not yet secured licensure in any other state.

General Requirements

- Successfully complete a rotating internship (at least twelve months in duration) in a hospital approved by the Board of Trustees of the American Osteopathic Association OR successfully complete a resident internship approved by the Board upon a showing of good cause by the applicant.
- Be a graduate of a college recognized and approved by the American Osteopathic Association.
- Obtain a passing score on all three (3) parts of the examination conducted by the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME) within 5 years of application.
- Meet all general licensure requirements set forth in 459.0055 relating to character, age, past discipline, etc.
- File a completed application and pay all required fees.

Examination Requirements and Information

Anyone applying for licensure must have passed all three parts of the examination conducted by the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME) or other substantially similar examination approved by the board.

NBOME: <http://nbome.org/>

If you have not taken and passed all three parts of the examination offered by the NBOME, you must demonstrate to the Board that the examination that you did take and pass is substantially similar to all three parts of the NBOME.

Note: The board does not consider the FLEX examination or the USMLE examination to be substantially similar to THE NBOME examination as neither of these examinations has an osteopathic component or osteopathic philosophies generally incorporated into the questions.

If you were licensed in another state on the basis of that state's entire examination, you may request that the Board endorse those examination scores. It is the applicant's responsibility to demonstrate to the Board that the state licensing examination is substantially similar to all three parts of the NBOME examination.

You will need to request the state Board which administered the examination to send an official copy of your scores and a letter verifying that your license in that state was issued on the basis of the state examination. The more information you can provide regarding the examination, the better the chances the Board can determine the examination to be substantially similar to the NBOME examination. At the very least, the following information MUST be provided:

1. The number of questions the examination contained;

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2. The subjects the examination tested;
3. Who or what entity created the examination;
4. Whether there was an osteopathic component and emphasis;
5. When was the examination administered and endorsed.

If you have not taken and passed all three parts of the NBOME, it may significantly affect your ability to obtain a Florida Osteopathic license. You should plan to appear before the Board when your application is considered in order to discuss the alternative examination (COMVEX-USA) and other options available if the Board deems it necessary to discuss your other state examination.

The COMVEX-USA Examination

The COMVEX-USA examination is **not** intended for initial licensure or as a replacement for the regular licensure examination; the COMVEX-USA is for:

1. The osteopathic physician originally licensed by an examination devoid of osteopathic content who is now applying for a license in a state requiring that the osteopathic physician take an osteopathic examination.
2. The osteopathic physician who is applying for licensure in a state which imposes a time limit (such as being examined within ten years) but who has not been tested by a licensing board or a certifying board within that time.
3. The osteopathic physician who is requesting reinstatement of a license following an interruption in his or her career.
4. The tenured osteopathic physician needing to demonstrate basic osteopathic medical competence.

Contact the board office for additional information:

MAILING ADDRESS:

Department of Health
Board of Osteopathic Medicine
4052 Bald Cypress Way
Bin C-06
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3256

PHONE:

850.245.4161

FAX:

850.921.6184

CLICK BELOW to EMAIL:

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