

In response to the suspension and subsequent discontinuation of the Step 2 Clinical Skills (CS) exam by the United States Medical Licensing Examination® (USMLE®) program, the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG®) has established Pathways that will allow qualified medical students and graduates to meet the clinical and communication skills requirements for ECFMG Certification. These Pathways are intended only for individuals who, among other requirements:

- do not have a passing performance on USMLE Step 2 CS that is valid for ECFMG Certification, and
- are not certified by ECFMG, and
- plan to enter a U.S. program of graduate medical education (GME) **in 2021 or 2022**.

[Detailed information on the pathways](#) is available on the ECFMG website.

The eligibility requirements for [Pathways 3, 4, and 5](#) require that the applicant's medical school attest to the applicant's clinical skills. As part of the attestation, applicants must have their clinical skills assessed by appropriate medical school faculty during three in-person clinical patient encounters lasting 10 to 20 minutes each. At least one of the encounters must be on the general medical hospital service. Each patient should be new to the applicant, and each encounter must be observed directly by a different faculty member who routinely evaluates medical students. The observed encounters must take place at the applicant's medical school or affiliated clinical rotation site.

The following Mini-CEX form may be used by the observing medical school faculty to assess these clinical encounters.

If the applicant's medical school or affiliated clinical rotation site already uses a form for the evaluation of clinical encounters with the same clinical skills as those outlined on the following Mini-CEX form, the institution's form may be used in place of the Mini-CEX form.

For applicants whose clinical rotations are already complete, patient encounters that were evaluated previously are acceptable, provided they were assessed using the same skills as those outlined on the following Mini-CEX form.

Instructions

A Mini-CEX form should be completed for each clinical encounter. The observing faculty member should provide all information requested on the form and assess the applicant's performance in each skill listed using the numerical scale provided. The faculty member should also indicate any areas in which the applicant performed especially well and any areas in which the applicant needs improvement.

Each completed Mini-CEX form should be signed by both the applicant and the observing faculty member and submitted to the dean of the medical school, or a designee of the dean, for review. The dean, or the dean's designee, must review the completed Mini-CEX forms and confirm that they indicate a satisfactory level of clinical skills.

An authorized school official must then attest to the applicant's clinical skills. The process for attesting to clinical skills varies depending on whether the medical school participates in using the ECFMG Medical School Web Portal (EMSWP):

If the medical school **participates** in using EMSWP, the school must complete the attestation through ECFMG's secure, on-line [Clinical Skills Evaluation and Attestation Portal](#) by **January 15, 2022**.

- If the medical school **does not participate** in using EMSWP, the school must submit an ECFMG Clinical Skills Attestation form by **December 31, 2021**. The form will be available to the applicant to download when the Pathways application is submitted.

Name of Student: _____ Date: _____

Name of Faculty Evaluator: _____

Patient Problem/Diagnosis: _____

Setting (Please choose one):

Ambulatory

In-patient

Emergency Department

Other

Patient: _____ Age: _____ Sex: _____

Complexity (Please choose one):

Low

Moderate

High

Choose one numerical rating for each category below.

Ratings:	1 – 3 Unsatisfactory	4 – 6 Satisfactory	7 – 9 Superior
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1 Medical Interviewing Skills

Not Observed 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

2 Physical Examination Skills

Not Observed 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

3 Humanistic Qualities and Professionalism

Not Observed 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

4 Clinical Judgment and Reasoning

Not Observed 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

5 Communication Skills

Not Observed 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

6 Organization/Efficiency

Not Observed 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

7 Overall Clinical Competence

Not Observed 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

What went well?

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What can be improved?

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Signature of faculty evaluator

Signature of student