

Program	Credentials Required
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<b>School of Medicine</b>	
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<p>Doctor of Medicine (MD)</p>	<p>The United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) is jointly sponsored by the NBME and the Federation of State Medical Boards. A passing score on each portion of the USMLE is accepted by medical boards in every state as evidence of core competency to practice medicine. The current required exams are USMLE Step 1, USMLE Step 2 CK (Clinical Knowledge), USMLE Step 2 CS (Clinical Skills), and Step 3. Step 3 is taken after medical school graduation.</p> <p>It is essential that medical students meet required benchmarks that lead to medical licensure. Although designed for the purpose of licensing physicians, scores on USMLE Step 1 and USMLE Step 2 CK are often used by graduate medical education programs in decisions to interview and rank medical students for residency positions. It is therefore incumbent upon the SOM to establish policies pertaining to the timing and passage of the USMLE in order to optimize career outcomes for students and to ensure that graduates meet at least minimal licensing requirements.</p>
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<b>School of Nursing</b>	
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<p>Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)</p>	<p>A student seeking registration as a professional nurse must take and pass the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) administered by the Board of Nursing for the State of Texas. The Board may refuse to approve persons to take the licensure examination, may refuse to issue or renew a license or certificate of registration, or may refuse to issue a temporary permit to any individual who has been arrested for anything other than a minor traffic violation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All 120 hours for the degree must be completed before the student is eligible to take the NCLEX-RN.</li> <li>• A student planning to take the NCLEX-RN in another state must obtain information regarding procedure from the agency responsible for professional nurse registration in that state.</li> </ul>
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<b>School of Health Professions</b>	
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## Medical Laboratory Sciences (BS)

Students who successfully complete the BS in Medical Laboratory Sciences program are eligible to take the national certification examination given by the Board of Certification (BOC) of the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP). Awarding of the degree is not contingent on passing an external certification or licensing examination.

### **Basic:**

Successful completion of the course requirements prepares the student for the National Registry of EMT certification examination. In some cases, this program is offered for non-college credit but requirements and outcomes remain the same.

### **Paramedic:**

Successful completion of the program requirements prepares a student for the National Registry of EMTs cognitive and psychomotor examinations.

## Emergency Health Sciences (EMT)

### **Bachelor of Science:**

- Paramedics who have earned a paramedic certificate may choose to continue their education to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Emergency Health Sciences (EHS) offered by the Department of Emergency Health Sciences
- Admission to any EHS program does not guarantee eligibility for the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians or certification by Texas Department of State Health Services

## Occupational Therapy (MOT)

Graduates of the Master of Occupational Therapy (MOT) program are eligible to take the national certification examination administered by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT) and to apply for licensure that is required for practice in most states. A felony conviction may affect a graduate's ability to sit for the NBCOT examination or attain state licensure. Please be aware that disciplinary actions in your past, either felonies or misdemeanors, should be addressed with the Texas Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners beforehand. Waiting to report it on your application for licensure will cause a delay in issuing a license. It is recommended that applicants use this review before applying to or attending an OT program.

Physical Therapy (DPT)

Graduates of the D.P.T. program are eligible to take the National Physical Therapy Examination, given by The Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy, and the Jurisprudence Exam, given by the Texas Board of Physical Therapy Examiners. A license to practice physical therapy in Texas is contingent on successful completion of these examinations.

Physician Assistant (MPAS)

Students who successfully complete the program receive a Master of Physician Assistant Studies (M.P.A.S.) degree. Graduates are eligible to sit for the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam (PANCE) given by the National Commission for Certification of Physician Assistants. Passing the PANCE is required for licensure in all states.

Respiratory Care (BS)

Upon completion of the program, graduates are eligible to sit for the national board examinations in respiratory care as well as apply for state license.

### School of Dentistry

#### **National Board Dental Examination Challenges**

Part 1 – Students are eligible to challenge Part 1 of the boards at the completion of the spring semester of the sophomore year provided they successfully completed the fall General Pathology course. Students are expected to take the exam between the end of the spring semester and beginning of the fall semester of the junior year. The School of Dentistry policy requires students to pass Part 1 to be considered for promotion to the senior year.

Doctor of Dental Science (DDS)

Part II – Students are eligible to challenge Part II of the boards in mid-November of the senior year and students are expected to take the exam in mid to late November or December of the senior year. The School of Dentistry policy requires students to pass Part II to be considered for graduation

For both Parts I and II, the National Board policies require students to wait 90 days between attempts. Additionally, candidates who have not passed Part I or Part II after three attempts are required to wait one year (12 months) after their third attempt to apply to retest.

Dental Hygiene (BS)

To become a licensed, registered dental hygienist requires successful completion of an ADA accredited dental hygiene program, The National Dental Hygiene Board Examination, and a state or regional examination.