USMLE CHECKLIST: What Do I Need to Do?

To make the application and testing process as easy as possible, here’s a list of key things to do and remember:

Registering and Preparing for Your Examination

☐ Review the applicable USMLE Bulletin of Information.
☐ Ensure that you are eligible to register to take the USMLE.
☐ Log in to the registration website of the appropriate organization (dependent on your medical school and the Step for which you are applying).
☐ Ensure that the name you enter on your application matches your unexpired, government-issued photo identification exactly.
☐ Choose an eligibility period.
☐ Indicate on your application if you plan to apply for accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
☐ Submit your application and other required forms.
☐ After your application is processed, you’ll receive your scheduling permit via email and may schedule your test date. If it turns out you are unable to test during your eligibility period, contact the organization that registered you to request an eligibility period extension (fees and restrictions may apply).
☐ Prepare for the USMLE by using the free practice materials that are available on the USMLE website. You can register for a practice session at a Prometric test center or purchase an NBME Self-Assessment.
☐ Contact Prometric if you need to reschedule your test date.

Test Day

☐ Before you go to the test center, review the Rules of Conduct. Make sure you understand what behaviors violate the rules. This includes understanding what items you may and may not access during the exam.
☐ Report to the test center at least 30 minutes prior to your scheduled testing appointment.
☐ Bring a paper or electronic copy of your scheduling permit to the test center.
☐ Bring an acceptable form of unexpired, government-issued photo identification.
☐ Comply with security checks when entering the test center and throughout the test day.
☐ Report any issue or suspicious behavior you encounter on test day.
☐ Consider rescheduling your examination if you do not feel well or otherwise feel unprepared to test.

Be sure to visit the USMLE website or contact us if you have any questions.