

**U.S. Department of Education
Office of Postsecondary Education**

**NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN MEDICAL
EDUCATION AND ACCREDITATION**



**Questionnaire for the Report
Required by the Higher Education Opportunity Act
for the United States Congress and Secretary of
Education**

December 2008

BACKGROUND

The United States (U.S.) Congress recently passed the Higher Education Opportunity Act, which reauthorized the National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation's (NCFMEA) ongoing activities and required the NCFMEA to provide Congress with a report that recommends performance-based eligibility criteria for participation by certain foreign medical schools in the Federal Family Educational Loan Program.

The foreign medical schools in question are those that meet neither the 60 percent (60%) non-citizenship requirement, nor the approved clinical-training-in-the-United States-since-January 1, 1992 requirement, but do have a clinical training program that was approved by a state prior to January 1, 2008. Effective July 1, 2010, the legislation states that a 75 percent (75%) pass rate on the examinations administered by the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates shall be a minimum eligibility requirement for this group of foreign medical schools, just as it will be for all other participating foreign medical schools.

INSTRUCTIONS

Please complete the brief questionnaire below for the programs of study leading to a Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) degree, or its equivalent, at your institution. (For a list of degrees deemed equivalent to the M.D., by the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates, refer to <http://www.ecfm.org/creds/refgde.html>.) *Restrict your answers only to those programs leading to an M.D. degree, or its equivalent.* Return the completed information by **Friday, December 19, 2008**, to the NCFMEA's Executive Director, Melissa Lewis, via e-mail (Melissa.lewis@ed.gov) or fax [(202) 219-7008].

If you have questions about the report or survey, please notify Ms. Lewis via e-mail or phone [(202) 219-7009]. If your institution offers more than one program of study leading to an M.D. degree, or its equivalent, aggregate the information to cover all such programs.

GLOSSARY

Entrance Requirements: The admission requirements for entrance to the institution's programs of study leading to a M.D. degree, or its equivalent.

Grade Point Average (GPA): In some countries, grades are calculated into a numeric grade point average (GPA), which is used as a measure to assess and compare students. An overall or cumulative GPA is the mean GPA from all terms.

Graduation Rate: The percentage of entering students who complete and graduate from the programs of study leading to an M.D. degree, or its equivalent. For the purposes of this report, an overall graduation rate counts students as graduates if this is their first time in medical school, they study full time, and they complete their program within 150 percent (150%) of its normal time. For example, for a four-year program, entering students who

complete the program within six years count as graduates; for a six-year program, entering students who complete the program within nine years count as graduates; and for an eight-year program, entering students who complete the program within twelve years count as graduates.

Retention Rate: The percentage of students who are enrolled in programs leading to the M.D. degree, or its equivalent, at a foreign medical school, who continue their studies the following year.

QUESTIONS

- 1) For the last three academic years (2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08), please provide the institution's entrance requirements for the first-year students admitted.

Entrance Requirements	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Admission Interview			
Pre-medical coursework			
A minimum overall GPA or score			
A minimum GPA by subject area (for example, science)			
A particular kind of work experience (for example, volunteer, medically-related, research)			
A minimum score on the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) or other equivalent			
Criminal background check			
Any other entrance requirements (Please specify below.)			

- 2) What is the normal number of years required to graduate from the institution's programs of study leading to an M.D. degree, or its equivalent, e.g., four, six or eight years?
- 3) What is the maximum number of years the institution's students can be enrolled before they must graduate or be dismissed without graduation?

4) For the last three academic years (2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08), provide, by year, the total number of students enrolled and the number of students who did not continue their studies, either because they withdrew/took a leave of absence or were dismissed from the medical school.

		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
# Enrolled	1 st Year			
	2 nd Year			
	3 rd Year			
	4 th Year			
	5 th Year			
	6 th Year			
	7 th Year			
	8 th Year			
# Dismissed	1 st Year			
	2 nd Year			
	3 rd Year			
	4 th Year			
	5 th Year			
	6 th Year			
	7 th Year			
	8 th Year			
# Withdrew/ Took leave of absence	1 st Year			
	2 nd Year			
	3 rd Year			
	4 th Year			
	5 th Year			
	6 th Year			
	7 th Year			
	8 th Year			

5) For those students who withdrew or took a leave of absence during the last three academic years, what was their primary reason for not continuing in those programs?

Number of Students Who:	Academic Years			Total
	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	
Transferred to another medical school				
Withdrew due to health reasons				
Withdrew due to financial reasons				
Moved to a decelerated curriculum				
Took a leave of absence due to academic problems				
Took a leave of absence for academic enrichment (including research or joint degree programs)				
Took a leave of absence for personal reasons				
Other (Please provide brief explanation.)				

6) For the last three academic years, provide the total tuition and fees, in U.S. dollars, for entering students enrolled in programs leading to an M.D. degree, or its equivalent.

	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Total tuition and fees in U.S. dollars (\$)			

- 7) For the last three academic years, provide the average educational indebtedness (total educational loan amount) of the institution's graduates, and the percentage of graduates with indebtedness in excess of \$150,000 U.S. dollars for the last three graduating classes.

	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Average debt in U.S. dollars (\$)			
% Graduates >\$150,000 debt			

- 8) What number of students, broken down by first time test takers and repeat test takers, took each step of the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) during the past three academic years?

		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
USMLE, Step 1	1 st Time Testers			
	Repeat Testers			
USMLE, Step 2	1 st Time Testers			
	Repeat Testers			
USMLE, Step 3	1 st Time Testers			
	Repeat Testers			

- 9) What criteria do you use to decide when and which students may take each step of the USMLE?

USMLE, Step 1	When	
	Which Students	
USMLE, Step 2	When	
	Which Students	
USMLE, Step 3	When	
	Which Students	

10) For the last three academic years (2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08), what percentage of the institution's graduates were able to secure residency training positions, in graduate medical educational programs accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)?

Secure ACGME accredited residency training	2005-06 %	2006-07 %	2007-08 %

11a) Depending if the institution has a four, six, or eight-year program, provide the graduation rate for the students enrolled for each of the entering classes shown below. (If you do not have data for those three entering classes, please provide the graduate rate information you have collected, by academic year.)

Graduation rate for 4 Year Program	2000-01 %	2001-02 %	2002-03 %

Graduation rate for 6 Year Program	1998-99 %	1999-00 %	2000-01 %

Graduation rate for 8 Year Program	1996-97 %	1997-98 %	1998-99 %

11b) Using the same three entering classes, estimate the percentage of students that typically graduate in the normal time (100% in the table below), and the percentage of an entering class that graduates in 150 percent (150% in the table below) of the normal time. [For example, for a four-year program, entering students who complete the program within six years are counted as graduating in 150 percent (150%) of the normal time; for a six-year program, entering students who complete the program within nine years are counted as graduating in 150 percent (150%) of the normal time; for an eight-year program, entering students who complete the program within twelve years are counted as graduating in 150 percent (150%) of the normal time.]

		2000-01 %	2001-02 %	2002-03 %
4 Year Program	100% of the normal time			
	150% of the normal time			

		1998-99 %	1999-00 %	2000-01 %
6 Year Program	100% of the normal time			
	150% of the normal time			

		1996-97 %	1997-98 %	1998-99 %
8 Year Program	100% of the normal time			
	150% of the normal time			