

4/24/2020 – Letter re: Step 2, USMLE & Prometric

Dear rising MS4 students

As you are aware, a few days ago Governor Cuomo extended the PAUSE order for New York State through May 15. Prometric had planned to restart testing after May 1 on a site-by-site basis, but today announced that they are extending their closure of test centers across the U.S. and Canada until May 31, except for certain essential services programs. The USMLE now has confirmed that USMLE is “considered an essential program, and certain centers will still be able to resume testing in accordance with local social distancing guidelines on May 1, 2020.”

Unfortunately, we do not yet know how these guidelines will impact specific testing centers. Prometric had said they will be taking measures to keep students safe throughout the process, including allowing test takers to wear masks. Additionally, to keep separation between examinees, "Prometric plans to cancel a significant number of upcoming scheduled appointments. ... Random selection of canceled appointments will occur, and impacted candidates will be notified by Prometric starting today."

Fortunately, Prometric does plan to "expand testing capacity through increased test center hours and days of operation." As Prometric cancels non-essential exams, perhaps additional spots may open for essential exams like USMLE. We hope this will mean that most of you will not have to change your exam date. While you wait for notifications from Prometric about your specific exam appointment, we encourage you to continue to plan for the date you have scheduled.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions or concerns.

Regards,

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