

**TITLE 16 OCCUPATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING**  
**CHAPTER 17 OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE AND SURGERY PRACTITIONERS**  
**PART 3 EXAMINATION, ENDORSEMENT AND TEMPORARY LICENSE REQUIREMENTS**

**16.17.3.1 ISSUING AGENCY:** Regulation and Licensing Department - NM Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners.

[16.17.3.1 NMAC - N, 10-29-2004]

**16.17.3.2 SCOPE:** This part applies to applicants for licensure.

[16.17.3.2 NMAC - N, 10-29-2004]

**16.17.3.3 STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** These rules of practice and procedure govern the practice of osteopathic medicine in New Mexico and are promulgated pursuant to and in accordance with the Osteopathic Physician Practice Act, Sections 61-10-1 through 61-10-23 NMSA 1978

[16.17.3.3 NMAC - N, 10-29-2004]

**16.17.3.4 DURATION:** Permanent.

[16.17.3.4 NMAC - N, 10-29-2004]

**16.17.3.5 EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 29, 2004, unless a later date is cited at the end of a section.

[16.17.3.5 NMAC - N, 10-29-2004]

**16.17.3.6 OBJECTIVE:** To establish requirements to obtain a temporary license and for licensure by examination and endorsement .

[16.17.3.6 NMAC - N, 10-29-2004]

**16.17.3.7 DEFINITIONS:**

- A. "FLEX" means federation licensing examination.
- B. "NBOE" means national board osteopathic examination.
- C. "COMLEX" means composite osteopathic medical licensing examination.
- D. "USMLE" means United States medical licensing examination.

[16.17.3.7 NMAC - N, 10-29-2004]

**16.17.3.8 EXAMINATION:** In determining the fitness of an applicant for licensure by examination, the board adopts the following examinations: FLEX (federation of state medical boards of the United States) or the NBOE (national board of examiners of osteopathic physicians and surgeons) or COMLEX (composite osteopathic medical licensing examination) or the USLME (United States medical licensing examination.) Each applicant must register with the national board of osteopathic medical examiners or the federation of state licensing boards to take the exam at the most convenient testing site available. The board will not administer any of the aforementioned exams.

**A. FLEX**

(1) Each applicant must earn a passing score of 75% or higher on each of the two components of the exam. The board will not accept overall or average scores. The board will accept passing component scores obtained at a single administration or at separate administrations of the exam.

(2) If an applicant fails either component of the FLEX examination he must repeat only the component failed. Upon failing one or both components, the applicant may repeat the component failed at the next administration of the exam. If the applicant fails a second examination, he must wait one year before taking the examination for a third time. If the applicant fails a third time, the applicant must acquire one additional year of AOA approved postgraduate training before being examined a fourth time.

(3) Both components of the FLEX examination must be passed within seven years of taking the initial examination.

**B. NBOE** - Each applicant must earn a passing score of 75% or higher on each of the three components of the examination.

**C. COMLEX** - Each applicant must earn a minimum total passing score or higher on each level of this examination.

**D. USMLE** - Each applicant must earn a minimum total passing score or higher on each level of this examination.  
[16.17.3.8 NMAC - Rp, Rule 3, 10-29-2004]

**16.17.3.9 LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT:** Applicants for licensure by endorsement shall meet all requirements as set forth in Section 61-10-12 NMSA 1978. Additionally, the state of the applicants primary license shall have requirements equal to or greater than the requirements of licensure in New Mexico.  
[16.17.3.9 NMAC - Rp, Rule 4, 10-29-2004]

**16.17.3.10 TEMPORARY LICENSE:** The board will approve permanent licenses during regular meetings only. In the interim between regular meetings, the board may issue a temporary license to applicants who have complied with all application requirements. Temporary licenses shall only be valid until the next regular board meeting.  
16.17.3.10 NMAC - Rp, Rule 5, 10-29-2004]

**HISTORY OF 16.17.3 NMAC:**

**Pre-NMAC History:** The material in this part was derived from that previously filed with the state records center and archives:

BOSE 69-1, Practice Guide for Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons in New Mexico, filed 6-5-1969.

Rule 3, Licensure by Examination, filed 12-7-1988.

Rule 4, Licensure by Endorsement, filed 12-7-1988.

Rule 5, Temporary License, filed 12-7-1988.

**History of Repealed Material:** Rule 3, Licensure by Examination (filed 12-7-1988); Rule 4, Licensure by Endorsement, (filed 12-7-1988); Rule 5, Temporary License, (filed 12-7-1988) repealed 10-29-2004.

**Other History:**

Rule 3, Licensure by Examination (filed 12-7-1988); Rule 4, Licensure by Endorsement, (filed 12-7-1988); and Rule 5, Temporary License (filed 12-7-1988); all replaced by 16.17.3 NMAC, Examination, Endorsement and Temporary License Requirements, effective 10-29-2004.