



An Update from: **Larry R. Kaiser, MD, FACS**
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Important Reminder to Class of 2019—NBME Licensing Exams

As was recently announced, the NBME has now opened registration for licensing exams for 2017. Registering early will help ensure that you get your preferred date and testing site. You must take Step 1 prior to beginning the third-year curriculum which begins on Monday, May 8, 2017.

Registration is a two-step process: 1) Register for a three-month eligibility period; we recommend April-May-June. After your registration is processed, you will receive a scheduling permit with your eligibility period via email. You will also receive a code number from the NBME. At this point, you must contact Prometric via their website or using the (800) number provided to select the specific date and site where you will take the exam. Sites release their available dates at different times (some in the fall, others in early December). Be sure to check the site where you want to take your test, for availability.

What to do now:

- Download the USMLE 2017 Bulletin of Information on the USMLE website, <http://usmle.org/usmle.org>. Review the information related to USMLE Step 1.
- Register for your eligibility period. Go to the NBME application website: [https://apps.nbme.org/nlesweb/#/login\[apps.nbme.org\]](https://apps.nbme.org/nlesweb/#/login[apps.nbme.org])
- Download the application form and follow directions for completing the form
- Attach an appropriate photo (read instructions in the materials), and sign the form

STUDENTS AT THE PHILADELPHIA CAMPUS: Bring the completed form to the Office of Medical Education (228 MERB). We will affix the School Seal, confirming that you are a LKSOM student, and will send the form to the NBME.

ST. LUKE'S CAMPUS STUDENTS: Bring your completed form to **Dr. Florence Kimball** who will send the completed forms to Main Campus where the School Seal will be affixed and the forms will be sent on to the NBME. For questions, please contact our office at 215-707-4613 or Dr. Kimball at 484-526-2473.



Clinical Reasoning Conferences (“SuperThursdays”): Based on feedback from students, we worked with your class representatives to the Curriculum and Pre-Clerkship Directors’ Committees to enhance the structure of the CRCs. New for this year are a review of the pre-test, case-by-case discussion, and faculty review of answers. The cases have been redesigned to foster collaborative problem-solving and discussion, rather than fast-paced presentations. We have developed an introductory CRC in Block 2 for first-year students to familiarize students with the format. Content will focus on gathering information, utilizing different sources of information, and evaluating appropriateness of sources and resources to answer specific types of clinical questions.

Community Engagement Materials Now Available at the Health Sciences Library

Some good news regarding resources to support community engagement activities: The Library now offers a collection of Community Engagement teaching materials—both online and in a physical format. The lending materials are located in the reserves section, behind the circulation desk. This collection, which started in the Office of Student Affairs and grew to approximately 50 items, brings together patient-level anatomical models, children's books (with a health theme), and a small collection of games.

In addition, library staff have put together a website which includes online, patient-focused information resources. Many have information which can be printed or saved. These sites include free patient-education resources for the general public, those that address specific populations (age, ESL, etc.), and materials about a specific health topic (such as asthma and nutrition). See: <http://guides.temple.edu/communityengagement>

The lending collection materials may be checked out for one week. Suggestions for additional resources can be directed to **Lauri Fennel**, Patron Services Librarian, at: lfennel@temple.edu.

Career Counseling Corner

Class of 2017: ERAS applications are now being submitted and it is time for interview season. We encourage you all to attend the Interview Information Session on September 30th; there will be a second session in early October and information will be forthcoming. Please register for the NRMP by **November 30th** to avoid additional fees.

Class of 2018: Career counseling session, “Thinking about Specialties,” during the Academic Friday session on October 7, 2016. Residency Day is tentatively scheduled for January 3, 2017—more details to follow.

Classes of 2019 and 2020: Career Counseling lectures are coming in January 2017.

LKSOM Student Groups in the Community

The first in a series of student organization profiles.

Al-Shifaa, which means “The Healing,” is the name of the Muslim student group that was organized to promote collaboration and holistic healthcare education. Physicians, dentists, pharmacists, and podiatrists, as well as students in each of those fields, work together to provide bi-monthly mobile clinics with health screenings and counseling throughout Philadelphia.



Since many diseases such as high blood pressure or high cholesterol, known as the silent killers, are so pervasive, screenings are key to effective treatment. The health screening clinics, which are supervised by attending physicians, include: blood sugar and blood pressure checks, heart and lung exams, feet and gait monitoring, pharmacy counseling, and dental hygiene checkups. The students have participated in many screenings over the last two years and are grateful that the community has expressed satisfaction with the services offered, often requesting return visits.

Recently, students identified a man with extremely elevated blood pressure who was unaware that his symptoms of chest pain, blurry vision, and headaches were all related. They worked with the attending physicians to have him transported to the hospital. In following up with the patient, they were both pleased and relieved to learn that he had received good care, started a hypertension medication regimen, and was offered Medicare health insurance coverage. He reported that he is doing very well, had been plugged into the healthcare system, and was educated about the signs and symptoms for many of these silent killers.

As the Al-Shifaa student leaders note, working in the group is a great experience, not just in providing service, but even more importantly, better understanding the needs of people in the community. Thank you, Al-Shifaa students! For more information, please contact student **Hamna Zafar** at tuf55222@temple.edu.

