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Subject: Response to the request of the National Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners regarding the CSPE examination

The Council on Podiatric Medical Education (Council or CPME) met on October 17, 2020 at which time they reviewed the request made by the National Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners (NBPME) to “modify the requirement of passing the CSPE examination, which is part of the Part II examination, from prior to beginning a residency program to prior to completing a residency program.” The Residency Review Committee made a recommendation to the Council, which the Council approved. That recommendation and resultant action states that residency programs will not be cited with an area of noncompliance if they accept students entering residency training in 2021 who have not passed the NBPME Part 2 CSPE. The Council did not go so far as to state when students or residents should take the examination, as that is outside the purview of the Council. Instead, the Council stayed within its scope based on the standards and requirements made explicit in CPME 320, *Standards and Requirements for Approval of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery Residencies*, specifically requirement 3.6, which states, “The sponsoring institution shall accept only graduates of colleges of podiatric medicine accredited by the Council on Podiatric Medical Education. Prior to beginning the residency, all applicants shall have passed the Parts I and II examinations of the National Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners.”