

## **Policy for Students Getting a Second Degree**

All students who interrupt medical school to obtain a second degree prior to the start of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year are required to complete all the requirements for the first 2 years of medical school and pass the USMLE Step 1 exam prior to starting their second degree coursework.

All students who interrupt medical school to obtain a second degree prior to the start of the 4<sup>th</sup> year are required to complete all of the requirements for the first 3 years of medical school, complete the USMLE Step 2 CK exam and complete the required CPX activity prior to starting their second degree coursework.

When returning to medical school, all students enrolled in a second degree are required to complete their second degree coursework and be in “filed to graduate status” (for their second degree) prior to enrolling in either the required 3<sup>rd</sup> year clinical courses or 4<sup>th</sup> year courses (except for 4th year clinical didactic experiences), for medical school. Exceptions to this must be approved by the CSP.

### UC Davis Physician Scientist Training Program (PSTP)

Students in the UC Davis PSTP, an established and preapproved dual degree program, must fulfill the requirements for both the M.D. and the Ph.D. degrees. Students apply to graduate programs at the beginning of their 2nd year of medical school. The typical PSTP student begins their Ph.D. training in the graduate program after completing all the requirements of the first 2 years of medical school and passing the USMLE Step 1 examination. The completion of the Ph.D. graduate program typically takes four years. After completion of the Ph.D. degree requirements and thesis submission, the PSTP students enter a structured transition into the clinical training stage of medical school, subsequently completing years 3 and 4 of the medical school curriculum.