

Policy on Oversight of Non-ACGME Accredited Training Programs at the University of Arizona

Graduate Medical Education Committee — Policies and Procedures

Purpose

This policy establishes oversight for Graduate Medical Education programs conducted by academic Departments within the University of Arizona College of Medicine that are not accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).

The guiding principle for establishing a non-ACGME Accredited training program at the University of Arizona is that such a program provides an educational experience of comparable quality to other University of Arizona Graduate Medical Education programs while in no way interfering with, or detracting from, the training of residents and fellows in other University of Arizona sponsored GME programs.

The member boards of the American Board of Medical Specialty (ABMS) are viewed as the subject matter experts on all educational aspects of advanced clinical subspecialty disciplines or pathways for which there is no Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) accreditation.

Policy

1. Oversight of any “training program,” regardless of length, where the trainee is hired by the respective department as a faculty member will be the responsibility of that department and not of the GME office. In those situations, the policy outlined below is not applicable.
2. All non-ACGME accredited training programs must be recognized by the program’s specialty specific board and/or association.
3. Oversight and monitoring by the GMEC of curriculum, educational outcomes, work environment (including duty hours and trainee supervision requirements), and other aspects of the non-ACGME accredited training program will be based on the program’s specialty specific board/association’s requirements.
4. All training programs regardless of type of accreditation will be required to follow U of A GME policies with regard to:
 - a. Stipends and benefits of the trainees
 - b. Due process guidelines
 - c. Participation in GMEC
 - d. GMEC review and approval of all major programmatic changes (i.e. complement, program length or structure, or appointment of new Program Directors)

- e. Annual program reviews, data collection and periodic self-study assessment
5. Requests for a new non-ACGME accredited program where ACGME accreditation for that program already exists will not be approved by the GMEC except under the following circumstances:
 - a. a. The program's ultimate goal is attainment ACGME accreditation but would like some time to "ramp-up" their program. It will be expected that the program will have applied to the ACGME for accreditation within 6 months of matriculation of the program's initial fellow.
 - b. The existence of extenuating circumstances for which an exception has been granted in writing by the Dean of the College of Medicine (or his/her designee).

If ACGME-accreditation becomes available for existing non-ACGME accredited programs, it is expected that the program will begin to work toward obtaining ACGME accreditation as expeditiously as possible.

Application Process

An application to the GMEC for a new non-ACGME accredited training program at the University of Arizona must include the following information:

1. Written approval of Department Chair
2. Description of Training - Brief definition of scope of sub-specialty, length of training, number of trainees, and clinical or research responsibilities
3. Eligibility Criteria
 - a. Medical school requirements
 - b. Residency requirements
 - c. Licensure requirements
4. Funding source(s)
5. Educational rationale (cannot be based solely on patient numbers or service needs)
6. Curriculum, including goals and objectives for the program.
 - a. Educational content and quality of the program must be commensurate in scope and general content with the ACGME Six Core Competencies.
7. Training schedule
8. Program Director and Program Coordinator
9. List of supervising faculty by location
10. Copy of specialty board/association program requirements, program application and site visit documents.

GMEC Reviewed: September 21, 2012

Effective: September 2012