



Review Committee for Obstetrics and Gynecology

Men-Jean Lee, MD, Review Committee Member

Michelle Owens, MD, Review Committee Member



Disclosures

- No conflicts of interest to report



Talking Points

- Review Committee Structure
- MFM Fellowships by Status
- Subspecialty Updates
- Specialty Updates and Ongoing Projects
- ACGME Updates
- RC Reminders and Recommendations



Review Committee Structure

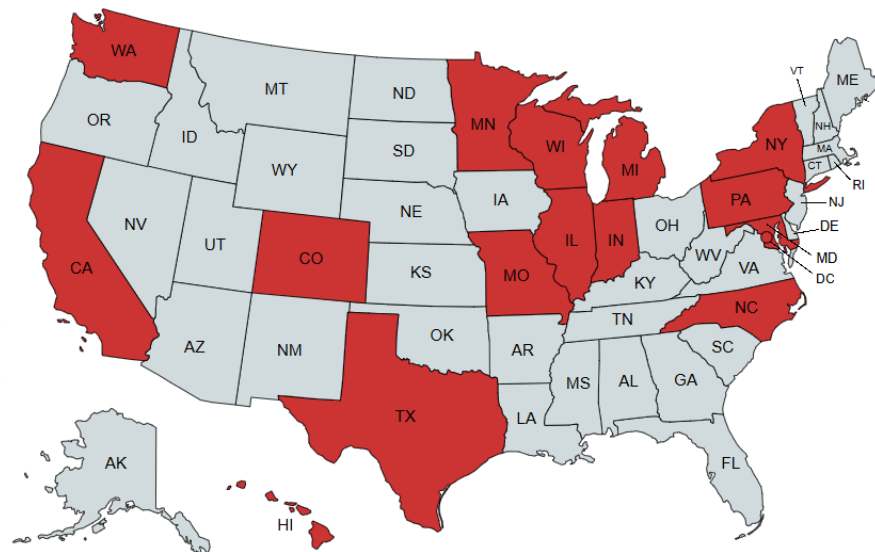


Review Committee Composition

- ✓ Four nominating organizations: American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ABOG), American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG), American Medical Association (AMA), and American Osteopathic Association (AOA)
- ✓ Sixteen voting members (including resident and public member)
- ✓ Ex-officio attendees from ABOG, ACOG, and AOA (non-voting)
- ✓ Six-year terms (except for resident member who serves two years)

Program Directors, Chairs, Faculty, DIOs, Resident and Public Representation

Current Geographic Distribution





Review Committee Members

Voting Members (16)

Meredith Alston, MD, Chair

Saint Joseph Hospital/Intermountain Health

Tony Ogburn, MD, Vice Chair

University of Texas Health San Antonio

May Blanchard, MD

University of Maryland

Megan Bradley, MD

University of Pittsburgh

Seine Chiang, MD

University of Washington

Adrienne Dade, MD

Rush University

Men-Jean Lee, MD

University of Hawaii

Kurt Ludwig, DO

Henry Ford Macomb Hospital

Kathleen Morrell, MD, MPH

Maimonides Medical Center

Michelle Owens, MD

Ascension St. Vincent's Hospital

Randal Robinson, MD

University of Texas Health San Antonio

Paul Sparzak, DO

Duke University

Eric Schmitt, Col., MD (Resident Member)

Tripler Army Medical Center

Allyson Sonenshine, JD

Public Member

Ryan Spencer, MD, MS

University of Wisconsin

Sara Wood, MD, MHPE

Washington University in St. Louis



Ex-Officio Attendees

Ex-Officio Attendees (3)

Mary Cameron Tallman, MA

American Osteopathic Association (AOA)



AnnaMarie Connolly, MD

American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG)



Amy Young, MD

American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ABOG)





RC Executive Committee

Meredith Alston, MD
Chair

Tony Ogburn, MD
Vice Chair

Laura Huth, MBA
Executive Director

Amanda Tan, MA
Associate Executive Director

Keanu Buaya
Accreditation Administrator

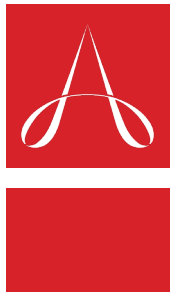


What does the ACGME do?

The ACGME has a twofold purpose:

1. to establish and maintain accreditation standards that promote the educational quality of residency and fellowship education programs; and,
2. to promote residency/fellowship education that is sensitive to the quality and safety of patient care in an environment that fosters the well-being, learning, and professionalism of residents and fellows.

It is not the intent or purpose of the ACGME to establish numbers of physicians in any specialty.



Function and Structure of the Review Committee



The Review Committee

- The function of Review Committees is to set accreditation standards (i.e., requirements) and to provide peer evaluation of Sponsoring Institutions or residency and fellowship programs.
- The purpose of the evaluation is to assess whether a Sponsoring Institution or program is in substantial compliance with the applicable Institutional and/or Specialty Program Requirements, and to confer an accreditation status.



RC Responsibilities

- Propose new and revised program requirements
- Accredite new programs
- Review programs annually
- Approve new program directors and participating sites
- Create & revise case logs; establish minimums
- Review complement change requests
- Follow up on resident/fellow complaints



RC Meetings

Three Meetings per Calendar Year

January/February, April, and September

Upcoming Meetings

April 27-28, 2026 – agenda closes February 13*

September 29-30, 2026 – agenda closes July 17*

February 3-5, 2027 – agenda closes Nov 26*

*agenda closing date for new applications is earlier due to the need for a site visit

[acgme.org](https://www.acgme.org) > [Specialties](#) > [Obstetrics and Gynecology](#) > [Scroll Down](#) > [Review Committee Dates](#)



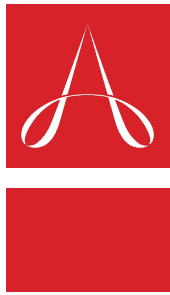
RC Meeting Reminder

- Meeting agenda closes about **two months** before meeting
- **Permanent** complement increase requests must be submitted by the **DIO** by agenda closing date to make the next meeting
- Agenda closing date for applications is earlier due to the need for a site visit

Review Committee Dates

Upcoming Events





MFM Fellowships by Status

MFM Fellowships

Accreditation Status	Count
Initial Accreditation	12
Initial Accreditation with Warning	0
Continued Accreditation without Outcomes	5
Continued Accreditation	98
Continued Accreditation with Warning	0
Total Programs	115



Subspecialty Updates



Maternal-Fetal Medicine

- MGG – MFM Combined Program Application is Active!

Combined Programs

ACGME HOME > PROGRAMS AND INSTITUTIONS > PROGRAMS > COMBINED PROGRAMS

Overview

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Effective February 2024, the ACGME Board of Directors approved a plan to initiate accreditation of combined programs, which are GME programs designed to provide residents/fellows with education in two or more specialties/subspecialties. The ACGME Combined Program Requirements are a basic set of standards (requirements) that supplement/complement the existing specialty-/subspecialty-specific Program Requirements for education of resident and fellow physicians in a particular specialty or subspecialty.

Combined Program Requirements Documents

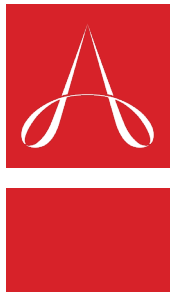
Program applications must be initiated in the Accreditation Data System (ADS). For more information on the process to submit a program application, visit the [Program Application Information](#) web page or review this three-part course [Applying for Program Accreditation](#), available in Learn at ACGME.

CONTACT AND SUPPORT

General questions: accreditation@acgme.org

Specialty-specific questions: contact the relevant Review Committee staff, as noted in the table on this page, or visit the [Specialties](#) listing to select the relevant specialty.

For additional information about combined programs, contact the member boards of the ABMS and/or certifying boards of the AOA offering combined educational experiences.



Annual Review Process



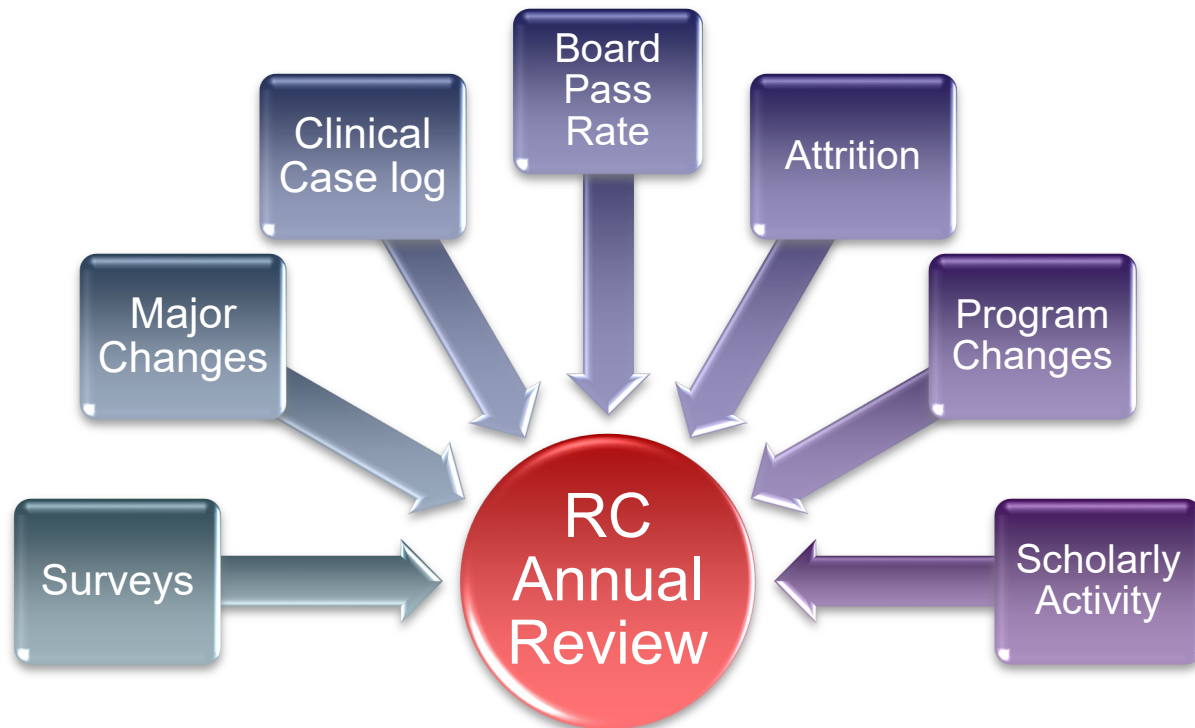
Annual Program Review





Annual Program Review

January - September:
Program data gathered
and stored in the
Accreditation Data
System (ADS)





What is a Citation?

- The program has not provided documented **evidence** of compliance with the requirements.
- *Hope is not a plan, and a plan is not documented evidence of compliance.*





Citations vs Areas for Improvements (AFIs)

Areas for Improvement

Program issues noted by the Committee that could devolve into a citation if not addressed (e.g., *Resident Survey results*).

- *While the program does not need to formally reply, there is a section in ADS to allow for such.*

Citations

Detailed areas of non-compliance with the requirements.

Must be addressed in ADS (e.g., *program provides details on faculty development activities, etc.*).

Must be reviewed by Committee annually to determine if 'resolved' or 'continues (*and why*)'.



What is substantial compliance?

- Merriam-Webster definition of substantial: *“being largely but not wholly that which is specified”*
- Substantial compliance is not absolute compliance
- The RCs want to ensure that the residents are provided a positive and effective learning and working environment in line with the ACGME’s mission



Common Citations/ Areas for Improvement (AFI)

- Program director responsibilities (incomplete/inaccurate information)
- Faculty responsibilities (interest in fellow education, appropriate amount of teaching/supervision)
- Resources for fellow education
- Service to education imbalance
- Learning and working environment (hand-off processes, patient safety)
- Culture of professional responsibilities (process of dealing with problems/concerns, ability to raise concerns without fear)
- Feedback/Evaluations – we see this on both Resident/Fellow and Faculty Surveys



Responding to Citations



Audience: physician
GME leaders who do not
know your program or
institution



Be clear, concise, and
frank



Outline implemented
action plans



Demonstrate that you
have gotten to the root
of the non-compliant
area



Describe outcomes
(e.g., survey trending
up, Case Log minimums
met)



If goals not met, explain
why and outline next
steps



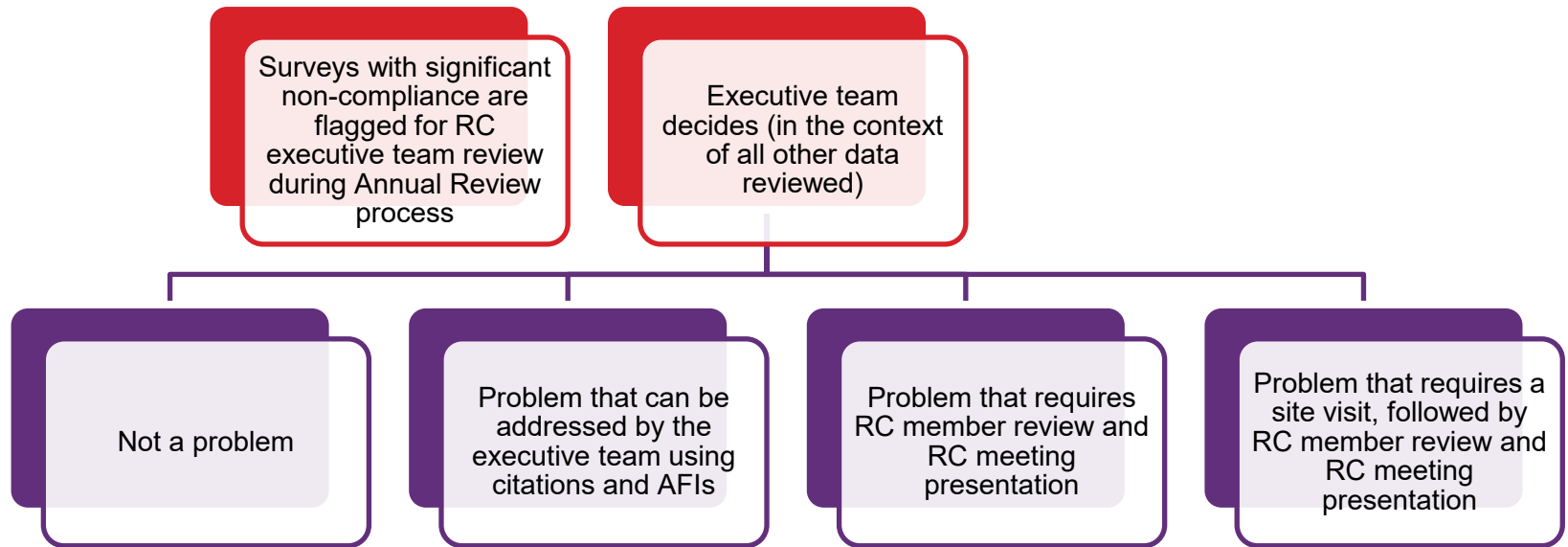
Major Changes and Other Updates

Communicate with us RC about:

- Low ACGME Survey ratings
- How the program has addressed any Areas for Improvement (AFIs)
- Issues with clinical volume and how the program is addressing
- Program changes (e.g., rotations, faculty)
- Program innovations
- Impact of federal rulings/state laws

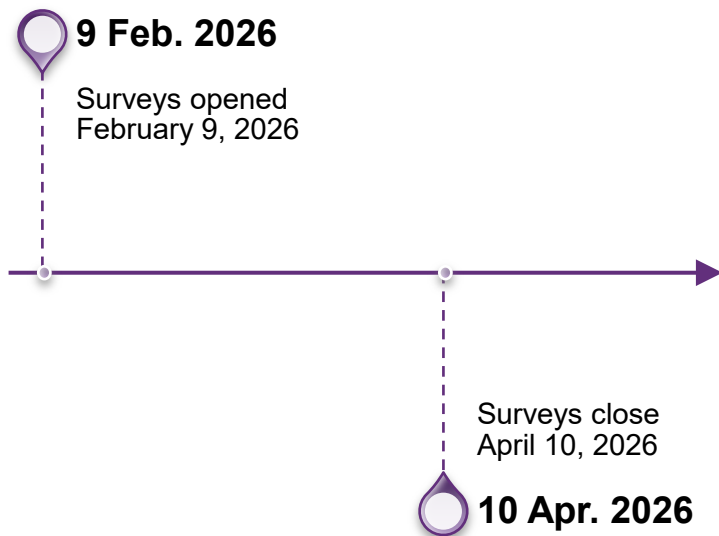


What does the ACGME do with your surveys?





ACGME Resident/Fellow and Faculty Surveys



- Sponsoring Institution and program leaders will receive survey alerts throughout the administration period and must notify survey takers using the existing mechanisms in the Accreditation Data System (ADS).
- Programs should review and, if necessary, update their Resident/Fellow and Faculty Rosters in ADS before the surveys open to ensure accurate scheduling.

New This Year:

- Residents/fellows who started in the program this year and currently hold a status of "Started program off-cycle" WILL be scheduled to participate in the survey as long as they have been in the program for at least 60 days.



Complement Increase Requests

TEMPORARY

- Submit request in ADS if more than 90 days
- Reviewed on a rolling basis by the RC Executive Committee

PERMANENT

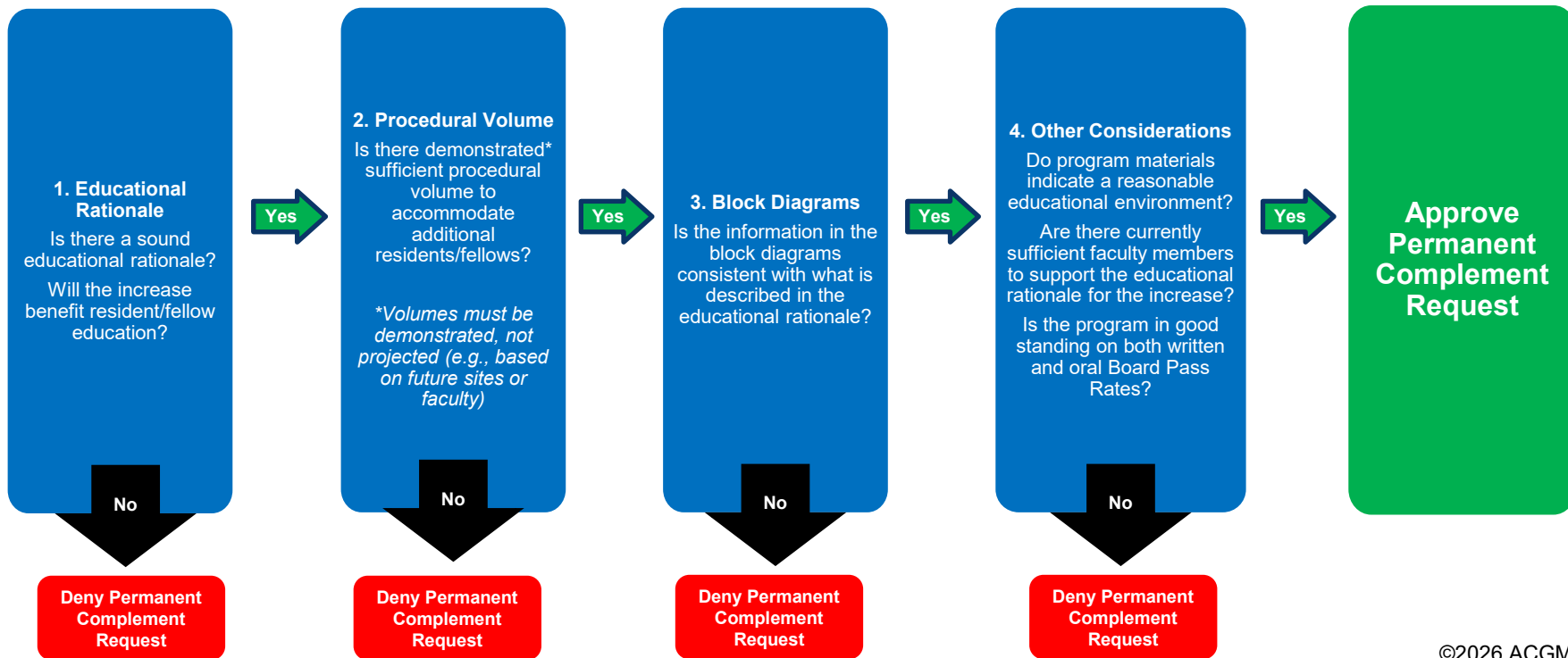
- Submit request in ADS
- Reviewed by full RC at a scheduled meeting
- Request must be approved **by DIO** in ADS by agenda closing deadline

<https://www.acgme.org/specialties/obstetrics-and-gynecology/documents-and-resources/>

Request for Changes in Resident/Fellow Complement



Permanent Complement Increase Requests





Process of Thesis Example

*Briefly Describe the process by which each fellow will complete a thesis. [PR IV.D.3.c]
(Limit response to 200 words)*

The fellow will complete their scientific work in the first year of fellowship (12 months, 90%+ dedicated research time). The project is assigned right at the start of the year with options of projects offered remotely prior to start of the fellowship. Frequent meetings are held with the direct research mentor and fellowship PD to assure progress. Data is presented at laboratory meetings to assess progress. Project progress is also assessed at the department wide Resident/Fellow research program meetings. Findings are presented at the Annual Research Day for the Ob/Gyn department. Thesis is finalized and presented in July of year 2; if this is not feasible, a later date will be set. Our first fellow has followed this paradigm and defended the thesis. The Fellow is encouraged to have a back up project, in case the main thesis project runs into unforeseen issues.



Specialty Updates and Ongoing Projects



FPEP is in Effect!

- The Flexible Procedural Experience Pilot is in effect for 2025 graduates and beyond.
- All programs may participate in the pilot program, and do not need to enroll. Programs are asked to self-identify participation in the pilot and share specific resident education experiences related to the pilot in the “Major Changes” section of the ADS Annual Update.
- The goal of the pilot is to consolidate operative vaginal deliveries (OVD) and vaginal hysterectomies (VH) into the hands of those who will most likely continue to do them in practice. **Total program minimums will not change.** A program with four residents per year will be required to show 60 OVD/VHs annually, however based on the new pilot guidelines, the distribution of cases per resident may vary. Programs not meeting these total program minimums will be cited. All residents are expected to have equitable educational experiences until The Match®.



FPEP Reminders

- Additionally, resident experience cannot be “zero” in OVD or VH, regardless of The Match®.
- For those residents who match into maternal-fetal medicine, gynecologic oncology, reproductive endocrinology and infertility, and urogynecology and reconstructive pelvic surgery programs, fewer than 15 procedures will be allowable as follows:
 - Residents matched into gynecologic oncology, reproductive endocrinology and infertility, and urogynecology and reconstructive pelvic surgery programs can have fewer than 15 OVDs without citation.
 - Residents matched into gynecologic oncology, maternal-fetal medicine, and reproductive endocrinology and infertility programs can have fewer than 15 VHs without citation.



Total Abdominal Hysterectomy (TAH)

- Abdominal hysterectomy minimum has been raised to 20 from 15
 - Effective in ADS
 - 2026 graduate data reviewed but not subject to Citation/AFI
 - 2027 graduate data subject to AFI
 - 2028 graduate data subject to Citation
 - In effect now for new applications and permanent increases



Ongoing Projects

- Guidance on International Rotations
- OBGYN Community Support in the setting of Program Closures



ACGME News



Common Program Requirement Revisions

Multi-year plan – staggered and overlapping efforts:

Collaborate with Institutional Review Committee (IRC) to align Institutional and Common Program Requirements, as appropriate

Literature Reviews and Commissioned Papers

- Work Hours
- Rotational Transitions
- Time to Competence

Public Input

- Surveys and/or Position Papers
- Annual Educational Conference Sessions

Consensus, Drafting and Review Phase

Frequent Communications to the GME Community



Faculty Scholarly Activity Update

- Faculty Scholarly Activity information will now be collected via two program level questions.
- Scholarly activity continues to be an important requirement.
- ACGME hopes this reduces some of the burden of collection and reporting of faculty scholarly activity.



Coming in July 2026!

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) integration into Requirements documents

- As part of the ACGME's Digital Transformation and following the reformatting of all Requirements documents, FAQs will be integrated into the Requirements documents.
- All Common FAQs and specialty/subspecialty-specific FAQs will be available linked directly to specific requirements, where applicable.
- Except for FAQs already undergoing revision, **the content of the FAQs is not changing**, just their integration into requirements documents for ease of access.
- Revisions were also made to Resident/Fellow Transfers and Faculty Certification in many Program Requirements, effective July 1, 2026.



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) integration into Requirements documents



Table of Contents	
Introduction	3
Definition of Graduate Medical Education	3
Definition of Specialty	3
Section 1: Oversight	4
Sponsoring Institution	4
Participating Sites	4
Resources	5
Other Learners and Health Care Personnel	7
Section 2: Personnel	7
Program Director	7
Faculty	13
Physician Faculty Members	15
Program Coordinator	16
Other Program Personnel	18
Section 3: Resident Appointments	18
Eligibility Requirements	18
Resident Complement	19
Resident Transfer	20
Section 4: Educational Program	20
Length of Program	20
Educational Components	20
ACGME Competencies	21
Curriculum Organization and Resident Experiences	29
Scholarship	33
Program Responsibilities	33
Faculty Scholarly Activity	34
Resident Scholarly Activity	34
Section 5: Evaluation	36
Clinical Competency Committee	37
Faculty Evaluation	38
Program Evaluation and Improvement	39
Board Certification	41
Section 6: The Learning and Working Environment	42
Culture of Safety	42
Quality Metrics	43
Supervision and Accountability	43
Professionalism	45
Well-Being	47
Fatigue Mitigation	50
Clinical Responsibilities	50
Teamwork	51
Translating of Care	51
Clinical Experience and Education	51
Frequently Asked Questions: Anesthesiology	56

Anesthesiology with FAQs
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Page 2 of 94



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) integration into Requirements documents

1.2. The program, with approval of its Sponsoring Institution, must designate a primary clinical site. *(Core)*

1.2.a. The Sponsoring Institution must also sponsor or be affiliated with ACGME-accredited residencies in at least the specialties of general surgery and internal medicine. *(Core)*

[See FAQ in Appendix]

Anesthesiology with FAQs

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Page 4 of 64

7. Frequently Asked Questions: Anesthesiology

Review Committee for Anesthesiology

ACGME

Section 1: Oversight

Questions concerning *"The Sponsoring Institution must also sponsor or be affiliated with ACGME-accredited residencies in at least the specialties of general surgery and internal medicine. (Core)" (1.2.a)*

Q: How can affiliation with ACGME-accredited general surgery and internal medicine residency programs be demonstrated?

A: If the program's Sponsoring Institution does not sponsor ACGME-accredited residencies in both general surgery and internal medicine, affiliation can be demonstrated to the Review Committee as to the relationship between the programs through an affiliation agreement, program letter of agreement (PLA), or an explanation of how affiliation is demonstrated through the integration of resident education with each of the specialties.

Questions concerning *"Residents should not be required to rotate among multiple participating sites. (Detail)" (1.6.a.1.a)*

Q: Why should residents not be required to rotate among multiple participating sites?

A: The intent of this requirement is to ensure residents are not required to travel unnecessarily to hospitals or other clinical sites for education or training that could reasonably be provided locally by the Sponsoring Institution's affiliated sites. The Review Committee understands that some programs, such as those sponsored by institutions in rural areas based on a consortium model, will by necessity have residents rotate across three to four sites to achieve the required rotations. The focus of the requirement is to protect the residents from being used to meet the service needs of multiple hospitals/clinical operations.

Anesthesiology with FAQs

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Page 56 of 64



Accreditation of Combined Programs

- Existing combined programs listed in ADS were offered an opt-in
- 130 of 133 were assigned Initial Accreditation
- RC review in 2027 (after site visit), for programs to achieve Continued Accreditation
- New program applications are open (2 already processed)
- No format-specific program requirements
- Programs expected to adhere to specialty-specific requirements, w/ conflicts addressed in (general, not format-specific) combined program requirements
- Block diagram should communicate adherence to posted certifying board curricula
- Residents in combined programs only in that program's ADS roster
- Feedback on this new process is welcome
- See [combined programs webpage](#) or contact RC staff



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- ✓ Stay informed on important updates and initiatives
- ✓ Engage in interactive activities
- ✓ Provide feedback and share ideas
- ✓ Visit the page on [acgme.org](https://www.acgme.org) to view upcoming sessions and register:

<https://www.acgme.org/education-and-resources/acgme-linc/>



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Where to go for help?

RC Staff

lhuth@acgme.org

atan@acgme.org

kbuaya@acgme.org

- Program requirements
- Notification letters
- Complement requests
- Case Log content
- New program application inquiries

Milestones Staff

milestones@acgme.org

- Milestones

ADS Staff

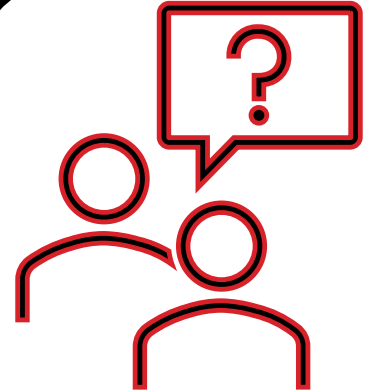
ADS@acgme.org

- ADS
- Surveys
- Case Log System

Field Activities Staff

fieldrepresentatives@acgme.org

- Site Visit Questions





Thank You!
Questions?