Understanding the Program Requirements

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ACGME Requirements

Program
Institutional
Common

Institutional Review
Program Review

- The sponsoring institution maintains responsibility for oversight of all ACGME accredited programs
- Programs operate under the “authority” and “control” of a sponsoring institution
ACGME Requirements Sets

- 27 - specialties (including TY)
- 95 - subspecialties
- Common
- Institutional

Program Requirements

- Minimal Standards
  - Accreditation is the process for determining whether a program is in substantial compliance with established educational standards
  - Accreditation is the responsibility of the ACGME and its Review Committees

ACGME Requirements

- Institutional
- Common
- Program
  - Must: One sponsoring institution must assume ultimate responsibility for the program
  - Should: Residents should have exposure to ECT
Program Requirements

- As approved by the ACGME, standards are set by Review Committees to monitor and accredit residency education programs.
- The accreditation decision is based on compliance with the standards or program requirements.

ACGME “Specialty” Program Requirements

- Introduction
- Institutions
- Program personnel and resources
- Faculty
- Other program personnel
- Resources
- Resident appointments
- Educational program
- Evaluation
- Duty hours
- Experimentation and innovation
ACGME Program Requirements

- Introduction/duration and scope of education
- Institutions/sponsoring institution and participating sites

Institutions

- Program Letters of Agreement (PLA)
  - Identify the faculty who will assume both educational and supervisory responsibilities for residents
  - Specify their responsibilities for teaching, supervision, and formal evaluation of residents, as specified later in this document
  - Specify the duration and content of the educational experience
  - State the policies and procedures that will govern resident education during the assignment

ACGME Program Requirements

- Introduction
- Institutions
- Program personnel and resources
Program Personnel and Resources

- There must be a single Program Director with authority and accountability for the program
- . . . continue in the position for a length of time to maintain continuity of leadership and program stability
- . . . administer and maintain an educational environment conducive to educating the residents

ACGME Program Requirements

- Introduction
- Institutions
- Program personnel and resources
- Faculty

Faculty

Faculty must be certified, devote sufficient time to the program, and add to the educational environment (common requirement)

- Minimum number and scope of qualifications
- Neurology faculty to resident ratio: 1:1
- Emergency Medicine 1:3 and must be “core” faculty
ACGME Program Requirements

- Introduction
- Institutions
- Program personnel and resources
- Faculty
- **Other program personnel**

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Other Program Personnel

The institution and the program . . .

- **must jointly ensure the availability of adequate professional, technical, and clerical personnel.**
Resources

- Facilities
- Support services
- Space and equipment

ACGME Program Requirements

- Introduction
- Institutions
- Program personnel and resources
- Faculty
- Other program personnel
- Resources
- Resident appointments

Resident Appointments

- Eligibility
- Resident complement
- Transfer of residents
- Presence of other learners
## ACGME Program Requirements

- Introduction
- Institutions
- Program personnel and resources
- Faculty
- Other program personnel
- Resources
- Resident appointments
- Educational program

## Educational Program

- Specialty curriculum – overall educational goals
- Competencies (PC, MK, PBLI, ICS, P, SBP)
- Scholarly activities

## Scholarly Activities

**Emergency Medicine Guidelines**

- Each designated core faculty member must demonstrate at least one piece of scholarship per year as noted in the program requirements.

The program as a whole must demonstrate significant contributions to the specialty of Emergency Medicine; collective contributions should equal or exceed the total achieved if 20% of the core faculty were to publish one original, scientific peer-reviewed publication each year.
ACGME Program Requirements

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- Educational program
- Evaluation

Evaluation

The program must document systematic evaluation of the curriculum annually by monitoring:
- Resident performance
- Faculty development
- Graduate performance (including performance on certifying examinations)
- Program quality

Assessment of Program Quality

- Residents and faculty must annually evaluate the program confidentially and in writing
- The program must use the findings, along with other program evaluation results, to improve the program
Evaluation

- If deficiencies are found:
  - Prepare an action plan
  - Document performance improvement initiatives
  - Present plan to teaching faculty for approval
  - Document in meeting minutes

Evaluation

- Formative Resident Evaluation
  - Objective assessments, multiple indicators, semi-annual
  - Summative Resident Evaluation
  - Systematic evaluation of the curriculum annually

- Summative Resident Evaluation
  - "... demonstrated sufficient competence to enter practice without direct supervision"

ACGME Program Requirements

- Introduction
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- Faculty
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- Resources
- Resident appointments
- Educational program
- Evaluation
- Duty hours
Duty Hours

- Education about fatigue
- Limited to 80 hours per week
- One day in seven free
- On call no more than every third night

ACGME Program Requirements

- Introduction
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- Resources
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- Evaluation
- Duty hours
- Experimentation and innovation

Experimentation and Innovation

- Projects that may deviate from the institutional, common and/or specialty requirements
  - Curricular Formats
  - Research Pathways
Program Requirements:
Take Home Points

- Accreditation decisions are based on compliance with ALL specialty requirements
- Each specialty has a designated team to assist in interpreting the program requirements
- Program requirement resources include specialty society meetings and the ACGME web page
- Program requirements are reviewed at least every 5 years
  - The revision process is open and transparent, and includes a 45-day comment period
  - Program Directors can recommend changes to the Executive Director of the specialty
  - Proposed major changes are often discussed at specialty society meetings

Effective Use of Program Requirements

- Self assessment
- Continuous program improvement
- Completion of the program information form
- Planning residency educational activities
- Communicating with peers about what works well
Thank You!