

Program Requirements for Residency Training in Pediatrics

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) is a private not-for-profit organization responsible for the accreditation of more than 7,800 U.S. residency education programs. The Council accredits residency programs in 118 specialty and subspecialty areas of medicine, including all programs leading to primary certification by the 24 member boards of the ABMS. Completion of an accredited residency program is a prerequisite for primary board certification and for certification in the majority of subspecialty boards. Accreditation is a credential that signifies that an accreditor has determined that an educational program substantially complies with the accreditation standards. Accreditation comprises three basic functions: (1) establishment and periodic revision of publicly available accreditation standards; (2) accreditation decisions, i.e., the measuring of compliance by programs and schools with accreditation standards; and (3) publication to the general public of a program or school's accreditation status in written materials, on websites, and otherwise. Numerous individuals and entities, including residents, prospective residents, professional certifying boards, governmental payers, the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) and the general public, rely on the ACGME's accreditation decisions.

To develop and refine its accreditation standards and to review accredited programs for compliance with the standards, the ACGME relies on experts in the various medical specialties. The 26 specialty-specific Residency Review Committees (RRCs) and the Transitional Year Review Committee (TYRC) periodically revise the accreditation standards and review accredited programs against these standards. The process for revising the standards includes solicitation of comment from interested parties and the public. An Institutional Review Committee reviews the more than 400 institutions that sponsor residency programs in two or more specialties. Appointing organizations to all RRCs include the AMA, the member boards of ABMS, and in some specialties, the academic specialty organization.

To gain and maintain accreditation, residency programs are expected to comply substantially with the Program Requirements for their specialty, and the institutions sponsoring them are expected to comply with a set of Institutional Requirements. Compliance is measured through annual web-based review of all programs, and a self-study every 4-6 years.

The most current program requirements are listed below.

[Pediatric Program Requirements](#)

[Common Program Requirements](#)