

Flexible Rotations during General Surgery Residency Review Committee for Surgery

Introduction

The Review Committee will consider requests for flexible rotations during general surgery residency. All requests must be made in advance of the intended rotation(s). Requests must be accompanied by an educational rationale for the specific resident(s) and an explanation of the anticipated effect on the program. Programs requesting chief rotations in PGY-4 year must describe the attributes of the rotation(s) that qualify as chief-level education and experience.

Program Requirements

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| IV.C.5.c).(1) | Clinical assignments at the chief resident level should be scheduled in the final (5 th) year of the program. <small>(Core)</small> |
| IV.C.5.c).(1).(a) | To take advantage of a unique educational opportunity in a program, up to 6 months of the chief year may be served in the next to the last year (4 th). <small>(Detail)</small> |
| IV.C.5.c).(1).(a).(i) | This experience must not occur any earlier than the 4 th clinical year. Any special Program of this type must be approved in advance by the Review Committee. Operative cases counted as the chief cases must be performed during the 12 months designated as the chief year. <small>(Detail)</small> |
| IV.C.5.c).(2) | The clinical assignments during the chief year must be scheduled at the primary clinical site or at participating integrated site(s). <small>(Core)</small> |
| IV.C.5.c).(3) | A chief resident and a fellow (whether the fellow is in an ACGME-accredited position or not) must not have primary responsibility for the same patient except that general surgeon and surgical critical care fellows may co-manage the non-operative care of the same patient. <small>(Core)</small> |
| IV.C.5.c).(4) | The clinical assignments during the chief year must be in the essential content areas of general surgery. No more than six months of the chief year may be devoted exclusively to only one essential content area. <small>(Core)</small> |

Flexibility in education requests will be considered for the following three purposes:

1. Focused education during which chief residents will have more than six months of essential content in one area during PGY-5, including chief and non-chief rotations
2. Unique educational opportunities for residents to have up to six months of chief experience during PGY-4
3. Establishment of an education “track” (e.g., rural, burn) where only some residents elect to complete a structured “track” curriculum

Approval Process

When submitting a request for approval of a flexible rotation(s) during general surgery residency, a letter of request, co-signed by the program director and the designated institutional official (DIO), and all requested documentation must be sent to the executive director of the Review Committee for Surgery and the president of the American Board of Surgery:

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Executive Director
ACGME
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Jo Buyske, MD
President and Chief Executive Officer
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Flexible Rotations during General Surgery Residency Approvals Checklist

Program Number	
Program Name	
Program Director	

Request Type					
PGY-5 Focused Training		Chief Rotations in PGY-4		Track	
	Letter of request co-signed by program director and DIO with educational rationale and description of anticipated effect on program		Letter of request co-signed by program director and DIO with educational rationale and description of anticipated effect on program		Letter of request co-signed by program director and DIO with educational rationale and description of anticipated effect on program
			Description of the attributes of the rotation that qualify as chief-level education and experience in PGY-4		Complete set of level-specific and competency-based goals and objectives for track
	Current block diagram		Current block diagram		Current block diagram
	Proposed resident rotation schedule (must include name of resident(s))		Proposed resident rotation schedule showing chief rotations in the PGY-4 and showing the chief and non-chief rotations in the PGY-5 (there may be no more than 12 months of chief rotations; must include name of resident(s))		Proposed block diagram/resident rotation schedule (must include name of resident(s))
			Proposed block diagram showing the rotations for the PGY-4 and PGY-5 residents who are not participating in the flexibility option		Executed program letter of agreement identifying site director and all applicable faculty members
					If PGY-4 chief rotations, program must complete all requirements in the second column
	Request made to the ABS		Request made to the ABS		Request made to the ABS
	ABS approval forwarded to the ACGME		ABS approval forwarded to the ACGME		ABS approval forwarded to the ACGME