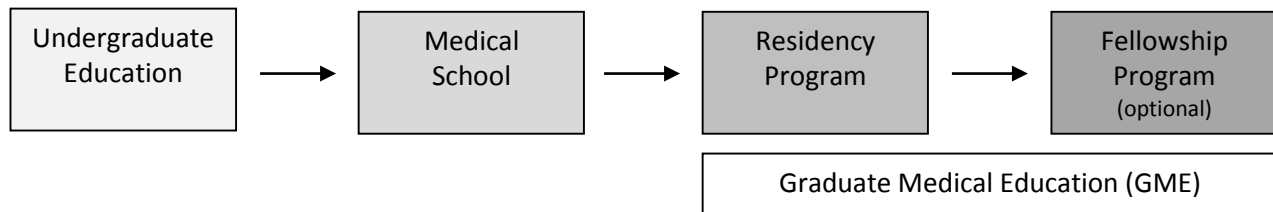


Continuum of Physician Medical Education



Helpful Definitions: American Council of Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)

Source: http://acgme.org/acgmeweb/Portals/0/PFAssets/ProgramRequirements/ab_ACGMEglossary.pdf

Residency: A program accredited to provide a structured educational experience designed to conform to the Program Requirements of a particular specialty.

Program: A structured educational experience in graduate medical education designed to conform to the Program Requirements of a particular specialty/subspecialty, the satisfactory completion of which may result in eligibility for board certification.

Resident: Any physician in an accredited graduate medical education program, including interns, residents, and fellows.

Intern: Historically, a designation for individuals in the first year of GME. This term is no longer used by the ACGME.

Rotation: An educational experience of planned activities in selected settings, over a specific time period, developed to meet goals and objectives of the program.

Site: An organization providing educational experiences or educational assignments/rotations for residents/fellows.

Subspecialty Program (Fellowship): A structured educational experience following completion of a prerequisite specialty program in GME designed to conform to the Program Requirements of a particular subspecialty.

Fellow: A physician in a program of graduate medical education accredited by the ACGME who has completed the requirements for eligibility for first board certification in the specialty. The term "subspecialty residents" is also applied to such physicians. Other uses of the term "fellow" require modifiers for precision and clarity, e.g., research fellow.

Program Letter of Agreement (PLA): A written document that addresses GME responsibilities between an individual accredited program and a site other than the sponsoring institution at which residents receive a required part of their education.

Sponsoring Institution: The organization (or entity) that assumes the ultimate financial and academic responsibility for a program of GME. The sponsoring institution has the primary purpose of providing educational programs and/or health care services (e.g., a university, a medical school, a hospital, a school of public health, a health department, a public health agency, an organized health care delivery system, a medical examiner's office, a consortium, an educational foundation).