

Flexible Rotations during General Surgery Residency Review Committee for Surgery

Introduction

The Review Committee for Surgery 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 the PG-4 year must describe the attributes of the rotation(s) that qualify as chief-level training and experience.

Program Requirements

- IV.A.6.a).(2).(g).(i) Clinical assignments at the chief resident level should be scheduled in the final (5th) year of the program.^(Core)
- IV.A.6.a).(2).(g).(i).(a) To take advantage of a unique educational opportunity in a program, up to six months of the chief year may be served in the next to the last year (4th).^(Detail)
- IV.A.6.a).(2).(g).(ii) This experience must not occur any earlier than the 4th 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.^(Detail)
- IV.A.6.a).(2).(g).(iii) The clinical assignments during the chief year must be scheduled at the primary clinical site or at participating integrated site(s).^(Core)
- IV.A.6.a).(2).(g).(iv) 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.^(Core)

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

- 1) Focused training during which chief residents will have more than six months of essential content in one area during the PG-5 year, including chief and non-chief rotations
- 2) Unique educational opportunities for residents to have up to six months of chief experience during the PG-4 year
- 3) Establishment of a training “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 both the program director and the designated institutional official (DIO), and all requested documentation must be sent to both the Executive Director of the Review Committee for Surgery and the Executive Director of the American Board of Surgery (ABS):

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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
	Current block diagram		Description of the attributes of the rotation that qualify as chief-level training and experience in PGY-4		Complete set of level-specific and competency-based goals and objectives for track
	Proposed resident rotation schedule (must include name of resident(s))		Current block diagram		Current block diagram
	Request made to the ABS		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))
	ABS approval forwarded to the ACGME		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
			Request made to ABS		If PGY-4 chief rotations, program must completed all requirements in the second column
			ABS approval forwarded to the ACGME		Request made to the ABS
					ABS approval forwarded to the ACGME