## Eligibility Requirements

Common Program Requirements are in BOLD

### Cytopathology

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| **III.A. Eligibility Criteria**  
Each fellow must successfully complete an ACGME-accredited specialty program and/or meet other eligibility criteria as specified by the Review Committee. The program must document that each fellow has met the eligibility criteria.  
III.A.1. Prior to enrollment in a cytopathology program, fellows should have completed at least two years of training in an ACGME-accredited pathology residency, which must include at least 18 months of anatomic pathology or 18 months of clinical pathology. | **III.A. Eligibility Criteria**  
Each fellow must successfully complete an ACGME-accredited specialty program and/or meet other eligibility criteria as specified by the Review Committee.  
**Core**  
III.A.1. The program must document that each fellow has met the eligibility criteria.  
**Detail**  
III.A.2. Prior to appointment in the program, fellows must have one of the following: at least two years of a pathology residency accredited by the ACGME or a program located in Canada and accredited by the RCPSC; or certification by the ABP in anatomic pathology and clinical pathology; or in anatomic pathology.  
**Core** | **Core**  
Eligibility Requirements – Fellowship Programs  
All required clinical education for entry into ACGME-accredited fellowship programs must be completed in an ACGME-accredited residency program, or in an RCPSC-accredited or CFPC-accredited residency program located in Canada.  
**Core**  
Prior to appointment in the program, fellows must have completed at least two years of a pathology residency accredited by the ACGME or a program located in Canada and accredited by the RCPSC; or certification by the ABP in anatomic pathology and clinical pathology; or in anatomic pathology.  
**Core**  
III.A.1. Fellowship programs must receive verification of each entering fellow’s level of competency in the required field using ACGME or CanMEDS Milestones assessments from the core residency program.  
**Core**  
III.A.2. Fellow Eligibility Exception  
A Review Committee may grant the following exception to the fellowship eligibility requirements:  
An ACGME-accredited fellowship program may accept an exceptionally qualified applicant**, who does not satisfy the eligibility requirements listed in Sections III.A. and III.A.1., but who does meet all of the following additional qualifications and conditions:  
**Core** |

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<td>III.A.2.a) Assessment by the program director and fellowship selection committee of the applicant's suitability to enter the program, based on prior training and review of the summative evaluations of training in the core specialty; and (Core)</td>
<td>III.A.2.b) Review and approval of the applicant's exceptional qualifications by the GMEC or a subcommittee of the GMEC; and (Core)</td>
<td>III.A.2.c) Satisfactory completion of the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Steps 1, 2, and, if the applicant is eligible, 3, and; (Core)</td>
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<td>III.A.2.d) For an international graduate, verification of Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) certification; and, (Core)</td>
<td>III.A.2.e) Applicants accepted by this exception must complete fellowship Milestones evaluation (for the purposes of establishment of baseline performance by the Clinical Competency Committee), conducted by the receiving fellowship program within six weeks of matriculation. This evaluation may be waived for an applicant who has completed an ACGME International-accredited residency based on the applicant’s Milestones evaluation conducted at the conclusion of the residency program. (Core)</td>
<td>III.A.2.e).(1) If the trainee does not meet the expected level of Milestones competency following entry into the fellowship program, the trainee must undergo a period of</td>
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<td>remediation, overseen by the Clinical Competency Committee and monitored by the GMEC or a subcommittee of the GMEC. This period of remediation must not count toward time in fellowship training. <em>(Core)</em> ** An exceptionally qualified applicant has (1) completed a non-ACGME-accredited residency program in the core specialty, and (2) demonstrated clinical excellence, in comparison to peers, throughout training. Additional evidence of exceptional qualifications is required, which may include one of the following: (a) participation in additional clinical or research training in the specialty or subspecialty; (b) demonstrated scholarship in the specialty or subspecialty; (c) demonstrated leadership during or after residency training; (d) completion of an ACGME-International-accredited residency program. III.A.3. The Review Committee for Pathology does allow exceptions to the Eligibility Requirements for Fellowship Programs in Section III.A. <em>(Core)</em></td>
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