



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. To take advantage of a unique educational opportunity, programs may wish to assign residents up to six months of chief experience during the PGY-4 [see *PR IV.A.6.a).(2).(g).(i).(a) in the Program Requirements*]]. Review Committee for Surgery and American Board of Surgery (ABS) approval for this experience must be obtained in advance of implementing the plan.

Approval Process

When applying for flexible rotations during general surgery residency, a letter of request, co-signed by both the program director and the designated institutional official (DIO), must be sent to both the Executive Director of the Review Committee for Surgery and the ABS at the following addresses:

Donna Lamb
Executive Director, Review Committee for Surgery
Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education
515 North State Street, Suite 2000
Chicago, Illinois 60654

Jo Buyske, MD
Associate Executive Director
American Board of Surgery
1617 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 860
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

The program will receive separate approval letters from the ABS and the Review Committee. Both approval letters must be received prior to implementation of a flexible rotation. The approval letters must be retained by the resident and submitted to the ABS along with his/her application for the ABS Qualifying Examination.

Additional documents to be attached:

- **Current** block diagram for PGY-4 and PGY-5 rotations (without the flexibility option)
- Two block diagrams depicting the effect of the **proposed** flexibility option
 - One showing the rotations of the resident(s) for whom flexibility is proposed
 - One showing the rotations for the PGY-4 and PGY-5 residents who are not participating in the flexibility option

For subsequent utilization of a flexibility option **identical** to one previously approved by the Review Committee and the ABS, the program need only submit an informational letter to the Executive Director with the name(s) of the additional resident(s) who plan to take advantage of this opportunity and a statement that the framework for the flexibility option has not changed since the original application.

Acknowledgment of such letters will be sent to the program. NOTE: *Any* variation from a previously approved flexibility plan will require a complete application.