

Procedural Dermatology FAQs

Question	Answer
Duration of Education	
Will my program be accredited if it is more than 12 months in duration? (PR Intro.B.1.)	The Review Committee will only accredit a 12-month program in procedural dermatology. The program requirements must be fulfilled within 12 months. Additional work, such as research time or special electives, while a valuable adjunct to accredited education, are not considered part of the accredited program.
Faculty	
How many faculty members must the program have? (PR II.B.1.a.)	The program director is expected to be the responsible member of the faculty to whom the fellow is directly accountable. However, surgical training is greatly enhanced by the experience of many teachers. Therefore, in addition to the program director there should be at least one other faculty member dedicated to the program who works directly with fellows. Faculty may be full- or part-time and may have primary training in related specialties.
What need to happen if the program director has an extended absence such as medical leave? (PR II.B.7.)	The program director must make arrangements for fellows to have proper oversight during his/her extended absences to ensure the quality of fellow education and appropriate patient care. The program director may take vacations for one-two weeks at a time, during which time other faculty members may supervise fellow education. However, extended absences for greater than one month require the appointment of a temporary program director who is properly qualified and has the resources to assume the role in the full-time program director's absence.
Resources	
What are examples of appropriate oversight bodies that may accredit space used for dermatologic surgery procedures? (PR II.D.1.)	These include: Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC), Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), Institute for Medical Quality (IMQ), Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) or state medical boards. Programs must ensure that they comply with all federal, state and local laws.
What are the federal, state & local regulating bodies that have regulatory oversight for program laboratory work environments? (PR II.D.3.)	These include: Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA), College of American Pathologists (CAP), and Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA).
What are appropriate peer-review organizations for reviewing and approving frozen section slides for Mohs micrographic surgery? (PR II.D.4.)	These include: American College of Mohs Surgery (ACMS), American Society for Mohs Surgery (ASMS), Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA), College of American Pathologists (CAP), Institute for Medical Quality (IMQ), and programs sponsored by local Academic Medical Centers.

Question	Answer
What does the Review Committee consider appropriate space for fellows to use in which to read, study, and complete their paperwork? (PR II.D.5.)	There is no specific office design or square footage requirement. Flexibility in fulfilling this requirement is permitted given the various sites in which programs may be housed. Desk space for completing paperwork adjacent to the practice is required. Space for study and research must also be available but could include the library, research lab or an office with computer access.
ACGME Competencies	
What is the expectation for the number of dermatologic surgical procedures performed? (PR II.D.4.a. and IV.A.2.a.(2).(c))	The program must provide a total experience of at least 500 cases of Mohs surgery and 1000 total cases per fellow, a standard that has not changed since the previous version of these Requirements. Additionally, each fellow must now document that he/she is the primary surgeon for at least 200 Mohs surgery cases and a total of 400 surgical cases.
Educational Program	
How should the program be structured to involve procedural dermatology throughout the year? (PR IV.A.3.)	Fellows must be able to practice procedural dermatology for 12 continuous months, either in the clinic or in surgery, except for vacation, academic trips, or short term illness. Extended absences totaling greater than six weeks may result in the extension of a fellow's program.
What is meant by "regularly scheduled didactic sessions"? (PR IV.A.4.)	These fellowship programs routinely accept only one or two fellows per year, so it is unrealistic to require scheduled lectures for all didactic education. Opportunities to teach on a regular basis should include spending time discussing a complex case at the end of the day, reviewing the curriculum or accessing Web-based academic material.
What is meant by "Fellows must be actively engaged in teaching"? (PR IV.A.8.)	During the fellowship, fellows are expected to share their knowledge of procedural dermatology with medical students, residents, clinic staff, patients, members of the public and practicing physicians. For those programs affiliated with a medical school or other graduate medical education programs, fellows could provide lectures to students or act as attending physicians in clinics. Formal presentations on selected topics for the education of paramedical support staff, patient groups or medical professionals at regional or national medical meetings would also be appropriate, especially if on-site access to medical students or residents is limited or non-existent.
Scholarly Activity	
How will the manuscripts be documented and verified? (PR IV.B.1.)	Projects performed by fellows must be prepared for publication, however journals may not accept a given manuscript, or the publication process may take longer than the one year's duration of the fellowship. In such a case, the program director will attest to the preparation of a manuscript and the site visitor will review copies of fellows' manuscripts.