



Accreditation Council for
Graduate Medical Education

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MEMO

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Agreement to Protect Residents during the Transition to a Single GME Accreditation System

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME), the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), and the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) are committed to protecting residents during the transition to the single graduate medical education (GME) accreditation system.

The terms of the agreement for the single GME accreditation system require that the AOA no longer accredit GME programs after June 30, 2020. The three organizations recognize there may be unique circumstances whereby some programs make a good faith effort to achieve ACGME accreditation but still have not transitioned successfully to ACGME accreditation by that date.

An agreement reached by the three organizations this week seeks to protect residents in such programs or situations so they have the ability to complete AOA-approved training and advance to AOA board eligibility. The agreement will give the AOA restricted authority to extend the AOA accreditation date to allow any remaining resident in such programs to complete training in an accredited program.

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The ACGME is a private, non-profit, professional organization responsible for the accreditation of approximately 10,000 residency and fellowship programs and the approximately 800 institutions that sponsor these programs in the United States. Residency and fellowship programs educate approximately 125,000 resident and fellow physicians in 150 specialties and subspecialties. The ACGME's mission is to improve health care and population health by assessing and advancing the quality of resident physicians' education through accreditation.