

**Frequently Asked Questions: Obstetrics and Gynecology**  
**Review Committee for Obstetrics and Gynecology**  
**ACGME**

**(FAQs related to Obstetrics and Gynecology Program Requirements effective July 1, 2021)**

Question	Answer
<b>Introduction</b>	
<p>How much leave time can a resident have during the educational program?</p> <p><i>[Program Requirement: Int.C.]</i></p>	<p>Residents must complete the required 48-month educational program, but there are no requirements related to time off during that period. Programs must have leave policies consistent with the policies of their Sponsoring Institution and the applicable board [American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ABOG) or American Osteopathic Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology (AOBOG)].</p> <p>If it is determined a resident’s educational program needs to be extended, the program should update the resident’s completion date in the ACGME’s Accreditation Data System (ADS). In addition, a temporary complement increase for the additional education period may need to be requested. See “Requests for Changes in Resident/Fellow Complement” available on the <a href="#">Documents and Resources</a> page of the Obstetrics and Gynecology section of the ACGME website. A temporary increase in resident complement for up to one month does not require approval of the Review Committee.</p>
<p>Can a resident participate in an international rotation?</p> <p><i>[Program Requirements: Int.C.]</i></p>	<p>See “International Rotations,” available on the <a href="#">Documents and Resources</a> page of the Obstetrics and Gynecology section of the ACGME website.</p>
<b>Personnel</b>	

Question	Answer
<p>How does a program request Review Committee consideration of the qualifications of a Subspecialty Faculty Educator who is not currently certified in the subspecialty by ABOG or AOBOG?</p> <p><i>[Program Requirement: II.B.1.a).(1).(a)]</i></p>	<p>With the exception of Subspecialty Faculty Educators in complex family planning, the program must submit a letter of support to the Review Committee signed by the program director and the designated institutional official (DIO). A CV for the faculty member must be attached. Email the letter to the Review Committee’s Accreditation Administrator, contact information for whom can be found in the Obstetrics and Gynecology section of the ACGME website.</p> <p>An exception is made for complex family planning as certification is not yet available. Programs should provide a faculty member’s qualifications to serve as the complex family planning Subspecialty Faculty Educator in the ADS Faculty Roster. To do this, add complex family as a specialty certification, choose “Not Certified,” and describe the faculty member’s qualifications in the space provided.</p>
<p>What are the responsibilities of the Subspecialty Faculty Educators?</p> <p><i>[Program Requirement: II.B.1.a).(1).(b)]</i></p>	<p>Subspecialty Faculty Educators collaborate with the program director to oversee residents’ educational experiences in a specific content area. Subspecialty Faculty Educators help ensure education in the subspecialty areas is up to date and evidence based.</p>
<p>How should faculty members’ certification information be reported in the ADS Faculty Roster?</p> <p><i>[Program Requirement: II.B.3.b).(1)]</i></p>	<p>Programs must enter both obstetrics and gynecology and, if applicable, subspecialty certification information into the Faculty Roster. Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most faculty members have time-limited certifications, and programs should indicate continuing certification by “MOC/CC Requirements” for American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) certification or “Osteopathic Continuous Certification (OCC)” for American Osteopathic Association (AOA) certification.</li> <li>• For faculty members with a time-unlimited certificate (before re-certification was required) and who are not engaged in maintenance of certification, choose “Time-unlimited.”</li> <li>• For faculty members who recently completed a program and are not yet certified, enter “ABMS Board Eligible” or “AOA Board Eligible.”</li> <li>• For faculty members who do not have ABMS or AOA certification, and are not eligible for ABMS or AOA certification, enter “Other Certifying Body,” “Not Certified,” “Certification Lapsed,” or “RCPS(C).” “Other Certifying Body” and “Not Certified” require an explanation in the “Explain Equivalent Qualifications for RC Consideration” section. See the next two questions for additional information.</li> </ul>

Question	Answer
<p>When does a program need to request the Committee review the qualifications of a faculty member who is not certified in obstetrics and gynecology by ABOG or AOBOG?</p> <p><i>[Program Requirement: II.B.3.b).(1)]</i></p>	<p>Programs are expected to submit an approval request for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a faculty member whose certification is from a country outside of the United States</li> <li>• a faculty member who is not an ABOG active candidate or an AOBOG-eligible candidate</li> <li>• a faculty member with lapsed ABOG or AOBOG certification</li> </ul> <p>A request is not needed for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a faculty member who is an ABOG active candidate or an AOBOG-eligible candidate</li> <li>• a non-obstetrician/gynecologist faculty member who is board certified in their (sub)specialty</li> </ul>
<p>How should a program request Review Committee consideration of the qualifications of a physician faculty member who does not have certification in obstetrics and gynecology by ABOG or AOBOG?</p> <p><i>[Program Requirement: II.B.3.b).(1)]</i></p>	<p>The program must submit a letter of support to the Review Committee signed by the program director and the designated institutional official (DIO). A CV for the faculty member must be attached. Email the letter to the Review Committee’s Accreditation Administrator, contact information for whom can be found on the Obstetrics and Gynecology section of the ACGME website.</p> <p>If the Review Committee approves the individual as a program faculty member, the program should note the approval in the ADS Faculty Roster’s Specialty Certification section under “Explain Equivalent Qualifications for RC Consideration.”</p>
<p><b>Resident Appointments</b></p>	
<p>How does a program initiate a complement increase request?</p> <p><i>[Program Requirement: III.B.1.]</i></p>	<p>See “Requests for Changes in Resident/Fellow Complement” available on the <a href="#">Documents and Resources</a> page of the Obstetrics and Gynecology section of the ACGME website.</p>
<p>Can a program be accredited with fewer than three approved categorical positions per PGY level?</p> <p><i>[Program Requirement: III.B.2.]</i></p>	<p>Yes. The Review Committee will evaluate the educational environment to ensure that an appropriate education and work balance exists. While three approved positions per PGY level is preferable, the Committee will consider a smaller complement. The Committee requests programs outline the reason(s) for fewer than three residents per year and any plans to increase the complement using the “Major Changes and Other Updates” section in ADS during the Annual Update.</p>

<b>Educational Program</b>	
<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>
<p>How does the Review Committee define a half-day ambulatory care session?</p> <p><i>[Program Requirements: IV.C.5.b)-IV.C.5.c).(2)]</i></p>	<p>The minimum of 120 required sessions must be distinct half-day sessions in which the residents provide care to a resident-specific panel of patients. This experience can occur in one or more of the following settings: obstetrics and gynecology clinic; gynecology clinic; family planning clinic; mature women’s clinic; urgent obstetric and gynecologic care clinic; maternal-fetal medicine clinic; and subspecialty gynecology clinics.</p> <p>Patients need to be scheduled in a way that gives residents and/or teams continuity and gives residents or their team ample opportunity to care for the same panel of patients over time.</p>
<p>What does the Review Committee accept as an evaluation of performance data for the ambulatory care experience?</p> <p><i>[Program Requirement: IV.C.5.c).(3)]</i></p>	<p>Each program should identify measures that will be reported and acted upon by the residents regarding the care they provide in continuity clinic. Examples include screening rates and patient satisfaction data.</p>
<p>Does a program located in an institution that has a religious, moral, or legal restriction prohibiting abortions within the institution need to provide access to training in the provision of abortions?</p> <p><i>[Program Requirement: IV.C.7.a)]</i></p>	<p>See “Clarification on Requirements Regarding Family Planning” available on the <a href="#">Documents and Resources</a> page of the Obstetrics and Gynecology section of the ACGME website.</p>
<b>Other</b>	
<p>Does the Review Committee have specific expectations for the program’s block diagram that is uploaded into ADS?</p>	<p>Yes. See “Block Diagram Instructions and Example: Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency,” available on the <a href="#">Documents and Resources</a> page of the Obstetrics and Gynecology section of the ACGME website.</p>
<p>Where can a program find information about a Common Program Requirement?</p>	<p>See <a href="#">Common Program Requirements Frequently Asked Questions</a>.</p>
<p>Where can a program find information about accreditation site visits?</p>	<p>See the <a href="#">Site Visit section</a> of the ACGME website.</p>
<p>Where can a program find information about required procedural minimums, the teaching assistant role, and the Case Log System?</p>	<p>See “Case Log Information: Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency,” available on the <a href="#">Documents and Resources</a> page of the Obstetrics and Gynecology section of the ACGME website.</p>