University of Colorado School of Medicine
Graduate Medical Education

Policy: **Non-ACGME Accredited Fellowships**

| Original Approval: 4/16/2014 | Effective date: 4/16/2014 | Revision Date: 10/30/2014 (Editorial) February 10, 2017 |

**Purpose**

The intent of this policy is to promote the educational quality of the University of Colorado School of Medicine training programs, comply with regulatory requirements, ensure that new programs do not compete or take cases from existing accredited programs, and ensure institutional support for trainees in these programs that are appointed as:

**GME Fellows:** Will receive stipends, benefits, and professional liability coverage by GME. All trainees requiring J1 Visa sponsorship must have this appointment type. A grant or medical board may also require this appointment type.

**GME Fellows with an Instructor/Fellow Appointment (for moonlighting):** Will receive stipends, benefits, and professional liability coverage by GME. Must have this appointment type if moonlighting at University of Colorado Hospital or Children’s Hospital Colorado to be covered under the Faculty Trust Malpractice Policy.

**Instructor/Fellows (otherwise considered Faculty):** Stipends and benefits are not facilitated by GME payroll. Shall obtain Medical Staff appointment/privileges at the primary training site. Shall be responsible to the Medical Staff Bylaws, Rules & Regulations, Policies/Procedures, and Medical Billing requirements of the site.

**Policy**

A. All proposed non-ACGME accredited programs must be approved by GMEC. GMEC will not approve requests for new non-accredited programs for which ACGME accreditation is available unless completion of the program will not lead toward board certification. If ACGME accreditation becomes available for an established non-ACGME accredited program, the program must promptly apply for ACGME accreditation.

B. Oversight for non-ACGME accredited programs by GMEC is necessitated by the policies of the following national organizations:

1. **Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME): Common Program Requirements III.D - Appointment of fellows and other learners (including, but not limited to, residents from other specialties, subspecialty fellows, PhD students, and nurse practitioners) in the program must not interfere with the appointed residents’ education. The program director must report the presence of other learners to the DIO and GMEC in accordance with sponsoring institution guidelines.**
2. **Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) Requirement for Non-Standard Training** - The ECFMG defines non-standard training as “an advanced clinical subspecialty discipline or pathway for which there is no ACGME accreditation and/or ABMS member board certification available.” Programs seeking to enroll foreign nationals requiring J-1 visa sponsoring in non-standard training must meet the criteria as defined by ECFMG.

3. **National Residency Match Program (NRMP): Institution User Guide Pg. 16** - The NRMP Institutional Official must attest to oversight responsibility for non-ACGME-accredited fellowships to indicate that unaccredited programs are under the institution’s governance or that an affiliation agreement exists.

C. New Non-ACGME Fellowship Programs currently offered at the University of Colorado must meet the minimum program requirements as indicated on the [Application for GMEC Sponsorship of New Fellowship Program (Non-ACGME)](https://example.com).

1. Similar to accredited programs, non-ACGME accredited programs must obtain GMEC approval in order to:
   - Apply for initial program approval and GME-sponsorship
   - Increase the resident complement
   - Appoint a new Program Director
   - Add a new site
   - Change program length or structure

D. Education Agreement: All non-ACGME accredited programs must maintain Program Letters of Agreement for all participating sites to ensure educational and risk management oversight.

E. Billing Requirements: Contact the GME Director of Finance and Administration who will serve as the liaison between the program and CU Medicine for questions involving billing.

F. All non-ACGME accredited programs must maintain compliance with relevant GME Policies (as indicated below), as well as those of the CU SOM and other statutory policies, rules, or regulations.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Disaster Policy - Including Program Closure</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eligibility and Selection Policy*</td>
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Non-Compete Policy  |  USMLE (and COMLEX) Examinations Policy*
Physician Impairment & Health Policy  |  Work Environment Policy

* indicates policies that do not apply to the appointment type Instructor/Fellows (otherwise considered Faculty). Instructor/Fellows (otherwise considered Faculty) are also subject to the policies and procedures established by Faculty Affairs pertaining to Faculty.