



## Stony Brook Medicine Graduate Medical Education

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| <b>Subject:</b> GME0032 Eligibility, Selection, and Appointment of Residents, Fellows and Transfers | <b>Published Date:</b> 06/24/2026         |
| Graduate Medical Education                                                                          | <b>Next Review Date:</b> 06/24/2029       |
| <b>Scope:</b> SBM Eastern Long Island Campus, SBM Stony Brook Campus                                | <b>Original Creation Date:</b> 09/17/1997 |

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### **Responsible Department/Division/Committee:**

Graduate Medical Education Committee

### **Purpose:**

Stony Brook Medicine has established an institutional policy regarding the selection and appointment of residents and fellows.

### **Definitions:**

None

### **Policy:**

Stony Brook Medicine Graduate Medical Education (GME) programs share common criteria and processes for the recruitment and selection of residency and fellowship training candidates. The application process meets all requirements of the Equal Employment Opportunity and the Americans with Disability Act, in insuring that all qualified applicants are afforded a review without discrimination based on sex, race, age, religion, color, national origin, disability or any other applicable legally protected status.

### **Minimum requirements for physician residency programs**

General and minimum requirements for eligibility for consideration for a training program at Stony Brook Medicine are:

1. Graduation from a medical school in the United States or Canada, accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), OR
2. Graduation from a college of osteopathic medicine in the United States, accredited by the American Osteopathic Association Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (AOACOCA), OR
3. Graduation from a medical school outside of the United States or Canada AND meeting the following additional qualifications:
  - a. Graduates must comply with the New York State "12 week rule": the individual must not have completed more than 12 weeks of clinical clerkship outside the home country of the school, unless:
    - graduated from one of the schools exempted by New York State (refer to [IMG Eligibility for Residency](#) ).
    - The individual has subsequently completed a post-graduate training program approved by the ACGME or AOA, and the individual is eligible to complete additional training in a postgraduate fellowship program.
  - b. Additionally, these individuals must meet one of the following criteria:
    - *holds a current valid certificate from the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) prior to appointment, OR*
    - *holds a full and unrestricted license to practice medicine in a United States licensing jurisdiction in his or her current ACGME specialty/subspecialty program, OR*
    - *have graduated from a medical school outside the United States and has completed a Fifth Pathway program provided by an LCME-accredited medical school.*
4. All prerequisite post-graduate clinical education required for initial entry or transfer into ACGME-accredited residency programs must be completed in ACGME-accredited residency programs, AOA-

approved residency programs, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC)-accredited or College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC)-accredited residency programs located in Canada, or in residency programs with ACGME International (ACGME-I) Advanced Specialty Accreditation.

- a. Residency programs must receive verification of each resident's level of competency in the required clinical field using ACGME, CanMEDS, or ACGME-I Milestones evaluations from the prior training program upon matriculation.
5. Candidates must be a US citizen, permanent resident, have employment authorization identification (EAD), or have a J-1 visa sponsored by ECFMG. Stony Brook University Hospital does not sponsor H1B visas or other visas for GME training.
6. Fellowship applicants must have successfully completed an ACGME-accredited residency program, a program with ACGME International (ACGME-I) Advanced Specialty Accreditation, or a Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC)-accredited or College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC)-accredited residency program located in Canada AND demonstrate successful completion of United States Medical Licensing Exam (USMLE) Step 3 by the second attempt or Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Exam (COMLEX) Level 3 by the second attempt before entering the program. All steps of the USMLE or the COMLEX exam must be successfully completed by the second attempt.
  - a. The Fellow Eligibility Exception may be used if allowable by the Review Committee. Please reference the individual ACGME Program Requirements for the specialty. Use of this pathway requires completion of the GME Exceptional Candidate Form and a GMEC vote of approval.
7. Residency Appointment is contingent upon successful completion of all available components of USMLE by the third attempt (Step 1 and all available components of Step 2 at time test was taken by candidate) OR successful completion of all available components of COMLEX by the third attempt (Level 1 and all available components of level 2 at time test was taken by candidate).
8. Residency appointment into a PGY3 or higher position requires passing USMLE Step 3 or COMLEX level 3 prior to appointment. For residency appointment into a PGY2 position without successful

completion of USMLE Step 3 or COMLEX level 3, please refer to GME0012 Evaluation and Promotion of Residents.

### **Minimum requirements for dental residency programs**

General and minimum requirements for eligibility for consideration for a training program at Stony Brook Medicine are:

1. Graduation from a Dental School accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) or Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC).
2. Candidates must have successfully passed the Integrated National Board Dental Examinations (INBDE) or National Board Dental, Part 1 and Part II.
3. Candidates must be a US Citizen, permanent resident, have employment authorization identification (EAD), J1, or have a TN visa. Stony Brook University Hospital does not sponsor H1B visas or other visas for GME training.

The program director is responsible for verification of the applicants' credentials.

Applicants who do not meet the above criteria cannot be considered for any graduate medical educational programs at Stony Brook Medicine.

### **Resident Selection**

Stony Brook Medicine Graduate Medical Education programs share common criteria and processes for the recruitment and selection of residency and fellowship training candidates. However, each program must review their program specific requirements and make additional requirements to this policy for their program accordingly. A program may not set requirements that are less stringent than these requirements. A selection committee must exist within each program and consist of, at a minimum, the program director, and a faculty member. Additional members are included at the discretion of the program director. This committee reviews all applicants and is responsible for selecting applicants for interview, participating in the interview process and the final choice of applicants to be ranked in the NRMP match, other matches, or offered contracts independent of the match when this option is allowed.

Applicants should be selected on the basis of residency program-related criteria such as preparedness, ability, aptitude, academic credentials, communication skills and personal qualities such as motivation and integrity. Academic credentials include medical school grades and performance as reflected in documentation received directly from the school and United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) scores. Prior graduate medical education training, where applicable, will also be considered. Formal educational and/or testing results submitted by the applicant may also be considered. Letters of reference from supervisors, educators and peers (as appropriate), which serve to provide additional information on personal characteristics and performance are required and evaluated as well.

The selection committee then invites selected candidates for an individual interview, which (unless specifically indicated otherwise by the GMEC) may be conducted in person or by telephone or videoconferencing. The interview allows in person confirmation of information provided in the written application as well as an opportunity to assess communication skills.

Confidential evaluations by each applicant interviewer will be collected and reviewed by the selection committee, and become part of the application file. The committee, with input from the department, is responsible for the final ranking of candidates for the NRMP. Programs will only accept applications through ERAS, unless not applicable for that specialty. All current fourth year medical students from United States medical schools are required to apply through the NRMP process or other appropriate match processes. SBUH participates in the NRMP all-in policy and programs will only review applications through ERAS.

Only applicants meeting the above eligibility requirements, including the required additional documentation (letters of reference) and interview will be considered by the selection committee for positions remaining open in the program after the NRMP match, and will be offered positions by the program director if considered qualified. Programs are strongly encouraged to participate in the SOAP process.

All candidates who are interviewed shall be given a copy of the Stony Brook Medicine agreement of appointment, health benefit information, information related to the applicant's eligibility for the relevant specialty board

examination (if required for the program's Review Committee), policy on vacation and leave of absence, and a copy of this policy. Programs will document that the candidate has received a copy of these documents by obtaining their signature at the time of receipt.

## **Transfers**

Before accepting a resident who is transferring from another program, the program director must obtain:

- Written or electronic verification of previous educational experiences and a summative competency-based performance evaluation of the transferring resident.
- Written confirmation the resident understands the impact of the transfer on their eligibility for their intended specialty board's initial certification (program must obtain the written confirmation).

Residents are considered as transfer residents under several conditions including: moving from one program to another within the same or different sponsoring institution; when entering a PGY 2 program requiring a preliminary year even if the resident was simultaneously accepted into the preliminary PGY1 program and the PGY2 program as part of the match (e.g., accepted to both programs right out of medical school. The term 'transfer resident' and the responsibilities of the two program directors do not apply to any resident who has successfully completed a residency and then is accepted into a subsequent residency or fellowship program.

## **Purpose of the Process**

The following components of the resident selection process have several general purposes:

First, a specific selection committee reviews all eligible applicants to ensure that all eligible candidates' applications are given careful, fair, and consistent review.

Second, documentation of eligibility and successful performance at the medical school and on required licensure examinations is required to ensure that applicants possess proper academic credentials and are sufficiently prepared to benefit from graduate medical education.

Third, letters of reference are required and reviewed to gain insight into

the applicant's personal characteristics such as motivation, integrity, attitude, and ability to work with others, as viewed by a group of educators, mentors or peers.

Fourth, recognizing the central role of communication in providing medical care, a personal interview is required to further evaluate the applicant's interpersonal skills, and ability to communicate both in an individual interview and in a group setting.

## **Appointment**

The following procedure is required before any resident can be officially appointed as a resident:

**Primary verification of all credentials is required. The Residency Program in conjunction with the Medical/House Staff office will conduct this verification. It is the responsibility of the resident to provide sufficient information to allow these verifications to be conducted.**

At a minimum, Stony Brook Medicine must be able to obtain primary source verification on the following:

1. Certification of graduation from any accredited medical school or ECFMG certified medical institution. This documentation must be submitted directly from the academic institution granting the degree or from ECFMG directly to the residency program.
2. Three letters of recommendation.
3. Documentation accounting for any lapses between the end of medical school and the present. Large gaps of time exceeding 1 month that are not verifiable may disqualify candidates for consideration for a GME program.
4. Proper documentation of employment and/or work performed since graduation from medical school. The standard for proper documentation will be imposed by the GME program.
5. Passing a criminal background check.
6. Passing a drug screen in accordance with Stony Brook University Hospital policy for all new potential employees.
7. Satisfactory performance in all 6 competencies as reflected in a summative evaluation from the program director for any

resident/fellow completing training or transferring from preliminary training or another institution.

Applicants who do not meet the above criteria cannot be considered for any graduate medical education programs at Stony Brook Medicine.

In compliance with federal law, including the provisions of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, the ADA Amendments Act of 2008, Executive Order 11246, and the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, as amended, and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, Stony Brook University does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of their race, sex, religion, color, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, or military service, or genetic information in its administration of educational policies, programs, or activities; admissions policies; scholarship and loan programs; athletic or other University-administered programs; or employment. In addition, the University does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression consistent with the University's nondiscrimination policy.

**Forms: (Ctrl-Click form name to view)**

None

**Policy Cross Reference: (Ctrl-Click policy name to view)**

None

**References:**

[IMG Eligibility for Residency](#)