All Graduate Students are bound by the University’s policies, which can be found at http://tulane.edu/administration/policies/
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Welcome to graduate medical education at the Tulane University School of Medicine, the 15th oldest medical school in the U.S. After nearly two centuries of medical education, Tulane remains dedicated to the development of residents and fellows as they progress towards becoming exceptional physicians and scholars who encompass excellence in each of the core competencies. We firmly believe that equity, diversity, and inclusion in all our residency and fellowship programs improves education, provides tremendous opportunities for community engagement, and creates better-trained physicians.

As the Sponsoring Institution (SI) of graduate medical education, Tulane provides the educational infrastructure necessary for training in 39 ACGME-accredited residency and fellowship programs. Our faculty are dedicated and experienced clinicians, educators, and scientists, and our residents and fellows provide care at participating hospitals offering diverse clinical exposure. Residents and fellows advance in their clinical responsibilities based upon assessed competency, with close supervision by Tulane’s faculty at each stage of their development.

Dr. Paul Gladden, Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education and Designated Institutional Official (DIO), and the School’s Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC) together have responsibility for the oversight and administration of each of Tulane’s ACGME-accredited programs, and for ensuring compliance with the ACGME institutional, Common, specialty/subspecialty-specific Program, and Recognition Requirements.

The Tulane School of Medicine’s (TUSOM) Office of Graduate Medical Education ensures that all residents and fellows receive an accredited educational experience of the highest quality and assumes stewardship for creating a supportive and safe clinical environment that facilitates residents’ professional, ethical, and personal development. The Office of Graduate Medical Education provides support to ensure that each program’s clinical environment facilitates residents’ professional, ethical, and personal development; and that each program has the educational infrastructure it needs for successful training.

The Resident/Fellow Congress (TRFC) provides residents/fellows at Tulane with a platform to communicate and exchange information relevant to their ACGME-accredited programs and their learning and working environments. The Congress is composed of representatives from each program elected by their peers. The Congress in turn elects resident representatives to serve on the GMEC, where they provide a representative voice for the governance of our programs.

If the Graduate Medical Education Office can assist you in any way during your years of training at Tulane, please do not hesitate to contact us (504-988-5464) or visit our office in the Murphy Building, 15th floor.
SECTION 1:
Policies on Program Size & Complement
I. POLICY ON RESIDENT ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION
Revised 01-December-2021

I. References
In accordance with Section IV.B of the ACGME Institutional Requirements, the Sponsoring Institution must have written policies and procedures for resident recruitment, selection, eligibility and appointment consistent with ACGME Institutional and Common Program Requirements, and Recognition Requirements (if applicable), and must monitor each of its ACGME-accredited programs for compliance.

II. Definitions
Throughout this Policy and the School of Medicine’s additional GME Policies and Procedures, the term “resident” collectively refers to both residents and fellows and “residency program” or “School of Medicine residency program” collectively refers to residency programs and fellowship programs.

III. Policy
A. Resident Eligibility

1. To be eligible for appointment to an ACGME-accredited residency program sponsored by Tulane University School of Medicine (the “School of Medicine”) applicants must meet one of the following qualifications:

   a. Be a graduate from a medical school in the United States or Canada that is accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME); or,

   b. Be a graduate from a college of osteopathic medicine in the United States or Canada that is accredited by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA); or,

   c. Be a graduate from a medical school outside of the United States or Canada and meet one of the following additional qualifications:

      i. Holds a currently-valid certificate from the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) prior to appointment; or

      ii. Holds a full and unrestricted license to practice medicine in the state of Louisiana, as issued by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (LSBME).

2. International medical graduates who are not United States citizens must also hold a current, valid J-1 Visa sponsored by the ECFMG. In general, the School of Medicine does not sponsor work visas (H1-B) for graduate medical education. The School of Medicine makes limited exceptions to this policy. A program seeking to sponsor an international medical graduate through the H1-B work visa process must obtain the written approval of the DIO.

3. Subject to more specific requirements that may be set by an ACGME Review Committee applicable to the program, all prerequisite post-graduate clinical education required for initial entry or transfer into an ACGME-accredited residency program needs to 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 in Canada, or in residency programs with ACGME International (ACGME-I) Advanced Specialty Accreditation.

4. Upon matriculation, the residency program must receive verification of each resident’s level of competency in the required clinical field using ACGME Milestones, or, if permitted by the program’s ACGME Review Committee, using CanMEDS, or ACGME-I Milestones evaluations, from the prior training program. The ACGME Review Committee for each residency program may further specify prerequisite postgraduate clinical education.

5. Physicians who have completed a residency program that is not accredited by the ACGME, AOA, RCPSC, CFPC or ACGME-I (with Advanced Specialty Accreditation) may enter an ACGME-accredited residency program in the same specialty at the PGY-1 level and, at the discretion of the Program Director and with approval by the GMEC, may be advanced to the PGY-2 level based on the ACGME Milestones evaluations of the residency program. This section of the Policy applies only to entry into a residency program in those specialties for which an initial clinical year is not required for entry.

6. To the extent permitted by a residency program’s Review Committee, an exceptionally qualified international graduate applicant who does not satisfy the eligibility requirements set forth above, may be accepted by a School of Medicine residency program in accordance with the conditions set forth in the ACGME’s Common Program Requirements, including review and approval of the applicant’s exceptional qualifications by the GMEC. Any exceptionally qualified international graduate applicant accepted through this exception shall have an evaluation of their performance by the residency program’s Clinical Competency Committee within 12 weeks of matriculation.

B. Resident Selection

1. School of Medicine residency programs select residents from among eligible applicants on the basis of their preparedness, aptitude, academic credentials, personal qualities consistent with excellence in medicine (e.g., motivation, honesty and integrity), ability to communicate, demonstrated commitment to fostering equity, diversity and inclusion in medicine and ability to benefit from the education of the residency program.

2. School of Medicine graduate medical education residency programs participate in the National Residency Matching Program (NRMP or “the Match”) in selecting residents, with the exceptions of the Urology and Ophthalmology programs, which select residents through the San Francisco Matching Program (“SF Match”), and the hematopathology, cytopathology, dermatopathology, and preventive medicine fellowships which do not have nationally-organized residency match programs.

3. Applicant characteristics may be assessed by reviewing the applicant’s Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS) application or an equivalent application form. A residency program’s review may include, but is not limited to, the following:

   a. The applicant’s letter of recommendation from the Dean of the applicant’s medical school;

   b. The applicant’s letters of recommendation from medical school faculty;
c. The applicant’s personal letters of recommendation;

d. The applicant’s medical school transcript and grades;

e. The applicant’s National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) (i.e., United States Medical Licensing Exam (USMLE)) or COMLEX scores;

f. The applicant’s scholarly and community service record;

g. The applicant’s noteworthy achievements, humanistic qualities, personal qualities consistent with excellence in medicine and qualities important to the desired specialty; and/or

h. The applicant’s evaluation from those who interview the applicant on the date of their interview with the residency program.

4. The School of Medicine considers all candidates for graduate medical education regardless of race, sex, creed, nationality, national origin, disability, sexual orientation or other legally protected status.

5. Each residency program must provide a copy of the resident contract available in Appendix C to applicants during the interview process and programs must post a copy of the resident contract on their website. Information that is provided in the resident contract must include:

a. The terms, conditions, and benefits of appointment to the residency program, either in effect at the time of the interview or that will be in effect at the time of the applicant’s eventual appointment;

b. Stipends, benefits, vacation, leaves of absence, professional liability coverage and disability insurance accessible to residents; and

c. Health insurance accessible to residents and their eligible dependents.

d. The additional information set forth in Section E of this Policy.

6. Selected residents must obtain a license or permit through the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners and satisfy the LSBME background check standards in order to train in any School of Medicine residency program. Residents selected and training in a residency program that rotates at the Southeast Louisiana Veterans System (VA) may be required to go through additional background checks, as part of the onboarding process to rotate at the VA. Drug testing currently is not required by the School of Medicine or its participating sites.

C. Recruiting of Residents Outside of the Match

1. Programs that participate in an organized match (the Match and SF Match), are bound by the conditions of the agreement with that organization. No applicant to a residency program who is also a participant in an organized match can be accepted into a residency program at the School of Medicine outside of the terms of that match process even if the recruiting program does not participate in the respective organized match. Any deviations from matching
procedures and practices may necessitate receiving a waiver from the organized match. Neither applicants nor programs may release each other from a binding match commitment.

2. Match rules govern when positions unfilled after the match process may be subsequently filled outside of the organized match. For the Match, unfilled positions may not be filled until the close of the Supplemental Offer and Acceptance Program (SOAP). Resident selection criteria, outlined in Section B, above, continue to apply to the selection of residents outside of a match program.

3. Hematopathology, cytopathology, dermatopathology, and the preventive medicine fellowship programs (or other programs which do not have a nationally-organized match) must select fellows in accordance with the criteria outlined in Section B, above.

4. Program Directors who wish to add additional residents to their program through complement increases and/or vacancies in a program from a resident or fellow leaving during the time of the year when an organized match is not in effect (i.e., off-cycle) must send a formal request to the DIO, including the information outlined in the Policy on Closure, Reduction, or Expansion.

5. No resident may be enrolled in a training program outside of the above noted match procedures without prior approval of the DIO. A program, through the program’s clinical department, that enrolls a resident off cycle or otherwise outside of a match (excluding fellows to programs without an organized match program), without the prior approval of the DIO will be financially responsible for the resident throughout the resident’s training. Enrolling residents off cycle or outside of a match may result in a reduction in the program’s match number for subsequent years or in a match violation.

6. 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, and Milestones evaluations upon matriculation.

D. Recruitment of Residents Between Residency Programs within the School of Medicine

1. When a position in a School of Medicine residency program is or will become vacant, the program may advertise the vacancy within the School of Medicine and its intent to fill the position, after receiving written approval from the DIO.

2. A resident who is interested, but who is currently under contract in another School of Medicine residency program, may only apply for the open position if the resident is not currently bound by a binding commitment through an organized match, such as the Match (or has received a written waiver from the matching program before applying).

3. The resident applicant must disclose to the Program Director for the recruiting program, any contractual obligation that currently exists to the resident’s current School of Medicine residency program and disclose to the resident’s current Program Director their intention to pursue the open position.

4. The Program Director and faculty from the recruiting School of Medicine residency program must not initiate, entice or negotiate with a candidate from another School of Medicine
program until the resident’s current Program Director has given written approval for the program to contact the resident.

5. Before the resident can be offered the open position, a letter of intent to release the resident from their contractual obligation must be received from the current Program Director. The recruiting Program Director must also receive written or electronic verification of the resident’s previous educational experiences and a summative competency-based performance evaluation prior to acceptance of the resident and the Milestones evaluations.

6. The start date for the resident in the new program must also be approved by the resident’s current Program Director.

7. The DIO, or the DIO’s designee, will serve as the mediator in any situation in which the School of Medicine Program Directors cannot reach an amicable resolution to the resident wishing to switch programs.

8. Failure to abide by the rules set forth in this section may result in a reduction in the program’s complement for the following year.

E. Agreement of Resident Appointment/Contract

1. Residents who match to a School of Medicine residency program must be sent the resident contract that outlines the terms and conditions of employment as a resident at Tulane. This contract will be mailed to the applicant within two weeks of the match results. Residents employed outside of an organized match or off cycle will also receive the contract within two weeks of the program extending an offer for employment. The resident contract currently in effect is available in Appendix C.

2. The resident agreement of appointment/contract must comply with ACGME Institutional Requirements and the School of Medicine’s requirements for employment. With the exception of the resident’s start and finish date (the term of the contract), the resident contract cannot be modified without the written permission of the DIO, in consultation with the Office of General Counsel or GMEC as appropriate. The contract shall contain or provide a direct link to:

   a. Resident responsibilities;

   b. Duration of appointment;

   c. Financial support for residents;

   d. Conditions for reappointment and promotion, including criteria for non-renewal and non-promotion;

   e. Grievance procedures and due process;

   f. Professional liability insurance, including a summary of pertinent information regarding coverage;
g. Health insurance benefits for residents and their eligible dependents and disability insurance for residents;

h. Vacation, parental, sick, and other leave(s) of absence, compliant with all applicable laws, including timely notice of the effect of a leave on the ability of residents to satisfy requirements for program completion;

i. Information related to eligibility for specialty board examinations; and

j. School of Medicine policies related to resident clinical and educational work hours, moonlighting, resident wellness and assistance, harassment and accommodations for disabilities.

3. Each resident contract requires the signature of the resident, the Program Director, the departmental Chair, and the DIO, on behalf of The Administrators of the Tulane Educational Fund. Payroll will not authorize the resident’s first payment until the DIO has signed the resident’s contract.

4. Contracts for residents are extended on a yearly basis. A new contract must be initiated each year.

5. In accordance with the Policy on Non-Competition, neither the School of Medicine nor any of its ACGME-accredited residency programs will require a resident to sign a non-competition guarantee or restrictive covenant.

6. The PGY status listed in the resident’s contract shall be based upon the PGY level routinely held for that position in the program (e.g., a first year resident will be paid as a PGY-1 status, a first year cardiology fellow will be paid as a PGY-4 status, etc.) regardless of the resident’s years of past training.

F. Residents Transferring to another Program Outside of the School of Medicine

1. In the event that a resident enrolled in a residency program sponsored by the School of Medicine transfers to a residency program outside of the School of Medicine prior to the resident’s completion of their education at the School of Medicine, the resident’s Program Director must provide to the accepting residency program, written or electronic verification of the resident’s previous educational experiences and a summative competency-based performance evaluation and the Milestones evaluations.

G. Completion of USMLE Step Examinations

1. The USMLE Step II Clinical Knowledge (CK) and Clinical Skills (CS) tests must be passed prior to matriculation into a residency program.

2. STEP III must be passed by December 31st of the PGY2 year of residency training. Failure to pass STEP III by December 31st may result in a formal letter of non-renewal of contract for the upcoming academic year. This requirement also applies to residents beginning a School of Medicine residency program in program year two (PGY-2).
3. An applicant who has failed Step II or Step III (e.g., for international or transferring residents) of the USMLE more than three times, even if the examination is subsequently passed, is ineligible for enrollment in a School of Medicine residency program.

4. Any current School of Medicine resident who fails to take Step III by June 30th of the PGY-1 of training will be placed on immediate probation and leave without pay in accordance with the Policy on Remediation, Suspension, Dismissal and Grievance. The probation will remain in effect until Step III has been taken and the Program Director receives the supporting documentation that the resident has taken the exam. The Clinical Competency Committee and/or Program Director will determine the maximum probation and leave timeline.

5. Step III must be passed by December 31st of the PGY-2 year of residency training. Failure to pass Step III by December 31st may result in a formal letter of non-renewal of contract for the upcoming academic year.

6. No resident may advance into PGY-3 of training unless the resident has passed Step III.

II. Resident Rotations Outside of the School of Medicine’s Participating Sites

1. To provide additional educational experiences or assignments, residents may, occasionally, be permitted to rotate to a residency program outside of Tulane Medical Center and/or other School of Medicine participating sites. All external rotations must be approved by the resident’s Program Director.

2. To receive training credit for external rotations, the rotation must be at an ACGME-approved training location and the rotation must be under the supervision of an ACGME-accredited residency program. Because School of Medicine resident salaries and benefits (including malpractice insurance) are paid by the hospital at which the resident rotates, salary and benefits are not paid for rotations outside of School of Medicine affiliated hospitals/institutions. Therefore, a resident seeking to do a rotation at an external training location is responsible for ensuring that their salary and benefits, including malpractice insurance, is paid for by the receiving training location or another external source. Residents may choose to forgo salary/benefits during this time, or use vacation time to support an external rotation; however, the resident is still responsible for confirming, and verifying to the Program Director and GME Office upon request, that the resident will have professional liability insurance for the entire rotation at the external site.

3. The School of Medicine will not authorize the transfer of any of its resident FTE caps to support a resident’s external rotation.

I. Auxiliary Learners

1. Auxiliary learners are learners that are not residents in the residency program, but include residents from other specialties and/or residency programs, subspecialty fellows, PhD students, pharmacology students, nurse practitioners and other health care learners. Auxiliary learners must enhance and not interfere with the education of residents appointed in the residency program.
2. Program must report circumstances when the presence of other learners interferes with the residents’ education to the DIO and to the GMEC.

3. The Program Director must approve the presence of all auxiliary learners. If, in the Program Director’s discretion, the presence of auxiliary learners dilutes or compromises the training of residents in their residency program, the Program Director may end the participation of auxiliary learners within the training environment.

J. External Resident Rotations at a School of Medicine Participating Site

1. External rotators are residents who are currently enrolled in an ACGME-accredited residency program at a sponsoring institution other than the School of Medicine.

2. The Program Director of the School of Medicine residency program in which the external rotator seeks to rotate and the GME Office must approve the external rotation to ensure that the presence of the external rotator enhances and does not disrupt the educational experience of the residency program’s appointed residents.

3. The external rotator’s sponsoring institution must financially support the rotator, including salary, benefits and professional liability insurance, while the resident is rotating in a School of Medicine sponsored residency program.

   a. If the external rotator’s sponsoring institution is seeking Medicare GME payments for the external rotator, the graduate medical education office for the external rotator must arrange a resident FTE cap transfer with the hospital at which the resident will rotate. The rotation terms and the corresponding payments will be exchanged between the external rotator’s sponsoring institution and the hospital. The role of the GME Office is approve the rotation, not to facilitate the contract between the external rotator’s sponsoring institution and the hospital.

   b. If the external rotator’s sponsoring institution is not seeking Medicare GME payments for the external resident, the external resident’s sponsoring institution must assume all financial responsibility for the resident, including salary, benefits and malpractice insurance.

4. The procedure for an external rotator to apply for a rotation within the School of Medicine is as follows:

   a. The receiving Program Director must approve the rotation;

   b. The DIO and GME Office must be informed of how the external rotator will be funded and must approve the rotation;

   c. The receiving Program Coordinator will be responsible for the appropriate credentialing of the resident for their respective rotation(s), which will include:

      i. Verification of approval from the external rotator’s sponsoring institution;

      ii. Verification of malpractice insurance;
iii. Assuring the appropriate orientation for the hospital/clinic rotations at which the external rotator will rotate;

iv. Completing appropriate forms (TB testing, etc.) as required by the hospital at which the external rotator will rotate;

v. Obtaining a hospital ID card;

vi. Arranging for parking/beeper and other required amenities;

vii. Ensuring the external rotator has been trained in all applicable School of Medicine and affiliated hospital policies, including but not limited to, HIPAA training and compliance and Electronic Medical Record (EMR) training;

viii. Ensuring appropriate evaluation forms are returned to the rotator’s sponsoring institution; and

ix. Communicating with the hospital at which the external rotator will rotate that the resident is currently rotating with the residency program and ensuring that the hospital has all necessary forms/credentials.

5. Once the external rotator has complied with these procedures, for the purposes of hospital credentialing, the external rotator will be considered a part of the residency program for the time that the external rotator rotates at the School of Medicine affiliated hospital. All School of Medicine policies and procedures that apply to School of Medicine residents apply to external rotators during the rotator’s time with the School of Medicine, including, but not limited to, grievance and supervision policies.

6. As stated above, the GME Office is not responsible for the credentialing of an external rotator. The receiving Program Coordinator and Program Director have this responsibility.

7. Programs must report circumstances when the presence of an external rotator interferes with the residents’ education to the DIO and to the GMEC.

K. Residents not in ACGME-accredited programs

1. Post residency or fellowship trainee are trainees who have previously completed their residency in an ACGME-accredited program who are now seeking to engage in additional clinical training for which there is no ACGME-accredited program (e.g., fellows seeking additional clinical training outside of ACGME-accredited training programs).

2. The procedure and policies for a non-accredited trainee to participate in a residency program is as follows:

   a. The trainee must receive prior approval from the Program Director. The Program Director is responsible for ensuring that the non-accredited trainee’s presence enhances and does not disrupt the educational experience of the residents in the residency program;
b. The DIO must approve the non-accredited trainee’s participation in the residency program;

c. The non-accredited trainee must be credentialed by the credentialing committee for the hospital at which the non-accredited trainee will rotate. Credentialing of non-accredited trainees is the responsibility of the hospital credentialing committee and not the responsibility of the GME Office. The GME Office will provide no verification of training for non-accredited trainees;

d. The departmental Chair is responsible for ensuring that the non-accredited trainee complies with all applicable School of Medicine and affiliated hospital policies, including but not limited to, HIPAA training and compliance;

e. Non-accredited trainees are the responsibility of the sponsoring department and residency program and not of the GME Office or any other residency program. Non-accredited trainees will not be provided financial compensation or benefits, including malpractice and health insurance, by the School of Medicine; and

f. The rights afforded to residents in residency programs are not extended to non-accredited trainees, including but not limited to, due process and grievance. Applicable rights are the responsibility of the sponsoring department. Non-accredited trainees may be removed from a rotation at any time, at the discretion of the Program Director or the DIO, if their presence is found to diminish the educational experience of residents in an accredited program.

g. Programs must report circumstances when the presence of a non-accredited trainee interferes with the residents’ education to the DIO and to the GMEC.

L. Observers

1. Observers are trainees who have not completed nor are they enrolled in an ACGME-accredited residency program.

2. Observers may participate in a residency program as follows:

   a. The observer must receive prior approval from the Program Director. The Program Director is responsible for ensuring that the observer’s presence does not disrupt the educational experience of the residents in the residency program;

   b. A School of Medicine faculty member must agree to sponsor the observer. The sponsoring faculty member is responsible for ensuring that the observer is in compliance with School of Medicine, hospital and Tulane University policies and procedures;

   c. The DIO must approve the observer’s participation in the residency program;

   d. Observers may not participate in clinical decision making or provision of patient care. The observer’s role is simply to observe the provision of patient care, similar to
the participation of medical school students on rotations;

e. Observers are not employees of the School of Medicine, instead:

   i. The School of Medicine will not provide financial compensation or benefits, including professional liability insurance, to observers;

   ii. The rights afforded to Tulane employees and residents, including but not limited to, due process and grievance, are not extended to observers; and

   iii. Participating as an observer is a privilege and may be revoked without cause for any reason, including but not limited to, failure to comply with the standards noted in this section; and

f. Observers will not be offered credit towards residency requirements.

3. Residency programs may not charge observers for their participation.

M. Institutional Oversight

1. In fulfilling institutional oversight responsibilities, the GMEC, directly and through applicable GMEC subcommittees, will monitor residency program compliance with this Policy.

IV. References/Associated Policies

- Tulane University School of Medicine, Graduate Medical Education Appendix C: Sample Contract
- Tulane University School of Medicine, Graduate Medical Education III. Policy on Closure, Reduction or Expansion
- Tulane University School of Medicine, Graduate Medical Education XV. Policy on Remediation, Suspension, Dismissal and Grievance
- Tulane University School of Medicine, Graduate Medical Education __. Policy on Non-Competition
II. POLICY ON ACCOMMODATIONS FOR DISABILITIES
Revised 15-December-2021

I. References
In accordance with Section IV.I.4 of the ACGME Institutional Requirements, the Sponsoring Institution must have a policy, not necessarily GME-specific, regarding accommodations for disabilities consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

II. Policy
The School of Medicine (the “School of Medicine”) is committed to a diverse and inclusive community and seeks to ensure access to its programs and activities to the broadest audience possible.

As part of Tulane University (“Tulane”), the School of Medicine complies with federal and state laws concerning the employment of people with disabilities, including Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and complies with regulations issued by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

The School of Medicine follows Tulane’s disability and accommodation policies that ensure reasonable accommodations for qualifying individuals. The policies, which extend to residents and fellows (each a “resident”), as well as other individuals, are available online at: https://equity.tulane.edu/report-claim/policies within Tulane’s Equal Opportunity/Anti-Discrimination Policies. Consistent with the Equal Opportunity/Anti-Discrimination Policies, the School of Medicine’s policy is to reasonably accommodate qualified individuals with disabilities when accommodation is necessary to allow an individual to compete for a position, perform the essential functions of a position (including a resident or fellow position), and/or enjoy equal benefits and privileges of employment, where the accommodation would not impose an undue hardship on Tulane.

The Equal Opportunity/Anti-Discrimination Policies also contain information related to Equal Employment and Educational Opportunity, Anti-Discrimination, and other rights and processes for residents, faculty, and staff.

For additional information related to The Equal Opportunity/Anti-Discrimination Policies and/or for requesting a reasonable accommodation, residents and fellows, as well as faculty and staff, may contact the Tulane University Office of Human Resources & Institutional Equity at (504) 862-8083 or oie@tulane.edu, or visit the Disability & Accommodations webpage at: https://hr.tulane.edu/disability-accommodations.

III. References/Associated Policies

III. POLICY ON PROGRAM CLOSURE, REDUCTION OR EXPANSION

A. Program Reduction
   1. Should an affiliated training location close or reduce the funding of residency positions, an attempt will be made to relocate affected residents to other affiliated training locations that meet the educational requirements for the resident’s training.

   2. Should appropriate educational opportunities or funding not be available among Tulane affiliates, and it thus becomes necessary to reduce the number of residency positions in the affected program, the residents of the affected program will be informed as soon as possible.
      a. If educational opportunities are sufficient for a reduced complement of residents, but not for the current complement of residents, the program will first attempt to reduce the program’s size by sequentially decreasing the incoming match class to the program.
      b. If this is still insufficient to bring the program to a right-size for the educational opportunities that do exist, the DIO will work with the program director in assisting current residents in finding a training position at another ACGME-accredited program such that their training may continue.
      c. No resident will be released from employment due to financial exigency until another training position at another ACGME-accredited program is ascertained.

B. Program Closure
   1. If it becomes necessary to close a program, the residents already in the affected program will be informed as soon as possible.

   2. The residents in the affected program will be allowed to complete their education at Tulane as long as educational opportunities consistent with accreditation continue to exist.

   3. If such educational opportunities do not exist, the DIO and the respective program director will assist the residents in enrolling in another ACGME-accredited program in which they can continue their education.

   4. No resident will be released from employment due to financial exigency until another training position at another ACGME-accredited program is ascertained.

   5. Program closure due to an institutional-level disaster is addressed in Chapter IV. Policy on Disaster/Interruption of Resident Training.

C. Program Expansion
   1. Expansion of a residency’s complement is based upon approval by the ACGME, and upon the educational opportunities afforded by the residency program. The following requirements must be met in order to request expansion of a residency program.

   2. A request must be made in writing to the Designated Institutional Official. The request must include the following:
      a. The current resident complement in the program, the ACGME residency complement cap for the program, the requested number of expansion positions, and a prospectus of the program’s size for each of the future “x” number of years. “X” is defined as the duration of the residency program.
      b. Clear delineation of educational rationale for an increase in complement. Include:
         i. The educational opportunities (patient volume) that now exist that did not previously exist
for the residents in the training program.

ii. The faculty supervision that now exists that did not previously exist for the residents in the training program. Include a current faculty list from the program’s WebADS.

iii. The impact the expansion, or failure to expand, will have upon current residents’ education. This should include commentary on how the expansion will or will not dilute the educational experience of other residents currently in the program, and include the impact expansion may have on work hours regulations as it regards current residents.

iv. This should include a current rotation schedule for the residents, and a prospectus of how this rotation schedule would change with additional residents.

c. Case Logs and Procedures. If the program is required by the RRC/ACGME to submit case logs for board certification, include the following:

i. Current residents case logs.

ii. The last set of graduating residents’ case logs

iii. Institutional data for faculty procedures (from participating sites)

iv. Commentary on how sufficient case logs will be fulfilled for all residents in the program with the proposed expansion

d. The most recent ACGME accreditation letter, including citations and the program’s response to these citations. Include a statement of how the resident expansion will affect these citations.

e. The most recent ACGME resident survey.

f. A prospectus on how the additional resident(s) will be funded.

3. Completed applications will be brought before the GMEC with a recommendation from the DIO for either expansion or denial of expansion. The GMEC will vote upon the proposal

4. The program director may not appoint more residents than approved by the ACGME Review Committee. The program’s educational resources must be adequate to support the number of residents appointed to the program. Program directors may submit the above information to the DIO’s office as a proposed request to petition the ACGME for an expansion in their residency cap. If the above is approved by the DIO and the GMEC, the DIO will endorse the petition in concert with the program director to the ACGME. If the ACGME subsequently approves the increase in cap, the DIO and the GMEC will consider the proposal provided that adequate financial resources are available.
IV. POLICY ON DISASTER/INTERRUPTION OF RESIDENCY TRAINING

A. Subject to Tulane University School of Medicine’s policy regarding closures and reductions of training programs, in the event of a disaster or an event that causes the interruption of resident training, the Tulane University School of Medicine has adopted the following policy related to its residents.

1. The Office of Graduate School Medical Education will annually collect/update emergency contact information from all House Officers each spring.

2. The GME office will annually send out emails to residents with emergency information.

3. Tulane will continue to provide administrative support that may include continued payment of salary and benefits depending on the overall circumstances, scope and duration of the Emergency, subject to Tulane’s Policy on Residency Training Program Closure or Reduction.

4. In the event of an Emergency, Tulane will work closely with the ACGME and other accrediting bodies to ensure that minimal interruption occurs in a House Officer’s training experience and that House Officers are transferred (if needed) temporarily or permanently, to new sites.

5. In the event of an Emergency, Tulane will assess, in consultation with the appropriate accrediting bodies, whether certain programs may need to be temporarily or permanently withdrawn in order to ensure a quality training experience.

B. Hurricane-specific Policies

1. Hurricane Watch-
   a. Upon a Hurricane Watch, the GME office will ensure that all files related to current residents are portable via electronic storage. This will include information vital for resident and fellow credentialing, licensing and transfer.

   b. The GME office will contact each residency program administrator. The office will ensure that each program coordinator has a portable electronic version of all resident/fellow files containing information vital for resident and fellow credentialing, licensing and transfer. The office will ensure that the program administrator has up-to-date emergency contact information for each resident, including a non-university email account through which the resident/fellow can be contacted in the event of an emergency.

   c. The DIO will contact each program director and confirm that the program director has communicated the warning to his or her residents. For applicable programs, the DIO will ensure that the program director is prepared to activate his or her program’s Code Grey or Code Cloud plan.

2. Code Cloud (Tropical Storm or Hurricane Category 1 or 2)
   a. A Code Cloud will be called for an impending Tropical Storm, or Category 1 or 2 Hurricane.

   b. Upon activation of a Code Cloud, the hospital administrations will notify the Dean and the DIO.

   c. The DIO will then contact each program director and the department chair and instruct him or her to provide the names of the individuals, as specified below, who will be providing coverage on the day of the Code Cloud activation, and the day following the Code Cloud activation.

   d. The DIO will then inform the hospitals of the personnel who will be providing coverage.

   e. Principles of the Code Cloud
i. The goal of the Code Cloud Coverage is to ensure the on-going operation of the hospital for two days surrounding the storm, without burdening the hospital with excessive staff or residents.

ii. The presumption underlying the Code Cloud is that access to the hospital immediately following the storm may be impaired; ensuring the next day’s clinical services will be addressed proactively by housing the next day’s teams in the hospital prior to the storm.

iii. As opposed to a Code Grey, a Code Cloud assumes that the damage from the storm will not be sufficiently severe to warrant mandatory city evacuations, nor prolonged hospital stays for the faculty and staff. As such, there is a greater degree of comfort in selecting residents and faculty who are already on the call schedule.

iv. Staying with the call schedule ensures a less disruptive and more effective “re-entry” following the storm’s abatement (i.e., residents’ call cycle frequency and duty hours are not disrupted).

f. While the Code Cloud Coverage operates on pre-existing call schedule coverage, program directors and chairs should make suitable substitutions for personnel who, due to life issues (i.e., child care, etc.), cannot afford to be in the hospital for 48 hours.

g. Essential services
   i. Residents on-call for essential services (as defined below) will report on the day of the activation of the Code Cloud (as they ordinarily would), and will be provided housing on the day of call, and the day following call in the event that they cannot return home following the storm.

   ii. Residents that are pre-call for essential services (as defined below) will also report on the day of the activation of the Code Cloud (their pre-call day), and will be provided housing on the day prior to their call day, and the day of their call day.

iii. Essential services will include the following. Personnel for these services will consist of the previously scheduled on-call team, the pre-call team, and faculty for these two teams. A listing of Code Cloud departmental assignments is in Appendix E.
   a). General internal medicine
   b). Intensive care medicine
   c). General surgery
   d). General pediatrics (Lakeside only)
   e). Pediatric ICU (Lakeside only)
   f). OB/Gyn (Lakeside only)

h. Precautionary Services. Services for which the hospital must have access, but are not imminently necessary, will be provided by faculty (at the numbers listed below) but not residents. These services include the following. A listing of Code Cloud departmental assignments is in Appendix E.
   i. Ophthalmology (will sign-out their patients to the General Surgery Service) (1 faculty at Tulane; 1 faculty at UMC/VA)

   ii. Urology (will sign-out their patients to the General Surgery Service) (1 faculty at Tulane; 1 faculty at UMC/VA)

   iii. Orthopaedics (will sign-out their patients to the General Surgery Service) (1 faculty at Tulane; 1 faculty at UMC/VA)

   iv. Otolaryngology (will sign-out their patients to the General Surgery Service) (1 faculty at Tulane; 1 faculty at UMC/VA)
v. Neurosurgery *(will sign-out their patients to the General Surgery Service)* (1 faculty at Tulane)

vi. Nephrology (1 faculty at Tulane; 1 faculty at UMC/VA)

vii. Gastroenterology (1 faculty at Tulane; 1 faculty at UMC/VA)

viii. Interventional cardiology (CCU teams will sign out their patients to the medical ICU Service. (1 faculty at Tulane; 1 faculty at UMC/VA)

ix. Interventional Radiology (1 faculty at Tulane)

x. Diagnostic Radiology (1 faculty at Tulane)

xi. Anesthesia (2 faculty at Tulane)

i. Non-essential services will not have residents or faculty present, but faculty will be available for telephone consultation. These include:

   i. Pathology and Pathology Fellowships

   ii. Psychiatry

   iii. Allergy/Immunology

   iv. Endocrinology

   v. Infectious Diseases

   vi. Child Psychiatry

   vii. Preventive Medicine

   viii. Neurology *(will sign-out their patients to the General Medicine Service)*

   ix. Hematology/Oncology *(will sign-out their patients to the General Medicine Service)*

   x. Dermatology

   xi. Hepatology *(will sign-out their patients to the General Surgery Service)*

j. Call rooms will for all in-house personnel will be assigned proactively ahead of the Code Cloud activation, and will be on-file with the DIO.

k. Once the storm has passed and access to the hospital is assured to be safe, the Code Cloud will be lifted. Hospital leadership will inform the DIO, who will then inform the residents and faculty. Access to the hospitals will be allowed for all personnel as it is deemed to be safe.

3. Code Grey Army (Hurricane Category 3 or above)

   a. A Code Grey will be called for an impending Hurricane Category 3 or above.

   b. Upon activation of a Code Grey, the hospital administrations will notify the Dean and the DIO.

   c. The DIO will then contact each program director and the department chair to ensure that the previously provided names for the Code Grey Army (as provided on July 1st of each academic year) are accurate.

   d. The DIO will then inform the hospitals of the personnel who will be providing coverage.

   e. Principles of the Code Grey Army

      i. The goal of the Code Grey Army is to ensure the on-going operation of the hospital for three to four days surrounding the storm.
ii. Like a Code Cloud, the goal is to provide necessary person without burdening the hospital with excessive staff or residents. Unlike a Code Cloud, it is possible that all personnel will require evacuation, and will consume more resources (food, water) because of a prolonged hospital stay. As such, it is imperative that the necessary number of people are present, but not more than that.

iii. The presumption underlying the Code Grey is that a prolonged hospital stay is to be expected. As such, Code Grey personnel should be proactively selected such that the right personnel capable of handling the assignment are chosen. Each program is to choose personnel for the Code Grey Army by July 1st of each academic year.

iv. As opposed to a Code Cloud, a Code Grey assumes that the damage from the storm will be sufficiently severe to warrant mandatory city evacuations. Because all personnel on the Code Grey Army have been proactively chosen (as of July 1st of each academic year), residents not on the Code Grey Army therefore have the luxury of timely and safe evacuation from the city.

v. Because a Code Grey Army assignment has a reasonable probability of executing patient evacuations, the Code Grey Army should be selected in sufficient advance to become trained in the hospital policies regarding patient evacuation policies and procedures.

f. The goal of the Code Grey Army is to ensure the emergent operation of the hospital for up to 4 days surrounding the storm. Because this will be an extended tour of duty, programs and departments must proactively choose personnel for this assignment (i.e., personnel should not be assigned arbitrarily by who is on service for that month, or who is on call for those days). Directors and chairs should follow the following principles in selecting personnel

i. No resident may be conscripted into service. Only residents volunteering for duty should be selected.

ii. It is preferable to not choose residents and faculty with dependent children or adults whose hospital service during the Code Grey would thus be compromised because of concerns for their family.

iii. It is preferable to not choose residents and faculty with medical issues that could be compromised by an extended stay in the hospital.

iii. The GME office recognizes that not every resident is equally prepared to endure the responsibilities required of disaster duty. From the pool of volunteers, the director and chair should choose personnel who they believe will have the mental stamina to endure up to four days in the hospital.

iv. Interns should not be chosen for Code Grey assignments; by definition of the hurricane season (July-November), they will lack sufficient familiarity with the hospital system, and cannot provide the necessary procedures that upper-level residents can perform.

v. Programs should anticipate that those selected to be on the disaster team might not be available during the disaster (due to vacations, etc.). Programs should select and train two people for each position to which they are assigned. Those not assigned during an emergency situation will constitute the “Relief Team” as outlined below. Programs are required to submit their Code Grey roster to the GME Office prior to the onset of hurricane season (July 1st).

g. Essential services. Essential services will include the following. Personnel for these services will consist of the previously scheduled on-call team, the pre-call team, and faculty for these two teams. A listing of Code Grey Army departmental assignments is in Appendix E.

i. General internal medicine
ii. Intensive care medicine

iii. General surgery

iv. General pediatrics (Lakeside only)

v. Pediatric ICU (Lakeside only)

vi. OB/Gyn (Lakeside only)

h. Precautionary Services. These are services for which the hospital must have access, but are not imminently necessary. As a general rule, surgical services will consolidate their patients onto the general surgery service for on-going management through the hurricane; neurology and medical subspecialty services will consolidate their patients onto the general medicine service for on-going management through the hurricane. A listing of Code Grey Army departmental assignments is in Appendix E

i. Ophthalmology (will sign-out their patients to the General Surgery Service)

ii. Urology (will sign-out their patients to the General Surgery Service)

iii. Orthopaedics (will sign-out their patients to the General Surgery Service)

iv. Otolaryngology (will sign-out their patients to the General Surgery Service)

v. Neurosurgery (will sign-out their patients to the General Surgery Service)

vi. Nephrology

vii. Gastroenterology

viii. Interventional cardiology (CCU teams will sign out their patients to the medical ICU Service).

ix. Interventional Radiology

x. Diagnostic Radiology

xi. Anesthesia

i. Non-essential services will not have residents or faculty present, but faculty will be available for telephone consultation. These include:

i. Pathology and Pathology Fellowships

ii. Psychiatry

iii. Allergy/Immunology

iv. Endocrinology

v. Infectious Diseases

vi. Child Psychiatry

vii. Preventive Medicine

viii. Neurology (will sign-out their patients to the General Medicine Service)

ix. Hematology/Oncology (will sign-out their patients to the General Medicine Service)

x. Dermatology

xi. Hepatology (will sign-out their patients to the General Surgery Service)

j. The Activation Team. Once a hurricane warning has been called, the Activation Team will be deployed to their respective stations. All other residents will sign-out their patients to the
activation team residents, and then depart the city. If a full evacuation of all patients in the hospital is required, the Activation Team will sequentially accompany the evacuated patients to evacuation centers per hospital protocol.

k. The Relief Team. Each program will be asked to proactively assign residents and faculty to a Relief Team. For simplicity, the composition of the relief team should match the activation team. Interns may be used for the relief team. Once a Code Grey has been called, the Relief Team will begin preparations to evacuate to Jackson, Mississippi. Hotel or dormitory rooms will be provided by the University for designated Relief Team members.

i. Relief team members will remain in Jackson until they are activated to return to New Orleans. At which time, the relief team will convoy to New Orleans.

ii. The Activation Team will subsequently be relieved of their duties. The Activation Team will convoy to Jackson unless the city has been deemed safe for inhabitation, in which case they will be free to return to their homes.

iii. If a full evacuation of all patients in the hospital is required, the Relief Team will be directed to evacuation centers to provide relief for the activation team.

l. As with a Code Cloud, program directors and chairs will instruct all students, residents, and faculty who have not been designated as the Code Cloud Army to stay away from the hospital facilities until the Code Grey has been lifted.

4. All programs are required to provide emergency contact information (cell phone numbers, secondary email addresses, and preferred relocation destinations) for all residents.
SECTION 2: POLICIES ON RESIDENT SUPPORT & CURRICULUM
V. POLICY ON FINANCIAL & RESOURCE SUPPORT OF RESIDENTS

A. Parking is provided for residents assigned to UMC, TMC, and SLVHCS (VANO) at the downtown medical campus, and through individual affiliated training locations as specified in affiliation agreements.

1. All residents will be provided parking at the downtown medical campus.

2. Select programs will be provided additional parking for residents at UMC and the SLVHCS (VANO).
   a. These positions are prioritized for programs that have:
      i. Prolonged shifts in the hospital (whereby they would be leaving at odd hours of the night when the shuttles do not run),
      ii. Programs that are already up against the 80 hour/week duty limit, such that waiting for shuttles on the afferent and efferent side of transportation would risk non-compliance with the 80 hour limit.

3. For residents that do not have additional parking at UMC and the VA, a shuttle service will be provided that rotates on a downtown-only campus loop.
   a. Shuttle times can be found at [http://www2.tulane.edu/universityservices/transportation/medical-loop.cfm](http://www2.tulane.edu/universityservices/transportation/medical-loop.cfm)
   b. Residents can access the PassioGo app for real-time GPS shuttle locations and the TAP-RIDE app, which enables a resident to request a shuttle when needed.
   c. All residents will be provided the Rave Guardian app, enabling residents to request a virtual safety escort regardless of method of transportation [https://publicsafety.tulane.edu/rave-guardian](https://publicsafety.tulane.edu/rave-guardian)

4. Residents coming into the VA or UMC after hours, or those on a service where they are emergently called over to the hospital for an emergent procedure/operation, can stop by the security desk next to the ED and get their parking validated for a free exit.

B. Pagers are provided for the duration of the residencies. Each resident is responsible for returning the pager at the completion or termination of training; a seventy ($70) dollar charge will be accessed for lost or stolen pagers. The GME Office provides each program with an adequate number of pagers; distribution is the responsibility of the program coordinators.

C. Technology Services Support. Tulane University has a dedicated office for free informational and tech support for all resident/faculty computer questions/assistance, available through the Technology Services Help Desk (988-8888).

1. Each resident is given an email account and password, providing twenty-four hour access to educational materials on the Tulane University website, including on-line streaming video of important lectures and the Tulane Library. Through the Tulane Library website, residents have 24-hour access to Up-to-Date, Medline, Ovid, DynaMed Program, and Exammaster. These services provide access to full-text journal subscriptions as well as other on-line medical textbooks, providing access to specialty-specific and other appropriate reference material in print as well as electronic format.

2. On-line evaluation services are provided at no charge for each resident, allowing for the convenience of at-home evaluation review and completion.

3. Each resident is provided HIPAA training as a part of the orientation, and after completing this training, can receive additional training at no cost to learn how to access the electronic medical records of the three primary training locations at Tulane: UMC (EPIC), TMC (Meditech and E-Clinical Works) and The VA (CPRS). For residents enrolled off-cycle, it is the responsibility of the sponsoring training program to ensure that the resident has received appropriate HIPAA training at each clinical institution through which he or she will rotate.
4. Each call room is to contain a telephone and a computer, to ensure 24-hour access to the medical literature and educational resources necessary for optimal learning and patient care, as well as access to the electronic medical record of the hospital in which the resident is providing patient care.

D. Each hospital in which residents perform inpatient and home-call care must have the following components:
   1. Safe, quiet, and private sleep/rest facilities for those residents on call. Each call room must have access to a computer and a telephone.
   2. Each facility must offer 24-hour access to food for those residents who are on-duty at that location.
   3. Security and safety measures appropriate to the participating site.

E. Simulation Center. Each resident is offered access to Tulane University’s simulation center at no additional cost.

F. Health Insurance - health insurance is provided to residents at no cost. Family health coverage is available at an additional cost to the resident. Health insurance eligibility is available to the resident on the first date that the resident is to report for employment, as specified in the resident contract.

G. Optional dental and/or vision insurance is available to residents and their families at an additional cost. Dental and vision insurance eligibility is available to the resident on the first date that the resident is to report for employment, as specified in the resident contract.

H. Life & Disability Insurance - A $25,000 life insurance policy is provided at no cost to residents. Supplemental insurance may be purchased by the resident. Disability insurance is provided at no cost to the residents. Life and disability insurance eligibility is available to the resident on the first date that the resident is to report for employment, as specified in the resident contract.

I. Malpractice insurance is provided at no cost to the residents through the Office of the General Counsel. Tulane residents are included in the Self-Insurance Trust Program for professional liability coverage (Occurrence Coverage). Under the following circumstances, this coverage is secondary to coverage that is otherwise provided. Official documentation of the details of liability coverage are available to the resident at the request of the individual. Any questions about the coverage addressed below can be addressed to the Director of Risk Management for Tulane University (504-865-5783) or the Office of Associate General Counsel for the Health Sciences Center (504-988-5031).
   1. Private Healthcare Institutions within the State. Under the Tulane coverage, the first $100,000 is covered by Tulane; the remaining $400,000 (up to the statutory limit of $500,000) is provided through the Patient’s Compensation Fund. As a safety net in case the statutory cap is removed, the Tulane Self-Insurance Trust program provides an additional $900,000 coverage under a separate policy. The coverage provided by Tulane through its Self-Insurance Trust and through the Patient’s Compensation Fund is an occurrence-based coverage and therefore when residents leave Tulane, no tail coverage would be required.
   2. Rotations at State-operated Facilities. Residents are provided coverage through the State Malpractice Program. This is statutory coverage that provides that health care providers, including residents, who treat patients at any of the state institutions are considered State employees and the State is liable for their conduct. UMC is now a privately-operated facility and, therefore, the above provision #1 will apply.
   3. Veterans Administration Rotation. Those Residents on rotation within the VA system are considered covered under the Federal Tort Claims Act and therefore would be immune from any personal liability. In those situations, the federal government is obligated to provide the cost of defense and the satisfaction of any judgments and/or settlements.
4. In all of the above cases, insurance is available to the resident on the first date of employment, as specified in the resident contract.

5. Out of State Rotations. The primary coverage is determined pursuant to the affiliation agreement between Tulane and the affiliate institution. Residents would have primary coverage by the Tulane program, which includes a Self-Insurance component and/or coverage under a commercial insurance policy purchased by the University.

6. Moonlighting. Tulane does not provide any coverage for moonlighting activities of a resident.

J. Vacations & Educational Leave- With the approval of the program director, educational leave is allowed in some programs as outlined in Policy on Vacation and Leave. Each resident is allowed no less than three (3) weeks of vacation per academic year. Additional weeks are at the discretion of the each residency program.

K. Stipend- 2019-2020 annual salaries for residents are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PGY Level</th>
<th>Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PGY I</td>
<td>$53,271</td>
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<tr>
<td>PGY II</td>
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<td>PGY III</td>
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<td>PGY VII</td>
<td>$64,308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PGY VIII</td>
<td>$64,308</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

L. Counseling Services and Physician Impairment Resources.

Tulane University is committed to fostering an environment in which residents feel safe in identifying and correcting academic and professional deficiencies without fear of reprisal or implications to their career. Residents are provided confidential counseling and behavioral health services, at no cost to the resident, as outlined in Chapter XV. Policy on Remediation, Suspension, Termination and Grievance, and Chapter XVI. Residents’ Assistance Program and Resident Wellness. Residents are not reported to licensing agencies or The Tulane Administration for self-referral except in the extenuating circumstances as noted in Chapter XV. Policy on Remediation, Suspension, Termination and Grievance.

M. Other Program Personnel and Support Services. The DIO, on behalf of the Sponsoring Institution, the respective chair and program director must jointly ensure:

1. The availability of all necessary professional, technical, and clerical personnel for the effective administration of the program.

2. The appropriate number of program coordinator(s) to sustain the effective operation of the training program. Program coordinators must have sufficient support and time to effectively carry out their responsibilities.

3. The availability of adequate resources for resident education, including space, technology, and supplies, are available to provide effective support for ACGME-accredited programs.

4. All clinical rotations have support services to minimize residents’ work that is extraneous to their ACGME-accredited programs’ educational goals and objectives.

5. Residents’ educational experience is not compromised by excessive reliance on residents to fulfill non-physician service obligations. These support services and systems must include:
   a. Peripheral intravenous access placement, phlebotomy, laboratory, pathology and radiology services and patient transportation services provided in a manner appropriate to and consistent with educational objectives and to support high quality and safe patient care;
   b. Medical records available at all participating sites to support high quality and safe patient care, residents’ education, quality improvement and scholarly activities.
VI. POLICY ON MOONLIGHTING
Revised 21-Dec-2021

I. References
In accordance with Section IV.K.1 of the ACGME Institutional Requirements, the Sponsoring Institution must have a policy on moonlighting. Residents shall not be required to engage in moonlighting and residents must have written permission from their Program Director to moonlight. All ACGME-accredited programs are required to monitor the effect of moonlighting activities on a resident’s performance in the program, including that adverse effects may lead to withdrawal of permission to moonlight. The Sponsoring Institution or any of its ACGME-accredited programs may prohibit moonlighting by residents.

II. Definitions
1. **Moonlighting**: voluntary, compensated, medically-related work, performed beyond a resident or fellow’s clinical experience and education requirements, including education hours, and additional to the work required for successful completion of a residency program. Moonlighting includes:
   
a. **External Moonlighting**: voluntary, compensated, medically-related work performed outside the site where the resident or fellow is in training and any of its related participating sites.

b. **Internal Moonlighting**: voluntary, compensated, medically-related work performed within the site where the resident or fellow is in training or at any of its related participating sites. Internal Moonlighting may have particular procedures or definitions specific to individual residency programs, not inconsistent with this definition.

2. **Resident**: an individual enrolled in a graduate medical education residency program sponsored by Tulane University School of Medicine. For purposes of this Policy and the School of Medicine’s additional GME Policies, “resident” includes “fellows”, individuals enrolled in a fellowship (subspecialty) program sponsored by the School of Medicine who has completed a residency program in a related specialty.

III. Moonlighting Requirements
1. All residency programs must have a written policy regarding Moonlighting that identifies whether or not the residency program allows residents to Moonlight and, if a residency program permits Moonlighting, eligibility for Moonlighting and applicable parameters (including maintenance of acceptable performance). Each residency program policy must be in compliance with this Policy, relevant state and federal laws and regulations and any applicable ACGME Institutional, Common Program, Specialty/Subspecialty and Residency Review Committee Requirements. A residency program’s Moonlighting policy may be more restrictive, but not less restrictive, than this Policy.

2. No PGY-1 resident may be permitted to Moonlight.

3. A resident may not Moonlight if the resident holds a J-1 visa or if Moonlighting is otherwise
restricted under the terms of the resident’s visa, as applicable.

4. Residents are not permitted to wear any article of clothing that could connect the resident to the Sponsoring Institution while participating in External Moonlighting, including but not limited to, white coats or scrubs that have “Tulane University School of Medicine” or a residency program name, logo, or emblem on them.

5. Programs may not require residents to engage in Moonlighting. Tulane University School of Medicine and/or any of its residency programs may prohibit Moonlighting at any time.

6. A resident who wishes to engage in Moonlighting, whether Internal Moonlighting or External Moonlighting, must be in good standing and receive written approval from his/her Program Director. The Program Director’s written permission must be included in the resident’s training record maintained by the residency program with a copy to the GME Office. A resident seeking to Moonlight must obtain approval at least each academic year from the resident’s Program Director, or more frequently as set by program policy.

7. Moonlighting must be conducted in compliance with relevant state and federal laws and regulations. All residents who engage in Moonlighting must have all licenses and registrations necessary to engage in Moonlighting, including Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) licenses or registrations. Residents may only engage in approved Moonlighting activities in the State of Louisiana.

8. Residents must also have or carry professional liability coverage extending to the resident’s Moonlighting activities. Professional liability insurance coverage (including any self-insurance coverage) provided to residents by Tulane University School of Medicine or by its participating sites cannot be used by residents for the purpose of Moonlighting and such policies do not provide coverage for claims or alleged malpractice arising out of resident Moonlighting activities, whether Internal or External. It is further the responsibility of the resident and the employer for which a resident is Moonlighting, to determine whether the resident has the appropriate licensure, training and skills to carry out Moonlighting duties.

9. Moonlighting must be conducted in accordance with the established institutional principles in the Policy on Clinical and Educational Work Hours. Program Directors are responsible for monitoring the effect of Moonlighting on a resident’s performance in the educational program. Hours devoted to Moonlighting must be counted toward the 80-hour weekly work hour limit as outlined in the Policy on Clinical and Educational Work Hours. Residents are responsible for maintaining and logging accurate works hours and time spent Moonlighting.

10. Moonlighting is a privilege and it must not interfere with the ability of a resident to achieve the goals and objectives of his/her residency program and must not interfere with the resident’s fitness for work nor compromise patient safety. The Moonlighting privilege may be revoked by the Program Director or by the DIO at any time, including if the Program Director or DIO believes that Moonlighting is adversely affecting the resident’s ability to provide effective patient care, adversely affecting the resident’s participation in the residency program, is putting the resident at risk of a work hours violation, is causing excessive fatigue or if the resident fails to accurately report Moonlighting hours.
11. A violation of this Policy may result in immediate suspension or dismissal in compliance with the *Policy on Remediation, Suspension, Dismissal and Grievance.*

IV. **References/Associated Policies**

– Tulane University School of Medicine, Graduate Medical Education *VIII. Policy on Clinical and Educational Work Hours*

– Tulane University School of Medicine, Graduate Medical Education *XV. Policy on Remediation, Suspension, Dismissal and Grievance*
VII. POLICY ON INTERACTION WITH VENDORS
Revised 12-November-2021

I. References

In accordance with Section IV.L of the ACGME Institutional Requirements, the Sponsoring Institution must maintain a policy that addresses interactions between vendor representatives/corporations and residents and each of its ACGME-accredited programs.

II. Policy

1. Tulane University School of Medicine residents are prohibited from accepting gifts from pharmaceutical and medical device company representatives and other industry representatives that are intended to influence, or may have the effect of influencing, the residents’ health care decisions. Residents should refrain from accepting gifts and participating in activities offered by industry representatives, with the exception of the following generally permitted items and activities:

   a. Receipt of medical textbooks;

   b. Participation in industry-supported educational programs. Attendance at educational programs that are not accredited by an Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) accredited provider should be approved in advance by the resident’s Program Director and/or the Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education/DIO for the School of Medicine. Registration fees and other support for participation in educational programs should not be accepted directly by any resident from an industry representative. Questions regarding attendance at and support for educational programs should be addressed to the Tulane Center for Continuing Medical Education in conjunction with the Office of Graduate Medical Education.

   c. Individual gifts of minimal value that are related to the work of the resident, such as pens and notepads.

2. Residents should not participate in activities or accept gifts not included on the list above without specific permission from the DIO. In addition to this Policy, residents are expected to comply with the policies on vendor interactions in effect at each hospital or other participating site to which a resident rotates. If there is discordance between this Policy and a participating site’s policy, the more stringent of the two will apply.

3. Questions regarding this Policy should be directed to the resident’s Program Director or the Tulane University Office of General Counsel.
VIII. POLICY ON CLINICAL AND EDUCATIONAL WORK HOURS
Revised 01-December 2021

I. References

In accordance with Section IV.K of the ACGME Institutional Requirements, the Sponsoring Institution shall maintain a clinical and educational work hours policy that ensures effective oversight of institutional and program-level compliance with ACGME clinical and educational work hour requirements.

II. Purpose

Each ACGME-accredited residency program sponsored by Tulane University School of Medicine is responsible for designing an effective program structure configured to provide residents with educational and clinical experiences and reasonable opportunities for rest and personal activities. Residency programs and residents are jointly responsible for ensuring that limitations on Work Hours (defined below) are not exceeded. Programs must comply with ACGME Institutional, Common Program and Specialty/Subspecialty Requirements and with this Policy.

Each residency program must be committed to, and responsible for, promoting patient safety and resident well-being and for providing a supportive and safe educational environment. Work Hour limitations set out in this Policy and in ACGME requirements apply regardless of the location of the rotation. Resident schedules, Work Hours and clinical and educational work periods must be structured to focus on the needs of the patient, continuity of care and the educational needs of the resident. Clinical and education assignments must also recognize that faculty and residents collectively have the responsibility for the safety and welfare of patients and that didactic and clinical education must have priority in the allotment of residents’ time and energy to ensure that the learning objectives of each residency program for a resident are not compromised.

III. Definitions

1. **At-Home Call (pager call)**: call taken from outside Tulane Medical Center or a residency program participating site. Clinical work done while on at-home call, including time spent in the hospital and work done at home, such as taking calls or entering notes in an electronic health record (EHR), counts against the 80-hour-per-week limit but does not restart the clock for time off between scheduled in-house clinical and educational work periods. The remaining time, free of clinical work, does not count against the 80-hour-per-week limit. At-home call may not be scheduled on a resident’s One Day Off.

2. **In-House Call**: Clinical and Educational Work Hours, beyond the scheduled workday, when residents are required to be immediately available within an assigned site, as needed, for clinical responsibilities. In-House Call does not include Night Float, being on call from home, or regularly scheduled overnight duties.

3. **Moonlighting**: voluntary, compensated, medically-related work, performed beyond a resident’s clinical experience and education hours, and in addition to the work required for successful completion of a residency program. Moonlighting may be “External” (i.e., voluntary, compensated, medically-related work performed outside the site where the resident is in training and any of its related participating sites), or “Internal” (i.e., voluntary, compensated, medically-related work performed within the site where the resident is in training or at any of its related participating sites).

4. **Night Float**: a rotation or other structured educational experience designed either to eliminate In-House Call or to assist other residents during the night. Residents assigned to night float are assigned on-site duty during evening/night shifts, are responsible for admitting or cross-covering patients until morning, and do not have daytime assignments. Such a rotation must have an educational focus.
5. **One Day Off**: one continuous 24-hour period free from all administrative, clinical, and educational activities.

6. **Work Hours or Clinical and Educational Work Hours**: all clinical and academic activities related to the residency program, i.e., patient care (inpatient and outpatient), administrative duties relative to patient care, the provision for transfer of patient care, time spent on in-house call, time spent on clinical work done at home, and other scheduled academic activities, such as conferences, grand rounds, didactic sessions or other educational activities. Work Hours/Clinical and Educational Work Hours do not include reading, studying, research done from home, and preparation for future cases.

**IV. Work Hour Requirements**

**A. Program Requirements**

All residency programs are required to ensure that Work Hours comply with the following standards. If a residency program’s ACGME Specialty/Subspecialty Requirements include more restrictive limitations or standards (e.g., emergency medicine), in which case the more restrictive limitations control:

1. Each resident’s Work Hours must be limited to no more than 80 hours per week, averaged over a four-week period (or averaged over the period of the rotation if it is shorter than four weeks) inclusive of all in-house clinical and educational activities, clinical work done from home, and all Moonlighting. Tulane University does not permit residency programs to apply for rotation-specific exceptions to the Work Hour requirements.

2. Resident clinical and educational work periods must be no longer than 24 hours of continuous scheduled clinical assignments. Up to four hours of additional time is permitted for activities related to patient safety; however, additional patient care responsibilities cannot be assigned to a resident during this time.

3. It is expected that resident schedules will be structured to ensure that residents are provided with a minimum of eight, but preferably ten, hours off between scheduled work periods for rest and personal activities. There may be circumstances when residents choose to return to the hospital or stay to care for their patients with fewer than eight hours between clinical work and education periods. This shall occur within the context of the 80-hour and One Day Off in seven requirements.

4. Each resident must have at least 14 hours off after 24 hours of In-House Call.

5. Residents must be scheduled to have at least One Day Off in seven free of clinical work and required education, averaged over a four week period. At-Home Call cannot be assigned on the One Day Off. It is desirable, but not required, that each resident have one 48-hour period free of all clinical work and required education each month.

6. In-House Call must not be scheduled more frequently than every third night, averaged over a four week period.

7. Night Float shall occur within the context of the 80-hour and One Day Off in seven requirements. The maximum number of consecutive weeks of Night Float and maximum number of months of Night Float per year may be further specified by each residency program’s associated ACGME Review Committee. Residency programs are required to comply with these further specifications if a program’s ACGME Review Committee promulgates these additional limitations.
8. The frequency of At-Home Call is not subject to the every-third-night limitation, but must satisfy the requirement for the One Day Off in seven that must be free of clinical work and education, averaged over a four week period. At-Home Call must not be so frequent or taxing as to preclude rest or personal time for each resident. As such, a resident on At-Home Call who is called into Tulane Medical Center or a participating site for an extensive period of time should be released from work the following day.

9. Each Program Director is responsible for establishing a jeopardy system involving the residents and faculty, which ensures that the resident may be released from work the following day if the previous night’s requirements were excessive. Residents are permitted to return to Tulane Medical Center or a participating site on At-Home Call to provide direct care for new or established patients. Time spent on patient care activities on At-Home must be included in the 80-hour maximum weekly limit.

10. Moonlighting, if permitted, cannot interfere with resident fitness for work, compromise patient safety or compromise the ability of the resident to achieve the goals and objectives of his/her residency program. Program Directors are responsible for ensuring all time spent Moonlighting is included as part of the 80-hour maximum weekly limit in accordance with the graduate medical education Policy on Moonlighting. PGY-1 residents are not permitted to Moonlight.

B. Fatigue Mitigation

1. Residency programs must educate all faculty members and residents on recognizing the signs of fatigue and sleep deprivation, fatigue management and strategies for alertness management and fatigue mitigation. The GME office will provide an on-boarding session for all new residents and faculty on the signs, risks and methods of counteracting fatigue. Each Program Director is also responsible for having a yearly in-service to educate residents and faculty on the signs, risks and methods of counteracting fatigue.

2. Program Directors and faculty are responsible for adopting policies and procedures to prevent, monitor and counteract the effects of fatigue and for encouraging residents to use fatigue mitigation processes to manage the potential negative effects of fatigue. Each residency program must ensure the continuity of patient care in the event that a resident cannot engage in patient care due to fatigue. Residents are responsible with transitioning their clinical responsibilities to another Resident or to an attending physician if he/she is too fatigued.

3. Program leadership is responsible for ensuring that a resident has an alternative means of transportation home if he/she is too fatigued to safely return home. In such cases, residents should:
   a. first, seek alternative transportation from colleagues, program faculty, or program administration; and
   b. if this option is not feasible, the resident should take a taxi or ride service, and provide the receipt for his/her trip home to program leadership. The resident will subsequently be reimbursed for the taxi or ride service expense.

C. Reporting Fall-Outs in Work Hours

1. Program Directors have primary responsible for monitoring Work Hours to ensure adherence to the ACGME Institutional, Common Program and Specialty/Subspecialty Requirements. The method of monitoring must be approved by the GME office and residents are required to follow their residency program’s method of Work Hour reporting (e.g., reporting Work Hours timely and accurately in
2. The GMEC, through the GME office, further monitors Work Hours. Residency programs are required to investigate Work Hour compliance issues or concerns identified by or reported to the residency program by the GME office or by the GMEC. Residency programs with a history of non-compliance incidents may be placed on monitoring and/or be subject to a Special or Internal Review in accordance with the procedures in the Special Review and Internal Review Protocol and Policy Graduate Medical Education Programs policy.

3. Tulane University School of Medicine encourages reports of any concerns related to Work Hours and all Work Hour fall-outs and is committed to timely addressing areas of non-compliance. Residents and faculty are responsible with reporting events that violate residency program Work Hour policies and this Policy. Residents and faculty should report Work Hour concerns through one of the following mechanisms:

   a. Direct reporting to attending physicians, Program Directors, Chief residents, departmental Chairs, the GMEC, the GME office or DIO; and/or

   b. The University’s Professionalism Reporting Platform
      https://medicine.tulane.edu/education/professionalismenvironment-learning-program.

V. References/Associated Policies

   – Tulane University School of Medicine, Graduate Medical Education VI. Policy on Moonlighting
   – Tulane University School of Medicine, Graduate Medical Education Special Review and Internal Review Protocol and Policy Graduate Medical Education Programs
IX. RESIDENTS’ PARTICIPATION & REPRESENTATION ON INSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEES AND COUNSELS

A. Residents must have appropriate representation on institutional committees and counsels whose actions effect their education and patient care. Residents must be aware of, and participate in, institutional programs and medical staff activities. They must be knowledgeable about, and adhere to, established practices, procedures, and policies of each institution participating in the educational experiences and activities of their training program.

B. The GME Office advocates on behalf of the Tulane Residency Programs to ensure that residents have representation on each of the following committees. During their course of training, each resident will have the opportunity to participate in one or more of the following institutional committees, as well as other similarly established institutional committees as they occur in all affiliated training institutions:

1. Tulane University Hospital & Clinic:
   - Cancer
   - Critical Care Advisory
   - Ethics
   - Emergency Services
   - Infection Control
   - Information and technology committee
   - Medical Records
   - Operating Room
   - Pharmacy & Therapeutics
   - Performance Improvement
   - Transfusion
   - Utilization Review
   - Quality Improvement Counsel, Hospital

2. Tulane University Medical School
   - Code Blue
   - Infection Control
   - Environment of Care
   - Utilization Review
   - PI Council
   - Stroke
   - Blood Utilization
   - QDC
   - Pharmacy/Therapeutics
   - Ethics
   - Critical Care
   - Perinatal
   - Radiation Safety
   - IRB work group
   - QIC
   - Chest Pain
   - SMAT

3. VA Medical Center, New Orleans Executive Committee of the Medical Staff:
   - Cancer
   - Patient Rights/Ethics
   - Infection Control
   - Information and technology committee
   - Medical Records
   - Operative/Invasive Procedure
   - Pharmacy & Therapeutics
   - Performance Improvement
   - Utilization Review
   - Quality of Care
4. UMC

Cancer Care Committee (Quarterly; 12 N)
Critical Care Committee (1st Friday of Even Months; 11:30 AM)
Department Directors Meeting (3rd Thursday of every other month; 9:30 AM)
Environment of Care Committee (3rd Tuesday of the Month; 10 AM)
Ethics Committee (Last Wednesday of the month; 12 N)
Lasers Committee (3rd Tuesday the last Month of the quarter; 1 PM)
Medicine Surgical Unit PI Committee (1st Thursday of the Month; 9 AM)
Mortality Review Committee (2nd Wednesday of the Month; 11 AM)
Nutrition Committee (2nd Tuesday of the Month; 12 N)
Patient Safety & Satisfaction (2nd Tuesday of the Month; 10 AM)
Prisoner Care Committee (2nd Wednesday of every other Month; 10:30 AM)
Research Committee (First Monday of odd months; 2 PM)
Stroke Committee (2nd Thursday of the Month; 12 N)
Trauma Care Committee (Every Monday at 1 PM)
Trauma Peer Review Committee (Every Monday at 2 PM)
Anesthesia/OR Committee (2nd Wednesday of the Month; 7AM)
Comprehensive QM Committee (Last Thursday of the every month; 9AM)
Credentials Committee (1st Thursday of the Month; 7AM)
Infection Control Committee (4th Thursday of the Month; 12 N)
Medical Records Committee (2nd Wednesday of the Month; 1 PM)
Pharmacy and Therapeutics (3rd Tuesday of the Month; 12 N)
Transfusion Committee (Last Monday of the Month; 10 AM)

5. External Organizations: Orleans Parish Medical Society, Local and National Specialty and Subspecialty Organizations
X. POLICY ON CORE CURRICULUM AND THE CORE COMPETENCIES

A. General Competencies: For the purposes of promotion and graduation, all Tulane residents must demonstrate progressive competency in the following areas. Failure to demonstrate competence in any one area is grounds for non-promotion.
1. Patient care,
2. Medical knowledge,
3. Practice-based learning and improvement, and
4. Interpersonal and communication skills,
5. Professionalism,

B. PATIENT CARE
Residents must be able to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health. Residents are expected to:
1. Communicate effectively and demonstrate caring and respectful behavior when interacting with patients and their families.
2. Gather essential and accurate information about their patients.
3. Make informed decisions about diagnostic and therapeutic interventions based on patient information and preferences, up-to-date scientific evidence, and clinical judgment.
4. Develop and enact patient management plans.
5. Counsel and educate patients and their families
6. Use information technology to support patient care decisions and patient education.
7. Perform competently all medical and invasive procedures considered essential for the area of practice.
8. Provide health care services aimed at preventing health problems and maintaining health.
9. Work with health care professionals, including those from other disciplines, to provide patient-focused care.

C. MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE
Residents must be able to obtain a sufficient expertise in their field of practice, with requisite medical knowledge necessary to practice their chosen medical discipline. In specific, residents should be able to:
1. Demonstrate knowledge about established and evolving biomedical, clinical, and cognitive (e.g. epidemiological and social-behavioral) sciences and the application of this knowledge to patient care.
2. Demonstrate an investigatory and analytic thinking approach to clinical medicine.
3. Know and apply the basic sciences appropriate to their discipline.

D. PRACTICE-BASED LEARNING AND IMPROVEMENT
Residents must be able to investigate and evaluate their patient care practices, appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and improve their patient care practices. Residents are expected to:
1. Analyze practice experience and perform practice-based improvement activities using a systematic methodology
2. Locate, appraise, and assimilate evidence from scientific studies related to their patients’ health problems
3. Obtain and use information about their population of patients and the larger population from which their
patients are drawn

4. Apply knowledge of study designs and statistical methods to the appraisal of clinical studies and other information on diagnostic and therapeutic effectiveness

5. Use information technology to manage information, access on-line medical information; and support their education

6. Facilitate the learning of students and other health care professionals

E. INTERPERSONAL AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS
Residents must be able to demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in effective information exchange and teaming with patients, their patients’ families, and professional associates.
Residents are expected to:
1. Create and sustain a therapeutic and ethically sound relationship with patients
2. Use effective listening skills and elicit and provide information using effective nonverbal, explanatory, questioning, and writing skills
3. Work effectively with others as a member or leader of a health care team or professional group
4. Foster the development of the profession through effective teaching strategies.

F. PROFESSIONALISM
Residents must demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to a diverse patient population. Residents are expected to:
1. Demonstrate respect, compassion, and integrity; a responsiveness to the needs of patients and society that supersedes self-interest; accountability to patients, society, and the profession; and a commitment to excellence and on-going professional development
2. Demonstrate a commitment to ethical principles pertaining to provision or withholding of clinical care, confidentiality of patient information, informed consent, and business practices
3. Demonstrate sensitivity and responsiveness to patients’ culture, age, gender, and disabilities.

G. SYSTEMS-BASED PRACTICE
Residents must demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care and the ability to effectively call on system resources to provide care that is of optimal value. Residents are expected to:
1. Understand how their patient care and other professional practices affect other health care professionals, the health care organization, and the larger society and how these elements of the system affect their own practice
2. Know how types of medical practice and delivery systems differ from one another, including methods of controlling health care costs and allocating resources.
3. Practice cost-effective health care and resource allocation that does not compromise quality of care.
4. Advocate for quality patient care and assist patients in dealing with system complexities.
5. Know how to partner with health care managers and health care providers to assess, coordinate, and improve health care and know how these activities can affect system performance.
6. Understand and be able to apply the Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) method of systems improvement.

H. TRANSITIONS OF CARE
Residents must demonstrate knowledge and proficiency in the safe and effective transition of care for patients under their stewardship. Residents are expected to
1. Understand the importance of in-person sign-in and sign-out of patients who will require on-going care via a colleague (i.e., a night float resident).

2. Identify the components of closed-loop communication, and successfully demonstrate proficiency of this communication strategy.

3. Identify the component of the written (or electronic) sign-out form that ensures patient safety.

4. Recognize the importance of timely completion of documents essential to facilitating successful transitions of care from one arena to the next (i.e., off-service notes, post-operative notes, discharge dictations).

I. PATIENT SAFETY AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT
Residents must develop competence in the core components of patient safety and quality improvement.
Residents are expected to:
1. Develop competency, through active participation, in Root Cause Analysis and Failure Modes Effect Analysis.
2. Identify how to report actual and near-miss patient safety events at each of the training facilities at which they rotate.
3. Demonstrate competence in the attitude of patient safety by regularly reporting such events, including:
   a. Medication errors
   b. Adverse medication reactions
   c. Falls
   d. Decubitus ulcers
   e. Deep vein thrombosis
   f. Unexpected changes in levels of care
   g. Transitions of care fallouts
   h. Hospital acquired infections (CAUTI, CLASBI, Vent-associated pneumonia, surgical site infections)
   i. Antibiotic stewardship
   j. And other events specific to the resident’s field of practice
4. Identify the importance of closed-loop communication and situational awareness in the prevention of patient safety events
5. Identify common heuristics that lead to misdiagnosis or inappropriate assignment of treatment regimens.
6. Identify the role the healthcare system plays in augmenting or closing the gap in healthcare disparities
7. Recognize the role the healthcare system plays in making patient safety events more or less probable:
8. Recognize the importance of receiving data on physician performance in identifying areas for improvement in the healthcare system
9. Identify the components of the Plan-Do-Act-Study quality improvement model.
10. Demonstrate competence in the attitude of quality improvement, by regular participation in team-based, multidisciplinary quality improvement projects.

J. THE RESIDENCY PROGRAM’S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ENSURING COMPETENCY IN EACH OF THE CORE COMPETENCIES
1. Each residency program director must ensure that the residency program curriculum addresses each of the six core competencies, and that all residents in the program are taught and evaluated in each of the six core competencies. Further, residents must be provided the entrustable professional activities (EPA’s) within each of the core competencies, and the associated milestones of performance in each of these EPA’s.
2. Resident evaluations must include an assessment of each of the six core competencies, as outlined by the
milestone performance in each of the EPA’s

3. Resident evaluations must utilize a 360° evaluation system to ensure an accurate assessment of professionalism and communication/interpersonal skills, including evaluations by faculty, patients, nurses, students, peers and other ancillary staff, as applicable to the rotation.

4. Mid-year and end-of-year summary evaluations must include an assessment of each of the six core competencies as detailed in Chapter XIV. Policy on Evaluation and Promotion.

5. Decisions for promotion or graduation must be made based upon demonstrated competency in each of the six core competencies. Failure to achieve competence in any one of the six core competency areas is grounds for non-promotion, as detailed in Chapter XIV. Policy on Evaluation and Promotion.

6. In addition to the above requirements, procedural-based specialties must monitor procedure, operative, and case logs, and incorporate an assessment of procedural competency into mid-year/end-year evaluations and promotion and graduation decisions.

7. Program directors must ensure that all residents entering a training program at Tulane University have successfully completed the TeamSTEPPS training.

8. Program directors must ensure that all residents receive formal instruction in the principles of safe and effective transitions-of-care.

9. Program directors, or their designees, must ensure that interns are directly observed in their transitions of care (i.e., sign out) until which point the program director is satisfied that the intern has demonstrated sufficient mastery of transitions communication to warrant transitions of care duties without direct supervision.

10. Program directors must ensure that residents understand how to report, and regularly report, patient safety events, including near-miss events.

11. Program directors must ensure that residents receive training in conducting RCA’s and FMEA’s, and that residents regularly participate in actual or simulated RCA’s and FMEA’s.

12. Each program must have a regularly occurring Morbidity/Mortality series throughout the year, with an emphasis on how the system contributed to the adverse events, and how the system could be changed to prevent such events in the future.

13. Program directors must ensure that residents receive data from their respective hospitals on their practice habits such that there is an opportunity to improve in these areas.

14. Program directors must ensure that each resident participates in at least one team-based quality improvement project each year.

15. Program directors must submit an annual “State of the Program” document in June of each year to the GME Office as outlined in Chapter XXII. Policy on Program Evaluation, Improvement, and Annual Program Reporting. This document must contain a description of how the residency program teaches and evaluates the core competencies, and ensures compliance with the responsibilities outlined above.

K. THE RESIDENCY PROGRAM’S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ENSURING COMPETENCY IN RESIDENTS’ TEACHING, EVALUATION AND SUPERVISION ABILITIES

1. In a medical school, residents provide an essential role in the instruction and supervision of medical students. Further, the act of teaching provides insight into the teacher’s own understanding of medicine, enabling him or her to identify areas of weaknesses, and subsequently to improve. Tulane Graduate Medical Education, therefore, is committed to the development of residents as teachers.

2. Training programs whose residents regularly interact with medical students are required to integrate the following principles of medical education into their curriculum:
   a. Identify and understand the goals and objectives of the medical student curriculum, as applicable to the residents’ training program.
b. Develop and execute tangible expectations for the day-to-day activities of the clinical team.

c. Identify and effective utilize strategies to optimize learner engagement in the learning content (motivation)

d. Apply visualization techniques such that learners can identify the utility of the teaching topic for their career, and identify areas of weakness they might encounter in utilizing the skill.

e. Anticipate areas of confusion, or areas prone to errors in the learners’ application of the material, and provide solutions proactively in preventing those areas.

f. Effectively utilize formative and summative feedback strategies to improve learner performance.

g. Identify strategies to ensuring an effective and respectful learning environment.

3. Training programs whose residents regularly interact with medical students are required to regularly assess residents’ teaching and supervision abilities using student evaluations of residents’ teaching abilities and direct observation by peers or supervisors of residents’ teaching and feedback abilities.

L. SUPPLEMENTAL TRAINING IN CORE COMPETENCY TRAINING UNIVERSAL TO ALL TRAINING PROGRAMS

1. The Tulane University GME Office provides initial training, as part of orientation, to all residents newly matriculating to a training program at Tulane. This training includes the following areas:
   a. Sleep Deprivation and Fatigue Mitigation
   b. Introduction of GME Staff/ Review of Policies and Procedures
   c. Review of the Six- Core Competencies
   d. Clinical Coaching: Motivation, Visualization, Anticipation, Retention
   e. Feedback Strategies
   f. Medical Malpractice, Error Reporting and Patient Apologies
   g. Sexual Harassment
   h. Transitions of Care
   i. Patient Safety
   j. Quality Improvement

2. Following orientation, the Tulane University GME Office provides supplemental training in the core competencies, particularly for training modules that are universal to all training programs. These modules are not to preclude a training program from integrating similar or more in-depth training in each area, but rather to ensure that all Tulane residents receive foundational and on-going training in these topics.

3. The on-line module approach is designed to allow residents to engage in self-directed learning that is conducive to their life schedule. Further, it is designed such that residents have the time to appropriately address and reflect upon the subject matter.

4. Each module in the online course has a post-test, course evaluation and certificate of completion for users who successfully complete the course requirements. The respective program director is responsible for ensuring that each resident in his or her training program has successfully completed the required module.

5. Each program director is responsible for ensuring that each resident completes his or her required modules, or a suitable alternative in the program’s curriculum, prior to promotion to the next level of training, or in the case of the final year of training, prior to graduation.
6. Requirements by PGY Level for the FY19-20 year are as follows.

   a. LEVEL I (PGY-1)
   1. Managing Unconscious Bias
   2. Sleep Deprivation
   3. Confidentiality
   4. Resident Intimidation
   5. Patient Safety
   6. Building the Patient Physician Relationship
   7. Thriving Through Residency: The Resilient Resident
   8. Creating a Respectful Learning Environment: Avoiding Medical Student Mistreatment

   b. LEVEL II (PGY-2)
   1. Managing Unconscious Bias
   2. Sleep Deprivation
   3. Working Effectively with an Interpersonal Team
   4. Residents as Teachers
   5. Cultural Competency
   6. Coding & Documentation for Resident Physicians- part 1 & 2
   7. Physician Health: Physicians Caring for ourselves
   8. Providing Effective Feedback to Medical Trainees
   9. 

   c. LEVEL III (PGY-3)
   1. Managing Unconscious Bias
   2. Sleep Deprivation
   3. Health Care Quality: Measuring Physician Performance
   4. Patient Safety - National Patient Safety Goals
   5. Patient Safety - Further Steps to Prevent Patient Harm
   6. Quality Improvement Panel
   7. Quality Improvement Q & A
   8. Physician Health: Physicians Caring for ourselves
   9. Medicaid
   10. Medicare

   d. LEVEL IV+ and Above.
   1. Managing Unconscious Bias
   2. Sleep Deprivation
   3. Physician Health: Physicians Caring for ourselves
   4. Creating a Respectful Learning Environment: Avoiding Medical Student Mistreatment
   5. Medicaid
   6. Medicare

   e. Any resident from a non-Tulane training program who has matriculated into Tulane University GME programs at the PGY 4 or above level will be required to complete Level II training for their first year at Tulane, and Level III for their second year at Tulane, in addition to the Level IV+ training requirements.

M. THE OFFICE OF GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION’S RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENSURING COMPETENCY IN EACH OF THE CORE COMPETENCIES
1. The Office of Graduate Medical Education must ensure that residency programs are fulfilling their obligation to ensuring that each resident develops competency in each of the six core competencies, and the components of patient safety and quality improvement.

2. The Annual Review Process will include specific questions as to how the program’s educational curriculum teaches and assesses the six core competencies and the components of patient safety and quality improvement. See Chapter XXII Policy on Program Evaluation, Improvement, and Annual
Program Reporting.

3. The Office of Graduate Medical Education will receive and review annual “State of the Program” reports from each program each year.
   a. Programs not in compliance with ensuring the teaching and evaluation of the core competencies will undergo an additional internal review to identify and correct the deficiencies in the core competency curriculum.
   b. State of the Program reports will be compiled into the annual GME report, that will be delivered orally and by writing to: The TUHC Administrative Board, the UMC Executive Committee, and the Tulane Executive Faculty. A written copy will be delivered to each of the affiliated training institutions.

4. The DIO or his/her representative will meet with each group of residents (i.e., each program) at least once per year to ensure compliance with the core competencies and other RRC requirements.

5. The DIO or his/her representative will meet with each program director at least once per year to ensure that the residency program’s curriculum ensures compliance with respect to the instruction and supervision of the core competencies.

6. The Office of Graduate Medical Education will ensure that each incoming resident or fellow new to the Tulane GME system receives formal training in the TeamSTEPPS curriculum.

7. The Office of Graduate Medical Education will ensure that affiliated hospitals provide effective electronic sign-out systems for those patients requiring on-going care across residency shifts (i.e., hospitalized patients for which nightfloat coverage is provided).

8. The Office of Graduate Medical Education will facilitate communication between affiliated hospitals and the Tulane residency training programs regarding quality and patient safety initiatives, including ensuring residents know the hospital’s patient safety priorities.

9. The Office of Graduate Medical Education will facilitate communication between affiliated hospitals and the Tulane residency training programs regarding how to report errors, adverse events, unsafe conditions, and near misses in a protected manner that is free from reprisal.

10. The Office of Graduate Medical Education will facilitate communication between affiliated hospitals and the Tulane residency training programs regarding receiving appropriate data streams necessary to provide residents with information on their practice habits, and to enact meaningful quality and patient safety initiatives designed to improve systems of care, reduce health care disparities, and improve patient outcomes.

11. The Office of Graduate Medical Education will facilitate communication between affiliated hospitals and the Tulane residency training programs to ensure that residents have an opportunity to participate in actual RCA’s/FMEA’s, hospital-based quality improvement projects, and to participate on committees essential for patient safety. See Chapter IX. Residents’ Participation on Institutional Committees and Counsels.

12. The DIO or his/her representative will facilitate communication between hospital leadership and program director leadership regarding any resident/fellow event that is judged to be inconsistent with patient safety and quality.
XI. POLICY ON VACATION AND LEAVE
(revised 8/19/2020)

A. LEAVE OF ABSENCE
A Leave of Absence may be granted only with written permission of the residency program director. Such leave may prolong the duration of residency training according to each specialty's Board requirements, and the requirements unique to programs at Tulane University. In all cases, the number of total months required to complete program requirements for graduation is to be determined by the program director and the program’s clinical competency committee.

B. MILITARY LEAVE
Eligible employees who are members of the National Guard, Naval Militia or of a reserve component of the United States military forces and who are required to undergo annual field or periodic weekend training or active duty training shall be granted a leave of absence for such period as provided by regulation or emergency situation. The employee shall be entitled to full pay for a period of two weeks per year. This pay will be the difference between his/her regular salary and the money received from National Guard or other reserve unit. Any such hours granted will be in addition to the employee's regular vacation hours. Any remaining military obligation will be granted without pay or, if the employee wishes, he/she may use accumulated vacation time. Armory drills or multiple training assemblies do not qualify for short-term military leave with or without pay. If you enter the Armed Forces of the United States while an employee of the University, you will have certain re-employment rights, as required by Federal law, after completing your military service. Contact the Personnel Department for details.

C. SICK LEAVE
A period of sick leave of two weeks is allowed per resident per year. If a resident calls in sick, it is the prerogative of the program director to ask for a doctor's excuse from the resident. Sick leave in excess of two weeks will be taken from vacation time. Each resident must be aware that each particular specialty allows only a certain amount of absence from training per year. Absence beyond that designated time, be it for vacation or sick leave, may extend the resident’s time in training. There can be no accrual of sick leave from one year to the next; i.e., two week maximum sick-leave is allowed per year.

D. LEAVE TIME ALLOWED BY SPECIALTY BOARDS WITHOUT MAKE UP
The amount of aggregate leave time that can be allowed without an extension of training time is at the discretion of the program director, as directed by the respective Board’s maximum allowable leave time. It is the responsibility of the program director to communicate to residents the maximum amount of leave time that can be taken without an extension of training time.

E. PARENTAL LEAVE (MATERNITY & PATERNITY LEAVE)
1. Parental leave will be granted upon request to all residents. All or a portion of the six weeks may be requested.
2. Parental leave applies to births or adoption of a child.
3. Parental leave applies to biologic, adoptive and domestic-partner parents.
4. Parental leave is an un-paid leave of absence.
5. Benefits will continue during the six weeks of Parental leave. The resident will have the option of continuing his or her benefits, at the resident’s cost, for leave that exceeds the six weeks.
6. Parental leave will be a paid leave of absence for the portion that the resident chooses to devote remaining vacation and/or sick leave for that year.
7. Parental leave greater than six weeks duration, except in cases of illness of the mother or infant, requires approval by the program director. This time will be unfunded.
8. Where possible, the resident must notify the program director, providing at least a four-month notice of
the leave, and when he or she plans to return to work following the parental leave.

9. Duration of leave exceeding that period of time defined by the resident's specialty board as an acceptable leave of absence will extend the resident’s time in training.

10. The resident may choose to use his or her parental leave anytime from one month prior to the birth/adoption of the child up until six months after the birth/adoption of the child.

F. BEREAVEMENT LEAVE
1. A leave of absence will be granted for a death in resident’s or the resident’s significant other’s immediate family.
2. The leave will be paid leave with benefits provided the resident uses allotted sick leave or vacation time.
3. This leave shall not exceed three working days for a funeral that is held within a 300-mile radius of New Orleans and shall not exceed five working days for a funeral outside this radius. For purposes of this policy, immediate family is defined as the resident’s significant other or the resident’s significant other’s, mother, father, sister, brother, children, grandparents, grandchildren.
4. Leave in excess of remaining sick leave or vacation time will be un-paid leave, though benefits will continue up to six weeks of absence.
5. The program director may request verification of the death and location of the funeral prior to approving this leave.

G. VACATION
The amount of vacation per academic year is at the discretion of the program director, but shall not be less than three weeks per academic year. For vacation guidelines, the resident should consult his or her residency program director. There can be no accrual of vacation time from one academic year to the next.

H. EDUCATIONAL LEAVE
1. It is the policy of Tulane University School of Medicine to ensure that the residents are allowed to attend and to participate in educational and scientific meetings that would contribute to the medical education of the resident physician.
2. Each resident may be granted up to five (5) working days per year of educational leave for the purpose of participating in educational or scientific meetings that contribute to the medical education of the resident physician. Permission for and approval of the leave must be granted in writing by the program director or his/her designee.
3. This policy does not address expenses or reimbursement of expenses as a part of education leave; such reimbursement or payment is at the discretion of the program director.

I. WELLNESS DAYS
1. To allow residents to attend to their personal preventative health, wellness, including medical, dental, and mental health appointments, each residency programs will provide for a total of four (4) half-days. Wellness Days may be used to attend to a resident or fellows’ dependent health-related needs, as well as for an ill or elderly family member or partner with health needs where the resident/fellow’s presence is needed. Wellness Days are in addition to time allowed for resident/fellows professional development, vacation, or sick leave.
2. Residents must provide seven (7) days’ advance notice to the program director prior to use to ensure that program coverage needs are met. Residents may be asked to provide alternative days/times for use of Wellness Days where appropriate to accommodate the needs of the Training Program.
3. Individual Training Programs are responsible for determining how to best implement Wellness days without impacting resident or fellows’ eligibility for fellowship or board certification as required by the Specialty.

4. Wellness Days do not accrue from year to year.

J. APPEALS

1. A resident who has a concern with the decisions regarding his or her vacation or leave may raise this concern in one of the following venues:
   a. The Residency Education Committee, either directly or via the resident’s/faculty’s representative.
   b. Tulane Resident and Fellow Congress, either directly or via the resident’s representative
   c. Direct reporting to the Department Chair
   d. Direct reporting to the GMEC or DIO
   e. The University’s Professionalism Reporting Platform. [https://medicine.tulane.edu/education/professionalismenvironment-learning-program](https://medicine.tulane.edu/education/professionalismenvironment-learning-program)
   f. The Raise and Resolve Committee
XII. POLICY ON IMMUNIZATION PROCEDURES & OCCUPATIONAL HAZARDS
(rev. 8/19/2020)

Residents may be at risk for developing infectious diseases from patients, and, in some cases, be at risk for infecting patients and colleagues.

A. Tuberculin Testing.
   1. Tulane provides PPD skin tests at the time of orientation. A routine PPD test will be placed on each resident at orientation, unless the resident has a history of prior positive tuberculin reactivity.
   2. Routine annual PPD testing is required for continuation in the training program.
      a. In May of each year, residents will receive a PPD history form from their program coordinator.
      b. It will be their individual responsibility to complete this form and schedule an appointment with the Tulane Living Well Clinic (988-4325). The PPD will be placed at that time (with no charge to the resident).
      c. The resident should return in 48 hours to this clinic to have the PPD read.
      d. The result of the test should be communicated, via the signed TB form, to the program coordinator.
      e. Residents with a history of a positive PPD must complete the Positive PPD form, documenting treatment (if any), and assessing any signs/symptoms that would prompt radiographic evaluation. A baseline radiograph should be obtained on any resident with a positive PPD (or history of positive PPD).
      f. More frequent, or alternative, testing may be indicated for residents at high risk for TB exposure.

B. Hepatitis B Vaccination. Any resident who has not received a series of three hepatitis B injections during medical school should have a baseline titer. Hepatitis B vaccine should be offered to any resident with a negative titer. There is evidence to suggest that titers wane after five years after the series; therefore, these individuals should also obtain a titer and a booster injection if indicated.

C. Influenza Vaccination. All residents are required to obtain an annual influenza (flu) vaccination. To ensure consistency with hospital affiliate policies, this vaccination will be provided by our hospital affiliates. Those residents who are vaccinated will receive a sticker for their name badge demonstrating their compliance. Those residents who refuse, or have contra-indications to vaccination, will be required to wear a mask in all clinical areas during the flu season, as defined by the clinical site.

D. Occupational Exposures. In the event of an occupational exposure to blood or body fluids (i.e., needle-stick), the resident should follow the following procedures. Detailed instruction can also be found at https://risk.tulane.edu/ehs/programs-services/bloodbornepathogens
   1. Scrub the wound for 5 minutes with betadine, hibiclens, or soap. If there is a splash of blood or body fluids to the eye, then it should be irrigated for 5 minutes with water or normal saline.
   2. The resident should report immediately to the Emergency Department of the facility at which the exposure occurred. If there is no such Emergency Department, the resident should report to the Tulane University Hospital Emergency Department.
   3. The resident should complete the Exposure Form by accessing the bloodborne pathogens exposure page https://risk.tulane.edu/ehs/programs-services/bloodborne-pathogens and selecting the appropriate form.
a. This form will collect information on the event, the resident’s salient medical history, and any information known about the patient from whom the exposure occurred.

b. This form should be return to workcomp@tulane.edu or fax to 504-865-6796

4. The resident should then page the Infectious Disease resident on-call to review the information on the form and discuss treatment options.

5. The following day, the resident should schedule an appointment with the Tulane Wellness Clinic to review the incident and the recommendations.

6. In all cases, the resident should report the injury to his or her program director and the Tulane Living Well Clinic at 504-988-4325  tlwocchealth@tulane.edu

7. An occupational exposure can be psychologically devastating, as the event is often colored by fear, guilt or shame. All of these emotions frequently prevent residents from seeking timely help and/or counseling. Residents should not underestimate the emotion associated with an occupational exposure, and should err on the side of seeking psychological counseling following the event. Free counseling is available via the Residents’ Assistance Program Director, Dr. Andrew Moroson; (504-322-3837) or email him at dr.morson@ibhnola.com.

E. COVID-19 Exposures and Testing

1. Test-Positive Residents

a. All residents testing positive for COVID-19 must report their test results to their program director and program coordinator, and must complete the University’s COVID Reporting Form. (https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TulaneUniv&layout_id=17)

b. Residents with test-positive COVID-19 Infection. The return to work criteria (with or without symptoms at the time of the test being positive) is as follows:
   i. At least ten days have passed since the symptoms first appeared, AND
   ii. At least twenty-four hours have passed since last fever without the use of fever-reducing medications AND other symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) have improved.
   iii. The return to work time duration is extended to 20 days (instead of 10 days) for residents who experienced severe to critical illness, or who are severely immunocompromised. The time and condition for return for those severely immunocompromised will be determined by the resident’s physician. iv. Residents who never experienced symptoms can return to work ten days after the positive test.

2. Residents with a high-risk exposure

a. A high-risk exposure is defined as contact with an individual known to be COVID-positive for greater than 15 minutes, within six feet of the individual, and during which either the positive individual or the resident were not wearing personal protective equipment (medical or surgical masks). The individual known to be COVID-positive could be a patient, another health-care provider, or an acquaintance outside of work.

b. If the high-risk exposure occurred in a clinical environment with a patient, the resident should follow the instructions below, AND notify the hospital’s infection control office. The hospital’s infection control office will determine if the patient contact qualifies as a high-risk exposure.

c. If a resident self-identifies a high-risk exposure that is other than a clinical encounter (i.e., contact with a colleague or out-of-work exposures) the resident is to contact the Tulane Living Well clinic (504-988-4325  tlwocchealth@tulane.edu) for a formal review of the exposure to ensure it meets criteria as a high-risk exposure.
a. Residents with a high-risk exposure who are symptomatic. The resident is to contact the Tulane Living Well clinic (504-988-4325 tlwocchealth@tulane.edu) for a formal review of the exposure and to arrange for immediate testing. The resident is to self-quarantine until the test results are returned.
   i. Residents with a positive test will follow the protocol for Test-Positive residents with symptoms (E.1.b)
   ii. Residents with a negative test can return to work when at least 24 hours have passed since their last fever without the use of fever-reducing medications AND other symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) have improved. The resident may return to all duties, but must wear a mask at all times for 14 days from the time of exposure. Higher levels of PPE for patient contact is as dictated by the clinical circumstance.
   iii. Residents who have non-resolving symptoms may be tested again. The resident is to contact the Tulane Living Well clinic (504-988-4325 tlwocchealth@tulane.edu) for a formal review of the symptoms to determine if a second test is warranted.

e. Residents with a high-risk exposure who are not symptomatic.
   i. The resident may return to clinical duties, but must wear a mask at all times for 14 days from the time of exposure. Higher levels of PPE for patient contact is as dictated by the clinical circumstance. The resident may not participate in nonclinical/non-research duties (i.e., in-person didactics) in administrative locations outside of the hospital/clinic at which they are assigned until they have obtained a negative test (see 2.e.iii below).
   ii. The resident must monitor symptoms (temperature and other symptoms). Residents developing symptoms will enter the pathway for “Residents with a high-risk exposure who are symptomatic” (E.2.d).
   iii. Residents who continue to be without symptoms will be tested seven days following the high-risk exposure.
      a. Residents with a positive test will follow the protocol for Test-Positive residents with symptoms (E.1)
      b. Residents with a negative test can return to all duties with standard precautions, but must wear a mask at all times for at least 14 days from the time of exposure.

f. Residents with symptoms without a high-risk exposure. The resident is to contact the Tulane Wellness clinic (504-988-4325 tlwocchealth@tulane.edu) for a formal review of their symptoms and to determine if testing is necessary.
   i. Residents for whom testing is deemed not necessary can return to work with standard precautions.
   ii. Residents for whom testing is deemed necessary must self-quarantine until the test results are returned.
   iii. Residents with a positive test will follow the protocol for Test-Positive residents with symptoms (E.1)
   iv. Residents with a negative test can return to work with standard precautions.

   a. Per University Policies, all Tulane University employees will undergo routine testing on a monthly basis throughout the year.
   b. Residents who have tested positive will not be retested for 90 days unless they develop new symptoms.
c. Where applicable, residents also fall under the overall School of Medicine policy.

F. Worker’s Compensation

1. As employees, residents are covered under Workers' Compensation for an occupational injury. Residents should inform the treating healthcare provider that the injury is work-related and to bill accordingly. Employees should NOT show their personal insurance as this can complicate the billing issues. You should call the Workers' Compensation Manager by phone, (504) 988-2869 to verify benefits available.

2. Important Facts:
   a. Employee is entitled to medical benefits once compensable injury occurs.
   b. Employee is entitled to indemnity benefits after a seven (7) day waiting period. Indemnity benefits are paid at a calculation of 66 and 2/3 percent of wages.
   c. All medical expenses related to a compensable injury are paid per fee schedule.
   d. If necessary, seek medical treatment at nearest hospital or clinic.
   e. Provide all medical documentation to your supervisor and Workers’ Compensation Manager.
   f. Keep copies of documentation.
SECTION 3:
SUPERVISION, EVALUATION & REMEDIATION OF RESIDENTS
A. The Program Director. Each residency program must be supervised by one program director responsible for the quality of the educational experience for the training program.

1. Qualifications of the Program Director. The program director must:
   a. Be board certified in the specialty of the training program.
   b. Have requisite experience in graduate medical education deemed appropriate by the ACGME.
   c. Have current medical licensure and the appropriate medical staff appointment at Tulane.
   d. Engage in professional development applicable to their responsibilities as educational leaders

2. Responsibilities of the Program Director. The program director must administer and maintain an educational environment conducive to educating the residents in each of the ACGME competency areas. In specific, the program director must:
   a. Oversee and ensure the quality of didactic and clinical education in all sites that participate in the program.
   b. Approve a local director at each participating site who is accountable for resident education and supervision (See XIII.C.), as defined by the program letter of affiliation with that site.
   c. Approve the selection of program faculty as appropriate for supervision and education of residents.
   d. Evaluate program faculty and approve the continued participation of program faculty based on these evaluations.
   e. Monitor resident supervision at all participating sites and ensure compliance with evaluation requirements (See XIII.C.).
   f. Provide each resident with a written summary evaluation in each of the core competencies on a semi-annual basis (See Chapter XIV. Policy on Evaluation and Promotion). The program director or his/her designated liaison should meet in person with each resident at least twice per year to review this evaluation.
   g. Comply with milestone reporting to the ACGME, as dictated by program-specific required intervals, and provide each resident with a written summary of their milestone progress.
   h. Provide an end-of-training summary letter meeting the requirements as outlined in Chapter XIV. Policy on Evaluation and Promotion.
   i. Prepare and submit all information required and requested by the ACGME and the GME Office, including:
      i. The program information forms prior to site visits.
      ii. The annual program updates on Web ADS.
      iii. The Tulane annual report as outlined in Chapter XXII. Policy on Program Evaluation, Improvement, and Annual Program Reporting.
      iv. The program information for any scheduled internal reviews as outlined in Chapter XXII. Policy on Program Evaluation, Improvement, and Annual Program Reporting.
   j. Ensure compliance with grievance and due process procedures as set forth Chapter XV. Policy on Remediation, Suspension, Termination and Grievance.
   k. Provide verification of residency education for all residents, including those who leave the program prior to completion, and those that enter the program as outlined in Chapter I. Policy on Resident Eligibility and Selection.
1. Ensure compliance with policies and procedures for selection, evaluation and promotion of residents, disciplinary action, and supervision of residents Chapter I. Policy on Resident Eligibility and Selection

m. Implement and ensure compliance with policies and procedures regarding the duty hours and the working environment, and moonlighting as outlined in Chapter VIII. Policy on Residents’ Duty Hours, and Chapter VI. Policy on Moonlighting.
   i. Distribute these policies and procedures to the residents and faculty.
   ii. Monitor resident duty hours with a frequency sufficient to ensure compliance with ACGME requirements
   iii. Investigate and provide a response, via MedHub, for each duty hours violation.
   iv. Adjust schedules as necessary to mitigate excessive service demands and/or fatigue
   v. If applicable, monitor the demands of at-home call and adjust schedules as necessary to mitigate excessive service demands and/or fatigue

n. Ensure compliance with Chapter XXII. Policy on Program Evaluation, Improvement, and Annual Program Reporting, by obtaining approval of the sponsoring institution’s DIO before submitting information to the ACGME.

o. Monitor resident stress, and the need for and ensure the provision of back up support systems when patient care responsibilities are unusually difficult or prolonged.

p. Maintain familiarity with, and comply with, ACGME and Residency Review Committee policies and procedures as outlined in the ACGME Manual of Policies and Procedures.

q. Ensure that clinical rotations minimize residents’ work that is extraneous to their ACGME-accredited programs’ educational goals and objectives, ensuring that residents’ educational experience is not compromised by excessive reliance on residents to fulfill non-physician service obligations.

3. Program Director Support

a. The DIO, on behalf of the Sponsoring Institution, and the respective departmental chair will ensure that each program director has sufficient financial support and protected time to effectively carry out their educational, administrative, and leadership responsibilities as described in the Institutional, Common, and Specialty/Subspecialty-specific Program Requirements;

B. Faculty.

1. Supervision of Patient Care: Proper supervision of residents is expected in all areas of all affiliated institutions to assure consistently high standards of patient care. The overall responsibility for the treatment of each patient lies with the faculty to whom the patient is assigned and who supervises the resident physician.
   a. All inpatients and outpatients will have one faculty listed as the physician in charge of the patient’s medical treatment, and the name of this practitioner will be clearly designated on each patient’s medical record.
   b. The faculty will be involved in the care of the patient to the extent necessary to assure consistently high standards of patient care. This faculty will be responsible for, and must be familiar with, the care provided to the patient, and is expected to fulfill this responsibility, at a minimum, in the following manner:
      i. Direct the care of the patient and provide the appropriate level of supervision based on the nature of the patient's condition, the likelihood of major changes in the management plan, the complexity of care, the experience and judgment of the resident being supervised and within the scope of the approved clinical privileges of the staff practitioner.
ii. Document this supervision via admission, operative, procedure or progress notes, or an acceptable linking-note to the resident’s documentation. The faculty member’s involvement in the patient’s care and supervision of the resident should be reflected in both the resident’s note and the faculty’s addendum.

iii. Assure that all technically complex diagnostic and therapeutic procedures which carry a significant risk to the patient are: medically indicated, fully explained to and understood by the patient to meet informed consent criteria, properly executed, correctly interpreted, and evaluated for appropriateness, effectiveness and required follow-up. Evidence of this assurance should be documented.

iv. Direct appropriate modifications of care as indicated in response to significant changes in diagnosis or patient status. Evidence of this assurance should be documented.

2. Educational Responsibilities: Faculty must devote sufficient time to the educational program to fulfill their supervisory and teaching responsibilities; and to demonstrate a strong interest in the education of residents. Faculty must:
   a. Actively participate in attending (teaching and management) rounds on a daily basis.
   b. Review the goals and objectives of the rotation with the resident at the outset of the clinical rotation.
   c. Administer and maintain an educational environment conducive to educating residents in each of the ACGME competency areas, as outlined in Chapter X. Policy on Core Curriculum and the Core Competencies
   d. Administer and maintain an educational environment that is compliant with all duty hours and work environment requirements, as outlined in Chapter VIII. Policy on Residents’ Duty Hours

3. Evaluation Responsibilities.
   a. Provide oral evaluations of the resident’s performance at the mid-point of the rotation assignment. This evaluation should provide feedback on the resident’s performance in each of the core competencies.
   b. Faculty are responsible for the timely completion of all resident evaluations, as outlined in the Evaluation requirements below (Chapter XIV. Policy on Evaluation and Promotion)

4. Faculty Qualifications
   a. The physician faculty must have current board certification in their specialty
   b. Possess current medical licensure and appropriate medical staff appointment
   c. Be appointed to their teaching responsibilities by the program director, based upon their educational abilities.

5. Non-physician faculty: Non-physician faculty may play a valuable role in the education of residents. The use of non-physician faculty must comply with the following standards:
   a. Non-physician faculty must have appropriate qualifications in their field and hold appropriate institutional appointments.
   b. Non-physician faculty must not be responsible for the direct supervision of resident physicians providing patient care.

6. Faculty responsibilities as a whole
   a. Participate in organized clinical discussions, rounds, journal clubs, and conferences.
   b. Establish and maintain an environment of inquiry and scholarship with an active research component. Faculty should encourage and support residents in scholarly activities.
   c. Some members of the faculty should also demonstrate scholarship by one or more of the following:
i. publication of original research or review articles in peer-reviewed journals, or chapters in textbooks

ii. publication or presentation of case reports or clinical series at local, regional, or national professional and scientific society meetings

iii. participation in national committees or educational organizations.

d. Engage in professional development applicable to their responsibilities as educational leaders;

7. Faculty Support

a. The DIO, on behalf of the Sponsoring Institution, and the respective departmental chair will ensure that core faculty receive adequate support to ensure both effective supervision and quality resident/fellow education

C. Supervision at Affiliated Training Locations.

1. All clinical training sites must be certified by JCAHO, an entity granted “deeming authority” for participation in Medicare under federal regulations, or an entity certified as complying with the conditions of participation in Medicare under federal regulations. All clinical training sites must be judged to be satisfactory by the DIO and GMEC in meeting the educational needs of the Tulane resident, and be approved by the respective ACGME RRC committee.

2. Master Affiliation Agreements must exist between the University and each affiliated training site, and individual program letters of agreement must exist between individual programs that send residents to a training site. Master Affiliation Agreements are updated each year. Program Letters of Agreement must be updated every five years, reflecting the ACGME institutional, training location, and common program requirements.

3. At each participating site, there must be a sufficient number of faculty with documented qualifications to instruct and supervise all residents at that location, as outlined in XIII.B.

4. Each clinical site must have a liaison with the Office of Graduate Medical Education. The DIO is responsible for meeting with each liaison at least once per year. During these meetings, the DIO will tour the learning environment (call rooms, meal availability, computer access, patient care venues, conference space) and review and confirm the affiliation agreement with the training site’s liaison. The DIO will ensure compliance with the University and ACGME requirements contained within the Master Letters of Affiliation and individual program letters of agreement.

5. The individual program director is responsible for compliance with all Tulane and ACGME policies at all affiliated training locations in which his or her residents rotate. The program director must have a designated liaison with each affiliated training location. This person is responsible for ensuring compliance with all program, University, and ACGME policies and procedures, as outlined in the program letter of affiliation. The training site liaison should be in regular communication with the program director, and the two should meet in person at least twice per year. The affiliated training site liaison should provide an assessment of the training location, as it regards compliance with program, University, and ACGME policies and procedures, and this input should be documented in the annual report of the program.

6. Each program must have a Program Letter of Affiliation with each training institution. The PLA must be approved by the DIO, and must:

a. Identify the faculty who will assume both educational and supervisory responsibilities for residents;

b. Specify the faculty’s responsibilities for teaching, supervision, and formal evaluation of residents

c. Specify the duration and content of the educational experience; and,

d. State the policies and procedures that will govern resident education during the assignment.
D. Job Descriptions and Graduated Levels of Responsibility:

1. The program director is responsible for developing a job description for the residency program. This job description should outline the physical and mental requirements of the job. No candidate who is able to perform the physical and mental components contained within the job description can be discriminated against based upon a disability (See Chapter II. Policy on Equal-Opportunity, Affirmative Action, & Disabilities).

2. The program director must establish an outline of progressive levels of responsibility for each training level within the residency program. Residents who advance in the training program should incur progressively greater levels of responsibility and independent practice as outlined in the progressive lines of responsibility.

3. Assignment of the level of responsibility must be commensurate with the resident’s performance in the core competencies, and this should be documented in the resident’s end-of-the-year promotion letter. Residents who fail to meet expected competency, based upon the milestones, should not be promoted.

4. Faculty must undergo training to assess milestone performance.

E. Supervision of Residents Performing Invasive Procedures in the Operative Suite. The inherent risks associated with all types of surgery and invasive procedures require that staff practitioners provide appropriate levels of supervision of all residents performing such procedures.

1. Faculty must provide direct supervision for all invasive procedures performed by residents in the operating room or procedural suite.

2. Faculty supervising residents will review the indications for the procedure, and will document in the patient’s medical record their concurrence with the indication, risks and benefits, the resident’s performance, the interpretation of the results and the complications, if any.

3. Faculty physicians will supervise the evaluation of patients, scheduling of cases, assignment of case priorities, the preoperative preparation, and the intra-operative and postoperative care of surgical patients and patients undergoing invasive procedures. This supervision will be reflected in the faculty’s progress notes at appropriate times in the course of each patient’s hospitalization.

4. As residents advance in their education and training, they may be given progressively increasing levels of responsibility, as defined in the program’s Progressive Lines of Responsibility. The degree of responsibility and autonomy will depend upon the individual's general aptitude, demonstrated competence, prior experience with similar procedures, the complexity and degree of the risks involved in the anticipated surgical/invasive procedure. Program directors will document a resident’s assigned level of responsibility in the resident's record. This will include the types of diagnostic or therapeutic procedures the resident may perform, the degree of autonomy afforded to the resident in performing those procedures, and those procedures for which the resident may act as a teaching assistant.

5. An important aspect of a resident’s learning experience is the opportunity of a senior resident to supervise more junior residents. As a general rule, senior residents, when acting in the role of a teaching assistant to less experienced residents, may supervise the performance of surgical/invasive procedures of lesser or more routine complexity. This, however, does not release the Faculty practitioner's responsibility for the oversight of the patient’s care. When a resident is acting as a teaching assistant, the staff practitioner remains responsible for the quality of care of the patient, providing supervision and meeting medical recorded documentation requirements as defined within this policy.

F. Supervision of Residents Performing Invasive Procedures at the Bedside.

1. Direct versus Indirect Supervision
   a. Direct supervision is defined as supervision in which the faculty or supervising resident/fellow is physically present during the task being performed.
   b. Indirect supervision is defined as supervision in which the faculty or supervising resident/fellow is not physically present, but available by phone and available to be physically present if the circumstances require.
2. If a resident has demonstrated competence in the procedure (see below), faculty do not need to be physically present for supervision of invasive procedures performed by residents at the bedside. However, the faculty remains responsible for ensuring that the procedure is safely performed. This includes reviewing with the resident the indications for the procedure; faculty will document in the patient’s medical record their concurrence with the indication, risks and benefits, the resident’s performance, the interpretation of the results and the complications, if any.

3. All procedures and resident tasks must be indirectly supervised. Some procedures and tasks must be directly supervised. The decision as to which residents are enable to perform which procedures and cognitive tasks without direct supervision is made by the resident’s performance, as assessed by the Clinical Competency Committee.

4. As residents advance in their education and training, they may be given progressively increasing levels of responsibility, as defined in the program’s Progressive Lines of Responsibility. The degree of responsibility and autonomy will depend upon the individual’s general aptitude, demonstrated competence, prior experience with similar procedures, the complexity and degree of the risks involved in the anticipated invasive procedure.

5. Program directors will maintain a list of bedside procedures and tasks that can be performed by their residents without direct supervision.
   a. Program directors, at the direction of the Clinical Competency Committee, will assign to each resident which procedures he or she can perform without direct faculty or senior resident supervision. This assignment is not be based solely upon the resident’s PGY status, but rather assigned individually based upon the resident’s aptitude, demonstrated competence, and prior experience with the procedure in question.
   b. The Clinical Competency Committee will create an a priori criteria by which the Committee will determine which residents are competent to perform procedures and other tasks without direct supervision. This criteria will include minimum numbers of successful procedures/tasks, a review of such procedures in a procedure log, and additional criteria (i.e., simulation center training) as determined by the Clinical Competency Committee.
   c. The program director is responsible for communicating this criteria to the GMEC office for review. Any changes in the criteria will require a re-review by the GMEC.
   d. At the end of each semester, the program director will provide an updated list of the individual residents who have been determined to perform the various procedures/resident tasks without direct supervision to the respective training sites, and to the GMEC office.

G. Supervision of Transitions of Care
1. Program directors must facilitate professional development for core faculty members and residents/fellows regarding effective transitions of care. This instruction should include:
   a. The principles and purpose of close-loop communication
   b. Appropriate identification of illness severity
   c. Appropriate patient summaries, as defined by the patient’s complexity and tenuousness
   d. Appropriate action lists, as defined by the patient’s complexity and tenuousness
   e. Situation awareness and contingency planning

2. Program directors, in concert with the DIO, must ensure that participating sites engage residents/fellows in standardized transitions of care consistent with the setting and type of patient care.
   a. First-year residents (i.e.,, interns) must be directly supervised in their transitions of care (i.e., sign-out) by senior residents or in-house faculty until which time the program director has determined that the intern can safely conduct transitions of care.
   b. Program directors, working with local site directors, must ensure that interns are directly observed in
their transitions of care (i.e., sign out) until which point the program director is satisfied that the intern has demonstrated sufficient mastery of transitions communication to warrant transitions of care duties without direct supervision.

H. Reporting Fall-Outs in Supervision or Faculty Professionalism

1. The GME Office recognizes that the clinical environment can be complex, heterogeneous, and dynamic on a day-to-day basis. Nonetheless, there should not be an occasion in which residents are inadequately supervised or in a position where they believe their clinical responsibilities are above their clinical responsibilities.

2. It is the responsibility of all residents and faculty, regardless of whether they were directly involved in the incident or not, to report events of inadequate supervision and/or professionalism. Residents and faculty are to report events involving inadequate supervision via one or more of the following mechanisms.
   b. Direct reporting to attending physicians or the program director.
   c. Anonymous reporting via the affiliated institution’s (i.e., hospital/clinic) near-miss/adverse event reporting system
   d. Reporting to the Residency Education Committee, either directly or via the resident’s/faculty’s representative
   e. Tulane Resident and Fellow Congress, either directly or via the resident’s representative
   f. Resident-of-Program annual evaluation
   g. Direct reporting to the Department Chair
   h. Direct reporting to the GMEC or DIO
   i. The University’s Professionalism Reporting Platform.
      https://medicine.tulane.edu/education/professionalismenvironment-learning-program
   j. The Raise and Resolve Committee
XIV. POLICY ON EVALUATION AND PROMOTION

A. Evaluations
   It is the responsibility of the program director, and the associated faculty, to ensure that
   1. Residents receive timely, accurate and meaningful evaluations of their performance in each of the six core
      competencies.
   2. Residents receive an accurate assessment of their developmental progress along the milestones of each
      entrustable professional activities (EPA) for their respective training program.

B. Afferent Evaluations
   1. Faculty-of-Resident Evaluations.
      a. This evaluation must be conducted at the conclusion of each rotation assignment. For assignments
         greater than one month, the evaluation must be conducted at the conclusion of the rotation, as well as
         at the midpoint of the rotation, or every two months, whichever is less.
      b. The evaluation should consist of both numerical scores (objective) and written comments.
      c. The evaluation should evaluate each of the core competencies (See Chapter X: Policy on Core
         Curriculum and the Core Competencies) and the components of the job description for the resident’s
         level of training.
      d. The evaluation should be conducted electronically such that residents have immediate and 24 hour
         access to reviewing the evaluation.
      e. The evaluation should be discussed in person with the resident prior to the conclusion of the rotation.
      f. The program director and the Residency Education Committee will use data from these evaluations in
         making the determination for promotion or graduation.
      g. Each program is required to use faculty-of-resident evaluation template provided by the Graduate
         Medical Education Office. Tailoring of the evaluation questions to the unique feature of the training
         program is allowed, but the modifications must not deviate from the intent of each question on the
         evaluation, as it relates to the ACGME common program requirements.

   2. Resident-of-Resident Evaluations
      a. In rotations where residents are routinely supervising other residents (i.e., a resident supervising an
         intern), both residents should be given the opportunity to evaluate each other.
      b. The evaluation should consist of both a numerical score and written comments.
      c. The evaluation should evaluate each of the core competencies (See Chapter X: Policy on Core
         Curriculum and the Core Competencies) and the components of the job description for the resident’s
         level of training (See XIII: F below).
      d. The evaluation should be conducted electronically such that residents have immediate and 24 hour
         access to reviewing the evaluation.
      e. Collectively, data from these evaluations should be used by the program director in making the
         determination for promotion or graduation.
      f. Each program is required to use the resident-of-resident evaluation template provided by the Graduate
         Medical Education Office. Tailoring of the evaluation questions to the unique feature of the training
         program is allowed, but the modifications must not deviate from the intent of each question on the
         evaluation, as it relates to the ACGME common program requirements.

   3. Student-of-Resident Evaluations
      a. In rotations where residents are routinely supervising students, students must be given the opportunity
to evaluate the resident.

b. The evaluation should consist of both a numerical score and written comments.

c. The evaluation should evaluate at a minimum the resident’s teaching, communication, interpersonal skills, professionalism and patient care skills.

d. The evaluation should be conducted electronically such that residents have immediate and 24 hour access to reviewing the evaluation.

e. Collectively, data from these evaluations should be used by the program director in making the determination for promotion or graduation.

f. Each program is required to use the student-of-resident evaluation template provided by the Graduate Medical Education Office. Tailoring of the evaluation questions to the unique feature of the training program is allowed, but the modifications must not deviate from the intent of each question on the evaluation, as it relates to the ACGME common program requirements.

4. Patient-of-Resident Evaluations

a. In rotations where residents routinely provide patient care, patients must be given the opportunity to evaluate the resident overseeing his or her care.

b. While not every patient needs to evaluate the resident, at least one patient evaluation should be solicited during each of the clinical rotations that the program director designates as core clinical rotations.

c. The evaluation should evaluate at a minimum the resident’s communication, interpersonal skills, professionalism and patient care skills.

d. The evaluation may be collected by paper or in person by a supervisor, but should eventually be converted to an electronic format such that the resident has immediate and 24 hour access to reviewing the evaluation.

e. Collectively, data from these evaluations should be used by the program director in making the determination for promotion or graduation.

f. Each program is required to use the patient-of-resident evaluation template provided by the Graduate Medical Education Office. Tailoring of the evaluation questions to the unique feature of the training program is allowed, but the modifications must not deviate from the intent of each question on the evaluation, as it relates to the ACGME common program requirements.

5. Nurse/Allied Health Provider-of-Resident

a. In rotations where residents routinely provide patient care, nursing and ancillary staff (i.e., OR staff, respiratory therapy, etc.) must be given the opportunity to evaluate the resident with whom they have worked during the rotation.

b. While not every staff needs to evaluate the resident, at least one nurse evaluation should be solicited during each of the clinical rotations that the program director designates as core clinical rotations appropriate and feasible for nurse-of-resident evaluations.

c. The evaluation should evaluate at a minimum the resident’s communication, interpersonal skills, professionalism and patient care skills.

d. The evaluation may be collected by paper or in person by a supervisor, but should eventually be converted to an electronic format such that the resident has immediate and 24 hour access to reviewing the evaluation.

e. Collectively, data from these evaluations should be used by the program director in making the determination for promotion or graduation.

f. Each program is required to use the nurse-of-resident evaluation template provided by the Graduate Medical Education Office. Tailoring of the evaluation questions to the unique feature of the training program is allowed, but the modifications must not deviate from the intent of each question on the evaluation, as it relates to the ACGME common program requirements.

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program is allowed, but the modifications must not deviate from the intent of each question on the evaluation, as it relates to the ACGME common program requirements.

   a. This evaluation must be conducted at least twice per year.
   b. The evaluation should consist of both a numerical score and opportunity for written, self-reflection comments.
   c. At a minimum, the evaluation should allow the resident to evaluate the following components
      i. A self-evaluation in each of the six core competencies areas
      ii. A listing of medical errors from the previous six months, and self-reflection on how these errors could have been prevented.
      iii. A reflection on the resident’s progress in professional/career goals
      iv. A reflection on the resident’s progress in personal goals.
   d. The evaluation should be conducted electronically, and in a manner that ensures the residents anonymity to enable effective evaluations without the fear of reprisal.
   e. Each program is required to use the resident-of-self-evaluation template provided by the Graduate Medical Education Office. Tailoring of the evaluation questions to the unique feature of the training program is allowed, but the modifications must not deviate from the intent of each question on the evaluation, as it relates to the ACGME common program requirements.

B. Efferent Evaluations
   1. Resident-of-Resident Evaluations
      a. In rotations where residents are routinely supervising other residents (i.e., a resident supervising an intern), both residents should be given the opportunity to evaluate each other.
      b. The evaluation should consist of both a numerical score and written comments.
      c. The evaluation should evaluate each of the core competencies (See Chapter X: Policy on Core Curriculum and the Core Competencies) and the components of the job description for the resident’s level of training (See XIII: F below).
      d. The evaluation should be conducted electronically such that residents have immediate and 24 hour access to reviewing the evaluation.
      e. Collectively, data from these evaluations should be used by the program director in making the determination for promotion or graduation.
      f. Each program is required to use the resident-of-resident evaluation template provided by the Graduate Medical Education Office. Tailoring of the evaluation questions to the unique feature of the training program is allowed, but the modifications must not deviate from the intent of each question on the evaluation, as it relates to the ACGME common program requirements.

   2. Resident-of-Faculty.
      a. This evaluation must be conducted monthly, or, for rotations that are longer than one month, at the conclusion of the rotation, or every three months, whichever is less.
      b. The evaluation should consist of both a numerical score and written comments.
      c. The evaluation should evaluate the faculty on his or her effectiveness in teaching, commitment to the educational program, clinical knowledge, and professionalism.
      d. The evaluation should be conducted electronically, and in a manner that ensures the residents anonymity to enable effective evaluations without the fear of reprisal. All programs use EVALUE’s
lock-out feature to ensure that faculty cannot see their evaluations until at least five learners have evaluated the faculty; all comments are aggregated to de-link the comment from the time period in which it was receive.

e. The results of these evaluations should be used by the program director in deciding which faculty are invited to continue to supervise residents on clinical rotations.

f. Each program is required to use the resident-of-faculty evaluation template provided by the Graduate Medical Education Office. Tailoring of the evaluation questions to the unique feature of the training program is allowed, but the modifications must not deviate from the intent of each question on the evaluation, as it relates to the ACGME common program requirements.

3. Resident-of-Rotation.
   a. This evaluation must be conducted monthly, or, for rotations that are longer than one month, at the conclusion of the rotation, or every three months, whichever is less.

   b. The evaluation should consist of both a numerical score and written comments.

   c. At a minimum, the evaluation should evaluate the following components
      i. The call rooms (if applicable)
      ii. The nurses and ancillary staff involved in the clinical rotation
      iii. The safety of the rotation (parking, secure place for personal belongings)
      iv. The communication infrastructure of the rotation (access to medical records and patient data, access to educational resources).
      v. The balance between education and service of this rotation.
      vi. The rotation’s compatibility with duty-hours requirements.

d. The evaluation should be conducted electronically, and in a manner that ensures the residents anonymity to enable effective evaluations without the fear of reprisal.

e. Collectively, data from these evaluations should be used by the program director in making the determination for continuation of a clinical rotation.

f. Each program is required to use the resident-of-rotation evaluation template provided by the Graduate Medical Education Office. Tailoring of the evaluation questions to the unique feature of the training program is allowed, but the modifications must not deviate from the intent of each question on the evaluation, as it relates to the ACGME common program requirements.

4. Resident-of-Program
   a. This evaluation must be conducted at least once per year.

   b. The evaluation should consist of both a numerical score and opportunity for written comments.

   c. At a minimum, the evaluation should evaluate the following components
      i. The goals and objectives of each clinical rotation, including the balance between education and service of each rotation
      ii. The curriculum and core educational conferences.
      iii. The supervision by the faculty, and the faculty’s clinical teaching abilities, commitment to the educational program, clinical knowledge, professionalism, and scholarly activities.
      iv. The effectiveness of faculty in providing meaningful evaluations to the residents.
      v. The effectiveness of the program director.
      vii. The program’s compliance with duty-hours requirements and other program policies

d. The evaluation should be conducted electronically, and in a manner that ensures the residents
anonymity to enable effective evaluations without the fear of reprisal.

e. Collectively, data from these evaluations should be used by the program director in making adjustments in the residency program. The results of these evaluations must be included in the annual report.

f. Each program is required to use the resident-of-program evaluation template provided by the Graduate Medical Education Office. Tailoring of the evaluation questions to the unique feature of the training program is allowed, but the modifications must not deviate from the intent of each question on the evaluation, as it relates to the ACGME common program requirements.

5. Resident-of-Self.
   a. This evaluation must be conducted at least twice per year.

   b. The evaluation should consist of both a numerical score and opportunity for written, self-reflection comments.

   c. At a minimum, the evaluation should allow the resident to evaluate the following components
      i. A self-evaluation in each of the six core competencies areas
      ii. A listing of medical errors from the previous six months, and self-reflection on how these errors could have been prevented.
      iii. A reflection on the resident’s progress in professional/career goals
      iv. A reflection on the resident’s progress in personal goals.

   d. The evaluation should be conducted electronically, and in a manner that ensures the residents anonymity to enable effective evaluations without the fear of reprisal.

   e. Each program is required to use the resident-of-self-evaluation template provided by the Graduate Medical Education Office. Tailoring of the evaluation questions to the unique feature of the training program is allowed, but the modifications must not deviate from the intent of each question on the evaluation, as it relates to the ACGME common program requirements.

C. Case Logs
In programs that require minimum numbers of procedures to ensure promotion, graduation, or eligibility for certifying examinations (i.e., board licensure), a case log must be compiled and updated on a semi-annual basis, or more frequently if specified by the training program. The case log should be reviewed with the resident at each semi-annual meeting with his or her program director.

D. Access to Evaluations
   Resident and fellow education records, other than publicly available directory information, are private and shall not be disclosed except as appropriate to the following:
   1. The resident or fellow, who may review his or her record with supervision
   2. The program director and the Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education
   3. Persons specifically authorized by the resident or fellow in writing to receive the information;
   4. Other educational institutions in which the resident or fellow seeks to enroll or obtain employment, with permission of the resident or fellow, provided the disclosure is limited to official copies of resident or fellow’s transcripts from the appropriate University office;
   5. Other organizations conducting educational research studies approved by their respective Institutional Review Boards, provided the studies are conducted in a manner that does not permit identification of residents and provided the information will be destroyed when no longer needed for the specified purpose;
   6. Persons in compliance with a court order or lawfully issued subpoena provided that a reasonable attempt is made to notify the resident or fellow where required prior to release;
7. Appropriate members of the court system when legal action against the University is initiated by the resident or fellow and the disclosure is part of the University's defense;

8. Appropriate persons during an emergency, provided the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the resident or fellow or other individuals;

9. Accrediting organizations and state or federal education authorities using information for auditing, evaluating, or enforcing legal requirements of educational programs, provided the data is protected to prohibit the identification of the resident or fellow and all personally identifiable information is destroyed when no longer needed; and

10. Appropriate persons or agencies in connection with a resident or fellow’s application for or receipt of financial aid to determine eligibility amount, or conditions of financial aid and to enforce the terms and conditions of the aid.

E. Promotion and Graduation

1. Each residency program is required to create and maintain a criteria for promotion for each year of training (See Progressive Lines of Responsibility). This criteria should be based upon the entrustable professional activities (EPA’s) for the respective field, and the eventual requirements for board certification. Decisions as to promotion and/or renewal of a resident’s appointment must be made in context of this criteria.

2. Residents must receive a written summary of their performance, based upon the core competencies, at least twice per year. The summary letter must contain a description of the resident’s progress along each of the entrustable professional activities (EPA) in the training program, as based upon their collective faculty, patient, nurse, and peer evaluations to that point in the year.
   a. Mid-Year Evaluation Summaries. The program director or his or her designee must meet with each resident in person to review the mid-year evaluation. The summary letter must contain a numerical assessment of the resident’s milestones progress on each entrustable professional activity (EPA), as based upon their collective faculty, patient, nurse, and peer evaluations to that point in the year; the summary must also provide a narrative commentary on his or her level of performance, or note that such written comments are available to the resident on the MedHub summary report. If the resident is at risk for not being promoted based upon this evaluation, this should be discussed with the resident at this time.
   b. End-of-Year Evaluation Summaries. The program director or his or her designee must meet with each resident in person to review the end-of-year evaluation. The summary letter must contain a numerical assessment of the resident’s milestones progress on each entrustable professional activity (EPA), as based upon their collective faculty, patient, nurse, and peer evaluations throughout the year; the summary must also provide a narrative commentary on his or her level of performance, or note that such written comments are available to the resident on the MedHub summary report. If so warranted, the promotion letter to the next year of training should be given to the resident at this time, and the letter must clearly state that the resident is being promoted to the next year of training. The letter must be accompanied by a description of the progressive level of responsibility commensurate with the PGY level to which he or she is being promoted.

3. Adverse promotion or graduation decisions
   a. Promotion and graduation decisions must be made by the Clinical Competency Committee’s incorporation of a global assessment of the resident. Decisions for promotion cannot be based solely on in-service scores.
   b. If the resident is not to be promoted, or to repeat rotations that would require extension of total training time, the program should inform the resident, and follow the policies and procedures as outlined in (Chapter XV. Policy on Remediation, Suspension, Termination and Grievance).
4. End-of-Training Evaluation Summaries. The program director or his or her designee must meet with each resident in person to review the end-of-training evaluation. The summary letter must contain a description of the resident’s milestone progress on each entrustable professional activity (EPA), as based upon their collective faculty, patient, nurse, and peer evaluations throughout the year; the summary must also provide written commentary on his or her level of performance, or note that such written comments are available to the resident on the MedHub summary report. This evaluation should document the resident’s performance during the final period of education.

a. If so warranted, the graduation letter should be given to the resident at this time, and the letter must clearly state that the resident has completed the training program and “The program director, in consultation with the program’s clinical competency committee, has deemed the resident sufficiently competent to enter practice in “X” independently and without direct supervision.” Where “X” is the field of the resident’s training program.

b. If the resident is not to be graduated, a description of the rationale, referencing failure to meet satisfactorily the core competencies, should be included in this letter.

i. If the resident is asked to extend total training time, he or she must be given an opportunity to appeal this decision to the Clinical Competency Committee. If upon appeal, the Clinical Competency Committee upholds the decision to extend training, the resident has a right to grieve this decision through the University’s Grievance Committee (Chapter XV. Policy on Remediation, Suspension, Termination and Grievance).

ii. If the decision is to terminate the resident from the training program, the resident must be given the opportunity to appeal (grieve) this decision to the University’s Grievance Committee, as outlined in the Tulane University GME policies and procedures (Chapter XV. Policy on Remediation, Suspension, Termination and Grievance).
XV. POLICY ON REMEDIATION, SUSPENSION, TERMINATION AND GRIEVANCE

A. DEFINITIONS

1. Personnel
   a. Resident – refers to all interns, residents and fellows participating in a Tulane University School of Medicine post-graduate training program.
   b. Residency Program – refers to a residency or fellowship educational program.
   c. Program Director - refers to the Director of the Residency Program.
   d. DIO - refers to the Designated Institutional Official, also known as the Associate Dean of Graduate Medical Education.
   e. Administrative Personnel - Program directors, departmental chairs, and CEO’s of affiliated training locations.

2. Actions
   a. Probation – a formal level of discipline in which the resident may still engage in his or her training program within the confines of a probationary plan. Implicit in “probation” is that failure to successfully complete the probation plan will result in either extension of the probation or termination of the contract, at the clinical competency committee’s discretion.
   b. Remediation - the process of improving resident performance. Remediation may occur either within, or separate from, probation.
   c. Suspension - a formal level of discipline in which the resident will temporarily no longer engage in his or her training program.
   d. Termination – the act of severing employment prior to the expiration date of the resident’s contract. If a resident is terminated, his or her resident contract will not be renewed.
   e. Non-Renewal – a decision to not renew a resident’s participation in a residency program. In the absence of extenuating circumstances, such a decision should ideally be made no later than four months prior to the initiation of the resident’s next contract start date. Termination and non-renewal after this date remains an option.
   f. Grievance - a formal process of contesting the decision made by the evaluation and remediation procedure.

B. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. Residents are expected to meet and adhere to all academic, clinical and professional standards set forth in the institutional, departmental, and residency program requirements. Inadequate performance or unprofessional behavior is grounds for disciplinary action, up to, and including, termination.

2. Unprofessional behavior includes, but is not limited to, acting improperly towards patients, supervisors and/or peers; disrespect for faculty, patients, supervisors and/or peers; dishonest, unethical and/or illegal behavior; failure to meet clinical responsibilities; and failure to correct deficiencies in academic performance in a responsible and timely fashion.

3. Inadequate performance should be clearly communicated to the resident, preferably in writing, as early as possible.

C. REMEDIATION AND PROBATION.

Probation and remediation are used to correct academic and/or professional deficits, including, but not limited to, deficits in medical knowledge, time management, organizational abilities, communication skills, and procedural skills.

1. Remediation is the process of improving resident performance. Remediation may occur either within, or
separate from, probation.

a. Where remediation is separate from probation, it is a voluntary exercise on the part of the resident to engage in activities to improve his or her performance. As such, remediation is not reportable, nor may a resident be mandated to participate in stand-alone (i.e., separate from probation) remediation.

2. Probation is a formal level of discipline in which the resident may still engage in his or her training program within the confines of a probationary plan. Implicit in “probation” is that failure to successfully complete the probation plan will result in either extension of the probation or termination of the contract, at the clinical competency committee’s discretion.

The Office of Graduate Medical Education, in concert with the resident’s program director, oversees all probations as outlined above.

a. The decision for probation should be made by the respective program’s Clinical Competency Committee, after this committee has reviewed the resident’s performance evaluations.

b. If after reviewing the resident’s performance evaluations, the CCC agrees that probation is appropriate, the resident will be so notified, and he/she will be informed that he or she has the right to address the CCC to contest the decision. The decision for probation is otherwise not grievable.

c. The resident will be given a probation agreement that will outline the terms and timeframe of the probation.

d. Should the resident refuse the probation agreement, his or her contract with the University will be terminated. He/she will then have an opportunity to grieve this decision as outlined below in the provisions of termination.

e. Guidelines for Probation and Remediation. A probation plan will be developed by the program director, in concert with Clinical Competency Committee for the respective program. The probation plan will generally have the following components:

i. Documentation of deficiencies. Except in extenuating circumstances, probation should not be evoked for a one-time event, including isolated performances on in-service examinations. A pattern of deficiency should be documented in the resident’s file.

ii. Formal and explicit presentation of the deficiency. The resident will be presented a written account of the deficiency.

iii. The probation plan will have a defined time-line, no less than three, but not more than 12 months.

iv. The probation plan will have an a priori end-point(s) that will define the success or failure of the remediation effort. The probation plan’s end-points must be achievable within the time-frame outlined in the program.

v. The focus of the remediation effort will match the deficiency.
   a) Medical Knowledge
   b) Time Management & Organization
   c) Clinical Reasoning
   d) Communication
   e) Patient Interaction
   f) Attitude & Motivation
   g) Inter-personal and Team Skills
   h) Procedural Skills

f. The program director will design, in concert with the CCC, the remediation plan and have the probation plan reviewed by the DIO prior to meeting with the resident.

g. The probation plan will include planned efforts by the program director or the program faculty to help the resident improve. While the resident is ultimately accountable for improvement, the program and the program director are responsible for helping the resident to improve.
h. The accounts of the probation plan will be documented, with at least one mid-point evaluation that will be communicated to the resident.

i. The consequences of failure to successfully complete the remediation program will be clearly outlined.

j. Upon successful completion of the probation plan, the resident will be removed from this status. Documentation will remain part of the resident’s permanent file.

k. Upon failure to successfully complete the probation plan, the resident will be asked to either repeat training, extend training, be subject to non-renewal, or be terminated. The remediation may be extended for a period not to exceed six months, at the program director’s discretion. For termination or non-renewal actions, the resident will be provided a copy of the grievance and fair hearing policy, and will sign acknowledgment of receipt of this document.

D. NON-RENEWAL, NON-PROMOTION, DELAYED GRADUATION AND TERMINATION

1. Non-Renewal is a decision to not renew a resident’s participation in a residency program.
   a. In the absence of extenuating circumstances, such a decision should ideally be made no later than four months prior to the initiation of the resident’s next contract start date. Termination and non-renewal after this date remains an option.
   b. If a Resident’s contract is not to be renewed, he or she will be given written notice, and he or she must be given an opportunity to appeal this decision to the Clinical Competency Committee. If upon appeal, the Clinical Competency Committee upholds the decision to extend training, the resident has a right to grieve this decision through the University’s Grievance Committee (See XIV. H Below)

2. Non-Promotion is a decision to not promote the resident to higher levels of training based upon merit-based competency. The decision to not promote a resident rests with the program’s Clinical Competency Committee.
   a. If the decision does not necessitate extended training time, the decision is not grievable.
   b. If the decision will require extended training time, the resident will be given written notice, and he or she will be given an opportunity to appeal this decision to the Clinical Competency Committee. If upon appeal, the Clinical Competency Committee upholds the decision to extend training, the resident has a right to grieve this decision through the University’s Grievance Committee (See XIV. H Below)

3. Delayed Graduation
   a. If the resident is asked to extend total training time (i.e., delay graduation) for performance reasons, he or she will be given written notice, and he or she will be given an opportunity to appeal this decision to the Clinical Competency Committee. If upon appeal, the Clinical Competency Committee upholds the decision to extend training, the resident has a right to grieve this decision through the University’s Grievance Committee (See XIV. H Below)
   b. The decision to extend total training time because of time missed (i.e., leave of absence) that exceeds the maximal amount of time-missed allowed by the respective Board is not a grievable decision.
   c. Preliminary interns cannot be made to extend their preliminary training time. Inadequate performance should result in the decision to not grant credit for the year of training.

4. Termination is a decision to end a resident’s contract with the University.
   a. Termination can arise in the following circumstances:
      i. This decision is generally reserved for, but not limited to, academic and/or professional deficits that, in the discretion of the DIO, are significant, repeated, or irremediable.
      ii. Termination decisions may also be evoked for failure to participate in, or successfully complete, probation agreements.
      iii. Failure to maintain the requirements of employment, as outlined in the resident contract.
b. In all cases of termination, the resident will be informed of the decision by written notice. The resident will be informed of the grievance policy. He or she will have five business days after being informed of the decision to file a grievance with the DIO.

E. SUSPENSION
1. Suspension is a formal level of discipline in which the resident will temporarily no longer engage in his or her training program. The purpose of suspension is to allow time to investigate a resident issue and to fine determine the appropriate pathway to resolve that issue, and/or to ensure the resident receives appropriate assistance to ensure that he or she is fit for duty.
   a. Suspension to enable time to investigate a complaint and determine the appropriate action will be suspension with pay and benefits.
   b. Suspension to ensure the resident receives appropriate assistance to ensure that he or she is fit for duty (i.e., the Physicians Health Foundation) will be suspension with benefits but without pay, unless designated by the DIO.

2. Suspensions can only be reversed by the DIO or the Dean.

F. SELF-REFERAL PATHWAY
1. The Self-Referral Pathway is designed to engage residents to seek evaluation and/or treatment of psychiatric impairment, drug or alcohol abuse.

2. The Self-Referral Pathway is described in Chapter XV: Residents’ Assistance Program.

G. THE ADMINISTRATIVE-REFERRAL PATHWAY
1. Any resident whose performance is assessed to be unsatisfactory by Administrative Personnel may be referred to the DIO for evaluation and remediation through the Administrative-Referral Pathway. Once referred, a resident is preliminarily suspended; pay and benefits will continue during the preliminary suspension. This preliminary suspension is not disciplinary in nature. Rather, it is designed to allow the DIO sufficient time to investigate the referral.

2. A written request must be made by the Administrative Personnel to the DIO. The DIO may also directly initiate the Administrative Referral process.

3. Upon receiving or initiating the request, the DIO will conduct an investigation that may include, but is not limited to, a review of the resident’s file, police reports, interviews with the resident and/or any member of Tulane University or applicable training locations.

4. After review, the DIO will render one of five decisions:
   a. The resident requires no corrective action. The resident will be re-instated. The program director and the Administrative Personnel who made the referral will be informed.
   b. The resident requires remediation without probation. The resident will be re-instated, and the DIO will work with the respective program director to design an appropriate remediation strategy. The Administrative Personnel who made the referral will be informed.
   c. The resident requires probation.
      i. The DIO will lift the suspension and communicate to the respective program director that the resident should be evaluated by the respective program’s Clinical Competency Committee, if this has not already been done, as to whether probation is appropriate.
      ii. The program director will then instruct the program’s Clinical Competency Committee (CCC) to review the inciting event(s) and the resident’s performance evaluations and to render a decision as to whether probation is appropriate.
      iii. If the CCC determines that the resident does not require probation, he/she will be reinstated, at the CCC’s discretion, either with no further action required, or a remediation plan without
iv. If the CCC determines that the resident requires probation, the procedure outlined in Chapter XIV. Section D will be followed.

d. The resident should be referred to The Resident’s Assistance Program (see Chapter XVI, Residents’ Assistance Program and Resident Wellness). This decision is generally reserved for, but not limited to, residents who are psychiatrically impaired, or impaired because of excessive use or abuse of drugs, including alcohol. If the resident refuses to be evaluated for fitness-for-duty, he or she will be terminated from the University. He/she will then have an opportunity to grieve this decision as outlined below in the provisions of termination.

i. The DIO will sustain the suspension and refer the resident to the Residents’ Assistance Director for formal evaluation.

ii. After the resident has been referred, Administrative Personnel other than the DIO should have no communication with the Residents’ Assistance Director, unless so authorized by the resident.

iii. Upon completion of the evaluation, the Residents’ Assistance Director will communicate the results of the evaluation to the DIO, who will in turn, notify the program director.

e. The resident should be terminated from the University. See XV. D.4

H. GRIEVANCE & FAIR HEARING COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

The Grievance-Fair Hearing procedure is used in the adjudication of all actions resulting in termination, or non-renewal. The Grievance-Fair Hearing procedure is to be followed as below:

1. A resident may request a Grievance-Fair Hearing for termination, non-renewal, or a contested CCC decision to not graduate the resident.

2. Contesting evaluations, letters of recommendation, documentation of performance, and probation are not grounds for a Grievance-Fair Hearing.

3. A Grievance-Fair Hearing must be filed in writing within five business days of the decision being grieved, addressed to the DIO in the Office of the Graduate Medical Education.

4. The purpose of the Grievance-Fair Hearing is to ensure that the house officer’s due process rights have been met.

5. A resident may be removed from clinical responsibility pending the Grievance-Fair Hearing, if the DIO determines that patient care may be compromised.

6. Once the request has been received, the DIO will assure that a Grievance-Fair Hearing is an appropriate means for adjudicating the complaint. If the request is not appropriated for a Grievance-Fair Hearing, the resident will be notified.

7. If the DIO deems the Grievance-Fair Hearing request is an appropriate means for adjudicating the complaint, he or she will convene the Grievance-Fair Hearing board as outlined below. Subject to the availability of all parties, the first meeting of the Fair Hearing Board will occur within 30 days of the written request.

8. The Fair Hearing Board will consist of the following five voting members, appointed by the DIO or his or her designee in cases of conflict of interest or inability to attend. The chair will be a nonvoting member.

a. Three (3) faculty members from programs not directly associated with the resident who has filed the Grievance-Fair Hearing.

b. Two (2) house officers from programs not directly associated with that of the resident who has filed the Grievance-Fair Hearing.
I. GRIEVANCE AND FAIR HEARING PROCEDURE.
Unless otherwise specified, the following procedures are to be used in all Grievance/Fair Hearing Procedures. All capitalized terms shall have the meaning as set forth in the Tulane University School of Medicine: Graduate Medical Education Policies and Procedures.

1. The Chair of the Grievance/Fair Hearing Board, along with the committee members, will be identified at least three weeks prior to formally convening the Fair Hearing Board. The resident then has 4 business days to formally submit an objection to one or all of the committee member’s participation.
   a. In making an objection, the resident must establish reasonable evidence that the Board member’s participation in the Grievance/Fair Hearing would unduly bias the proceedings.
   b. The Chair of the Grievance/Fair Hearing Board will make the decision as to the objection.

2. At least 5 business days before the hearing date, both the Resident and the Institution shall submit witness lists and documents to be presented at the Grievance/Fair Hearing Board. These items shall be delivered to the Chair of the Grievance/Fair Hearing Board.

3. If the Resident fails to appear, the hearings will proceed and the Grievance/Fair Hearing Board will render a decision. A resident who fails to appear after proper written notice will be deemed to have waived his/her right to contest the Institution’s decision.

4. Neither the Resident nor the Institution shall be represented by counsel at the hearing. The Resident and the Institution may have an advisor present at the Grievance/Fair Hearing Board (which may include counsel) but the advisor may not participate in the proceedings except to advise the Resident or the Institution.

5. All persons shall be asked to affirm that their testimony is truthful. Furnishing false information to the University may result in formal charges.

6. Both the Resident and the Institution shall be offered the opportunity to present their witnesses and to question the other’s witnesses.

7. Prospective witnesses shall be excluded from the Grievance/Fair Hearing during the testimony of other witnesses. All parties and witnesses shall be excluded during deliberations of the Grievance/Fair Hearing Board except at that time at which they are providing testimony.

8. The burden of proof shall be on the Resident, who must establish that the Institution’s decision was in error by preponderance of the evidence. Formal rules of evidence shall not be applicable, nor shall harmless or technical procedural errors be grounds for appeal. All evidence reasonable people would accept in making decision about their own affairs is admissible. Irrelevant or immaterial evidence will be excluded, as determined by the Chair of the Grievance/Fair Hearing Board.

9. Final decision of the Grievance/Fair Hearing Board shall be by the majority vote of all members of the Board present and voting.

10. Written findings and recommendations of the Grievance/Fair Hearing Board will be forwarded to the Dean of the Tulane School of Medicine within 10 working days of the Grievance/Fair Hearing with a copy to the Resident and the Institution. At this time, either the Resident or Department Chair has the right to request a meeting with the Dean to review these issues.

11. The Dean will render his or her final decision within ten (10) working days of receipt of the Grievance/Fair Hearing written findings and recommendations or ten (10) working days after meeting with the parties, if these meetings were so requested.

12. All hearings of the Grievance/Fair Hearing Board will be taped for use in deliberation by the Grievance/Fair Hearing Board, although the Grievance/Fair Hearing Board deliberations will not be taped. Any tape recording may only be made by the Chair of the Fair Hearing Board and shall be private and used for Grievance/Fair Hearing deliberations only.

13. The final decision of the Dean of the School of Medicine shall be reported to the DIO, the Graduate Medical Education Committee and the applicable program director.
J. REPORTING SUSPENSIONS, TERMINATIONS, NON-RENEWALS, SURRENDERS, RESIGNATIONS OF RESIDENTS.

1. Pursuant to the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners rule (LAC 46XLV.422), all suspension, non-renewal, surrender, resignation or withdrawal of a resident’s participation in training for any reason other than impairment by drugs or alcohol must be reported to the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners within thirty days of the final decision.

2. Reporting to the board of impairment by drugs or alcohol is addressed via the Physicians Health Foundation. Resident participation the Physicians Health Foundation is outlined in Chapter XV: Residents’ Assistance Program.

3. Reporting to the board is the responsibility of the DIO. All program directors are responsible for reporting any of the actions noted above to the DIO, who will then report the action to the LSBME.

4. Reporting to the LSBME will only occur after the grievance procedure, where applicable, is complete.
I. Resident Wellness Position Statement and Purpose

Tulane University School of Medicine is committed to fostering an educational environment that ensures that residents remain physically, psychologically, and emotionally healthy while advancing their competence in their respective fields of training. The School of Medicine, in partnership with each residency program, works to ensure that the structure and design of residency programs, including individual rotations, are conducive to developing competent, caring and resilient physicians and that the School of Medicine, its affiliated hospitals and its residency programs have an educational environment that supports a culture of mutual support and respect.

Residency programs are responsible for complying with resident and faculty well-being requirements set forth in ACGME Common Program and Specialty/Subspecialty Requirements and for complying with this Policy. The School of Medicine is committed to providing resources to programs and supporting the physical and mental health of residents and faculty. This Policy also outlines the confidential counseling and behavioral health services that the School of Medicine provides and the processes for reporting incidents of resident impairment.

II. Resident Wellness

A. School of Medicine and Program Responsibilities

Each residency program, in partnership with the School of Medicine, is responsible for:

1. Enhancing the meaning that each resident finds in the experience of being a physician by protecting time with patients, reducing non-physician obligations, providing adequate administrative support, promoting progressive autonomy and flexibility and enhancing professional relationships.

2. Giving the necessary attention to scheduling, work intensity and work compression by designing rotations that optimize patient safety, resident education and resident well-being.

3. Assessing workplace safety data and addressing the safety of residents and faculty members.

4. Creating and complying with policies and programs (consistent with this Policy and the ACGME requirements) that encourage resident and faculty well-being.

5. With the support of the School of Medicine, educating faculty and residents on identifying the symptoms of burnout, depression and substance use disorders in themselves and others, including means to assist those who experience these conditions and how to seek appropriate care.

6. Providing residents with the necessary time to attend medical, mental health and dental care appointments, including those appointments that are scheduled during the resident’s duty hours. Programs should encourage residents to review the Wellness Days section of the School of Medicine’s Graduate Medical Education Policy on Vacation and Leave for more information.
7. Educating residents and faculty on fatigue mitigation as further detailed in the School of Medicine’s Graduate Medical Education *Policy on Clinical and Educational Work Hours*. Residency programs must maintain systems of care and learning and working environments that facilitate fatigue mitigation.

8. Providing access to food during clinical and educational assignments; appropriate sleep/rest facilities that are safe, quiet, clean, private and accessible to residents with proximity appropriate to safe patient care.

9. Providing safe transportation options for residents who are too fatigued to return home in accordance with the *Policy on Clinical and Educational Work Hours*.

10. Encouraging residents and faculty to alert their Program Director, DIO or other designated personnel when they are concerned that another resident or faculty member may be displaying signs of burnout, depression, substance abuse, suicidal ideation or a potential for violence.

**B. Resident Wellness Initiatives**

The Tulane University School of Medicine Wellness Committee is tasked with establishing a voice for faculty and resident wellness, building resilience in residents and recognizing faculty and resident wellness. Resources available through the Wellness Committee are available at: [https://medicine.tulane.edu/home/wellness-get-help](https://medicine.tulane.edu/home/wellness-get-help). Tulane University and the School of Medicine provide resident wellness initiatives to augment resident wellness:

1. Through the Tulane School of Medicine Companion App, assessments of well-being and mental health by utilizing available self-screening tools.

2. Outlets and support for discussions on difficult patient encounters (resident to resident and resident to faculty).

3. Resources for managing mental wellness, as detailed below.

4. Private lactation facilities and clean and safe refrigeration resources for the storage of breast milk, and safety and security measures at all clinical learning environment sites.

5. In addition, the School of Medicine and programs understand that there are circumstances in which residents cannot attend work, including, but not limited to: fatigue, illness, family emergencies and parental leave. Each residency program is required to have a policy that ensures appropriate coverage of patient care in the event that a resident is unable to perform his/her patient care responsibilities. In the event that a resident is unable to perform his/her clinical responsibilities, the resident may utilize the procedures in the School of Medicine Graduate Medical Education *Policy on Vacation and Leave*. These policies and procedures may be implemented without fear of negative consequences for the resident who is unable to attend work.

**C. Mental and Behavioral Health Resources**

It is the policy of the University and the School of Medicine to support resident and faculty mental health to ensure that the highest quality physicians are practicing medicine.
The following confidential mental health assessments, counseling and treatment options may be used by residents and faculty:

1. Free, same-day doctors’ and psychiatric visits;
2. Health coaching;
3. The Tulane University Optum support services - available 24-hours a day, seven days a week for on-line or telephone confidential counseling;
4. The University Employee Assistance Program - available for emergent or urgent care 24-hours a day, seven days a week for Tulane employees their eligible dependents [https://hr.tulane.edu/wellness/employee-assistance-program](https://hr.tulane.edu/wellness/employee-assistance-program); and
5. The Residents’ Assistance Program provides residents with access to confidential counseling and behavioral health services, as further detailed below.

### III. Resident Impairment and Assistance

#### A. Definitions

1. **Administrative Personnel**: Program Directors, Program Coordinators, Department Chairs, Clinical Site Directors, and Chief Academic Officers, as applicable.
2. **Impaired**: A resident who is unable to perform his or her duties with reasonable skill and safety because of a medically recognized physical, mental or other condition, including but not limited to, a mental health issue, physical illness, and/or excessive use or abuse of drugs or alcohol.

#### B. Self-Referral Pathway

1. The School of Medicine is committed to fostering an environment in which residents feel safe in identifying and correcting conditions that may impair their personal and professional performance without fear of reprisal or implications to their career.
2. The Residents’ Assistance Program is intended to provide residents with access to confidential counseling and behavioral health services, and/or for the identification and treatment of resident physicians with psychiatric, substance abuse or other impairment.
3. The School of Medicine encourages residents who feel that they may have an impairment, require counseling or require other mental health support to seek assistance with the Residents’ Assistance Program. Residents may access the Residents’ Assistance Program by calling (504-322-3837) or emailing dr.morson@ibhnola.com.
4. Residents who self-refer to the Residents’ Assistance Program will only be reported to the DIO and applicable Administrative Personnel if: he/she poses an imminent threat to self or others, or if the Director of the Residents’ Assistance Program determines that the resident is not fit for duty and refers the resident to the Physicians’ Health Foundation of Louisiana for further evaluation and treatment.
a. If the resident is considered an imminent threat to self or others, the resident will be placed on Interim Leave as further detailed the School of Medicine’s Graduate Medical Education Policy on Remediation, Suspension, Dismissal and Grievances. As detailed in the Policy on Remediation, Suspension, Dismissal and Grievances, an Interim Leave is not disciplinary in nature, but is designed to provide the DIO and responsible parties with sufficient time to investigate the referral/matter.

b. If the resident is referred by the Director of the Residents’ Assistance Program to the Physicians’ Health Foundation of Louisiana for evaluation and treatment, the resident may be suspended with pay and benefits as necessary for treatment, and the referral will be transferred to and handled in accordance with the Institutional Referral Pathway described in Section C, below.

5. Administrative Personnel informed of a self-referral shall not communicate with the Residents’ Assistance Program nor the Physicians Health Foundation of Louisiana regarding the resident’s care. All communications regarding a resident who has self-referred to the Residents’ Assistance Program or referred to the Physicians Health Foundation of Louisiana should be directed to the DIO, as described in Section C. Protected health information may be shared with the DIO (and further by the DIO) only in accordance with applicable laws, including through a resident’s written authorization.

C. Institutional Referral Pathway

Administrative Personnel, faculty and other institutional leaders shall make an immediate referral of a resident by notification to the DIO if a resident appears to be practicing while Impaired.

1. Upon notification, the DIO will conduct a preliminary investigation, and if the DIO reasonably suspects that the resident is Impaired, the DIO will report such information to the Residents’ Assistance Program. The resident will be placed on Interim Leave, pending the resolution of the resident’s possible impairment by the Residents’ Assistance Program.

2. After the resident has been referred to the Residents’ Assistance Program, Administrative Personnel should not communicate with the resident or the Residents’ Assistance Program regarding the resident or his/her impairment. All communications regarding a resident who has been referred to the Residents’ Assistance Program should be directed to the DIO, who will in turn, notify the resident’s Program Director. Protected health information may be shared with the DIO by the Assistance Program providers only in accordance with applicable laws, including through a resident’s written authorization.

3. If the resident is referred by the Director of the Residents’ Assistance Program to the Physicians’ Health Foundation of Louisiana for evaluation and treatment, the resident may be suspended with pay and benefits as necessary for treatment. A resident Suspended due to psychological, chemical and/or alcohol impairment will be required to complete a rehabilitation program approved by the Physicians’ Health Foundation of Louisiana.

4. If the resident refuses to be evaluated by the Residents’ Assistance Program for fitness for duty or further referral, or declines a referral to Physician’s Health Foundation of Louisiana may be dismissed. Residents suspended or dismissed have a right to appeal and may seek
due process in accordance with the School of Medicine’s Graduate Medical Education Policy on Remediation, Suspension, Dismissal and Grievance.

5. Upon completion of the rehabilitation program, the resident may be required by the DIO, the treating physician or The Physicians’ Health Foundation of Louisiana to enter into an aftercare treatment program. The aftercare treatment programs must be approved by the DIO, the treating physician and the Physicians’ Health Foundation of Louisiana.

6. If the resident is participating in the aftercare treatment program while returning to training, the resident’s Program Director is required to make time available in the resident’s schedule to participate fully in the program. The DIO, in consultation with the resident’s treating physician, is required to document the resident’s compliance with the program’s requirements. The DIO, in consultation with the resident’s treating physician, will also discuss whether modifications or accommodations consistent with Tulane University policies, need to be made for the resident to return to his or her training (e.g., monitoring).

7. If a resident fails to comply with the rehabilitation program or the aftercare treatment program, the resident will be dismissed from his/her residency program. A written notice regarding the dismissal will be provided to the resident. See the School of Medicine’s Graduate Medical Education Policy on Remediation, Suspension, Dismissal and Grievance for information pertaining to resident due process rights for a dismissal. Appropriate state and national bodies will be notified of the dismissal.

8. If a resident is involved in inpatient or aftercare treatment when the resident completes his/her residency training, the Physicians’ Health Foundation of the state to which the resident is moving will be notified by the DIO.

9. If a resident subsequently becomes Impaired following treatment in an aftercare treatment program, dismissal from residency will be recommended unless there are extenuating circumstances. The DIO is ultimately responsible for deciding whether the resident should be dismissed.

III. References/Associated Policies

– Tulane University School of Medicine, Graduate Medical Education XI. Policy on Vacation and Leave
– Tulane University School of Medicine, Graduate Medical Education VIII. Policy on Clinical and Educational Work Hours
– Tulane University School of Medicine, Graduate Medical Education II. Policy on Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and Disability Accommodations
– Tulane University School of Medicine, Graduate Medical Education XV. Policy on Remediation, Suspension, Dismissal and Grievance
XVII. POLICY ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE

A. The abuse of alcohol and other drugs can seriously damage physical and mental health, and may jeopardize safety and the safety of others. Whenever use or abuse of any mood altering or other controlled substance (such as alcohol or other drugs) interferes with a safe workplace, appropriate action will be taken.

B. According to the provisions of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, and the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act amendments of 1989, the unlawful manufacture, distribution, sale, possession or use of controlled substances in the workplace is prohibited. Residents may not report to work under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. Residents who violate this policy will be sanctioned in accordance with Tulane policy and federal and state law.

D. Residents convicted of illegal drug activity in the workplace must notify Tulane within five (5) business days of conviction. Failure to do so may be grounds for immediate termination.

E. Residents are encouraged to take advantage of the diagnosis, counseling and treatment services that are available through the Office of Graduate Medical Education’s Residents’ Assistance Program. (See Chapter XVI, Residents’ Assistance Program and Resident Wellness).
XVIII. POLICY ON ARREST

A. The Tulane University Health Sciences Center Police Department will make reasonable efforts to help in arranging for release of that individual but there may be occasions for reasons beyond the control of Tulane University Health Sciences Center Police Department that efforts to secure the release cannot be arranged.

B. Normally the release will be accomplished by contacting persons who have parole powers designated by state law. There are times when the seriousness of the crime may be such when this cannot be accomplished. The plan is as follows:

1. The person arrested or an acquaintance must notify the Tulane University Health Sciences Center Police Department at 988-5531. The information needed will be the name of the individual arrested, the program he/she is in such as surgery, or medicine, also a listing of the charges and the jail or parish prison at which the individual is being detained.

2. The Crime Prevention Coordinator or his/her designee shall either be called or paged by the Tulane University Health Sciences Center Police Department. The Crime Prevention Coordinator will have a listing of persons with parole powers. A call will be placed by the Crime Prevention Coordinator to that individual, and that person will be provided with the necessary information to help in obtaining the release.

3. In the event that the seriousness of the crime is beyond the scope of parole powers, a call will be placed to the University’s Attorney-at-Law, or a designee. This office will then provide legal counsel to that person as to his/her rights or to an appropriate bail agency unless that individual chooses to obtain other counsel which is his/her option.

4. The Crime Prevention Coordinator will then notify the respective section head, such as the Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education, the chair of the department, or the program director. A report of what has occurred will be provided with as much information as possible.

5. Should the individual arrested be in need of transportation from the jail or parish prison, the Crime Prevention Coordinator will arrange for transportation to either the health sciences center or his/her residence.

6. Once the individual is returned to his/her residence, a confidential report will be compiled and forwarded to the appropriate section head.

7. The arrested individual will also be provided with the office number of a University attorney, should that individual wish to find out answers to any legal questions. The arrested individual is not obligated to accept the assistance of the Tulane University Health Sciences Center Police Department, Tulane University School of Medicine or any representatives of the University. The individual is also free to contact any lawyer of his/her choice or make other arrangements for release.

8. In the event that a signature bond is imposed (a signature bond guarantees the appearance of the individual), it will not be the responsibility of the Tulane University Health Sciences Center Police or its representative to sign the bond. A friend, faculty member, program coordinator or other responsible person can sign the bond which will secure the release of the individual. The person signing the bond personally guarantees that the arrested person will make all court appearances.
I. References

In accordance with Sections IV.I.3 and IV.I.5 of the ACGME Institutional Requirements, the Sponsoring Institution must have policies, not necessarily GME-specific (i) covering sexual and other forms of harassment, that allows residents access to processes to raise and resolve complaints in a safe and non-punitive environment and in a timely manner, consistent with applicable laws and regulations, and (ii) prohibiting discrimination in employment and in the learning and working environment, consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

II. Policy

Tulane University School of Medicine (the “School of Medicine”) is committed to creating and maintaining an environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. School of Medicine residents, fellows, faculty, administration and staff have the right to train and work in an environment free from unlawful harassment, including sexual harassment, and discrimination. Harassment or discrimination, whether verbal, physical, written, or visual, is unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

Tulane University (“Tulane”), inclusive of the School of Medicine, prohibits discrimination in its employment practices or educational programs/activities on the basis of age, color, disability, gender expression, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, military status, national origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status, or any other status or classification protected by federal, state, or local law.

The School of Medicine follows Tulane’s policies and procedures on discrimination and sexual and other forms of harassment and has procedures to raise and resolve complaints in a safe, non-punitive manner. Policies governing Equal Employment and Educational Opportunities, Anti-Discrimination, Prohibited Conduct, prohibited Retaliation and additional policies are available from Tulane’s Office of Human Resources & Institutional Equity. The policies are available online at: https://equity.tulane.edu/report-claim/policies (Equal Opportunity/Anti-Discrimination Policies).

III. Reporting

Anyone who has information about someone being discriminated, harassed, or retaliated or who believes that they have been discriminated, harassed, or retaliated against is encouraged to file a complaint to the Office of Institutional Equity, either online http://tulane.edu/concerns or by direct contact to the Office of Institutional Equity, as further detailed in the Equal Opportunity/Anti-Discrimination Policies.

A report of possible harassment or discrimination will be taken seriously and addressed in accordance with this Policy and applicable procedures. When the Office of Institutional Equity receives a report of discrimination, harassment - and/or retaliation, the Office of Institutional Equity (or their designee) will begin an initial inquiry as soon as practicable, generally within seven working days, absent extenuating circumstances.

IV. References/Associated Policies
Tulane University policies on Equal Opportunity/Anti-Discrimination: https://equity.tulane.edu/report-claim/policies.
XX. POLICY ON SOCIAL MEDIA & OUT-OF-WORK CONDUCT

A. General Principles:
This policy is based upon the following fundamental principles;
1. Patient confidentiality is of primary importance, as outlined in The Health Information Portability and Accountability Act [HIPAA].
2. Tulane University, as a University, values the importance of free speech and open discourse. As such, the University, being respectful of free speech and expression of ideas, does not prohibit residents from engaging in social media and/or voicing opinion outside of the workplace.
3. Maintaining respect for colleagues and co-workers is requisite for establishing a professional environment in the workplace, thereby ensuring optimal team-based patient care.
4. Enrollment in a Tulane University residency or fellowship program bestows upon the resident the reputation and prestige of Tulane University. In exchange, it is the responsibility of each resident to uphold and protect the reputation of Tulane University.

B. Policy on Social, Electronic and Print Media:
1. Patients
   a. Any and all depictions or descriptions of patients must comply with The Health Information Portability and Accountability Act [HIPAA]. Personal health information is defined by HIPAA as any information about an individual in oral or recorded form, where the information identifies an individual or for which there is a reasonable basis to believe it can be used to identify the individual.
   b. At no time shall patient information be shared without the signed consent of the patient. The University does not govern the content, format or process for obtaining this consent; Tulane residents must strictly adhere to the policies and procedures of the respective hospital, clinic or healthcare system in which the patient received care.
   c. These guidelines apply even if the individual patient is the only person who may be able to identify him or herself on the basis of the posted description. Anonymous descriptions must not contain information that will enable any person, including people who have access to other sources of information about a patient, to identify the individuals described. This encompasses all emails and text messages sent from personal phones.
   d. At no time shall patients, or patient stories, be depicted in a disparaging, demeaning, or insulting manner. Even if patients are not identified (by name, record number, image), or even if consent has been obtained from the patient, any description of patient care should be professional and respectful of the patient.
2. Description of the Patient Care/Work Environment
   a. All descriptions of the workplace environment shall respect the privacy rights of colleagues and co-workers. Individuals shall not be identified by name, or be described in such a fashion that their identity is easily apparent, without explicit consent of that individual.
   b. The tone and content of all conversations, social media and otherwise, shall remain professional and respectful of all healthcare and University colleagues. Posting demeaning or insulting comments or images about colleagues and co-workers to third parties is unprofessional behavior, and a violation of the Tulane University GME Policy on Harassment (Chapter XIX).
   c. While the University does not prohibit describing disagreements on issues and with people in the workplace, residents are strongly cautioned to not express these disagreements in social, electronic and print media for the following reasons:
      i. The description of the disagreement is likely to be one-sided, without the “other side” having the opportunity to present their side of the agreement.
      ii. Readership of the described disagreement is likely to take the description out of context.
iii. The description on social, electronic or print media is unlikely to result in a meaningful solution/resolution of the disagreement.

3. Description of Self and/or Self Opinions
   a. The resident retains the right to express their individuality via pictures, opinions and posts on social, electronic and print media.
      i. All posted opinions and images, however, are to be professional; unprofessional statements evoking, but not limited to, racism, sexism, and discriminatory statements will not be allowed, and are grounds for review by the program’s clinical competency committee with respect to the professionalism core competency.
      ii. Residents are advised to be cognizant of the image being portrayed, particularly with respect to posted images and photographs, and how that image would be viewed as being consistent with the professional physician. Employers, patients, and administrators can search and view all information posted in any forum. Enacting privacy settings does not necessarily mean that information will not end up in a public format.

   b. In engaging in social, electronic or print media communications, residents are reminded of the following:
      i. The resident has full responsibility for the content of individual online postings (for example: blogs, social networking sites and other digital media).
      ii. The permanency of published material on the Web. Most electronic media becomes cached. This means that even if the information is subsequently “taken down,” it likely still endures as accessible to the rest of the world on the Internet.
      iii. The importance of your individual safety when posting personal materials, such as phone/pager numbers or daily schedules online.

C. Association With, and Naming of Tulane University:
   1. In expressing opinions via external communications, residents should exercise caution in identifying themselves as Tulane University employees; comments made by an individual are easily ascribed to the opinion/position of the University as a whole. If the resident does disclose their association with Tulane University, the communication should explicitly note that the opinion/position expressed within the communication is solely the position of the resident, and not of Tulane University or the respective healthcare institution (i.e., hospital, clinic or healthcare system) in which they work.
   2. If there is any question as to how an external communication will be received, residents are encouraged to consult with the Tulane University and/or respective hospital’s Office of Public Relations. The Graduate Medical Education Office, and the resident’s Program Director can also provide advice in reference to external communications.

D. Offering Medical Advice:
   1. Residents are not restricted from voicing opinions on medical topics via electronic or print media. Residents are advised, however, to exercise caution in such statements and to utilize the following guidelines in making these statements:
      a. Residents should not misrepresent their qualifications.
      b. The discussion or opinion should be evidenced-based where possible.
      c. The discussion or opinion should be generic to the topic, and not designed to diagnose or treat an individual patient via electronic means.
      d. Advice should not be offered; where the discussion or opinion could be interpreted as offering advice, the communication should include a disclaimer that the reader should consult with a physician prior to making any decision.
2. Residents are reminded that the terms of their employment with Tulane University limit the provision of medical advice within the context of the teaching environment, where appropriate supervision exists; malpractice insurance may not extend to medical advice outside of the teaching environment.

E. Outside-of-Work Conduct:
   1. It is expected that residents behave professionally in and out of work, as behavior in both settings exemplifies the development of the professionalism competency, and reflects upon Tulane University reputation.
   2. Tulane University respects the privacy of all of its residents. Tulane does not prospectively monitor residents’ outside-of-work activities.
   3. All professionals have a collective professional duty to assure appropriate behavior, particularly as it pertains to professional behavior.
   3. Unprofessional behavior outside of work may be investigated if it is brought to the attention of the program director and/or DIO, and may be integrated into the clinical competency committee’s assessment of the resident’s professionalism core competency.

F. The University’s Role in Monitoring and Enforcement
   1. Tulane University will not monitor residents’ social, electronic or print communications without cause to do so. Tulane University assumes no liability or responsibility for resident’s social, electronic or print communications of which it is not aware.
   2. All professionals have a collective professional duty to assure appropriate behavior, particularly in matters of privacy and confidentiality. It is the responsibility of each University employee to self-monitor this policy and report violations to the respective program director and/or DIO.
   3. Tulane University reserves the right to inspect a resident’s social and/or electronic media for cause, as defined by a report of a violation of this policy.
   4. Tulane University reserves the right to monitor a resident’s social and/or electronic media for cause, as defined by a previous violation of this policy.
   5. Penalties
      a. If a social, electronic, or print media posts/communication is deemed to be inappropriate by the program director or the clinical competency committee, the resident will be asked to redact or take down the communication. The resident has a right to appeal this decision to the DIO, who shall have the final decision regarding redacting or taking down the communication.
      b. The clinical competency committee is entitled to integrate violations of this policy into their decisions regarding probation, suspension, non-renewal and termination (Chapter XX), particularly with respect to the core competency.
      c. Residents in violation of this policy may also be subject to discipline from the respective hospital, clinic or healthcare network. Residents in violation of this policy may also be subject to prosecution or a lawsuit for damages for a contravention of HIPAA.

G. Electronic communication with residents
   1. Afferent communication:
      a. The GME Office recognizes importance of communicating to residents about events, opportunities and additional information necessary for clinical care.
      b. However, the GME Office also recognizes that excessive electronic communication to residents can lead to “alert” fatigue.
c. Further, the GME Office also recognizes the potential for abuse in sending electronic communications to the residents that are inappropriate.

2. Efferent communication:
   a. The GME Office recognizes the value of obtaining information from residents via surveys.
   b. However, the GME Office also recognizes that excessive communication leads to “survey fatigue.” In such a scenario (i.e., excessive surveys), there is a risk that residents’ compliance with essential surveys (such as the ACGME annual survey) will diminish.
   c. Further, the GME Office also recognizes that the residents’ opinions are the intellectual property of the residents, and residents should not be compelled to express those opinions unless they are essential to the viability of the training programs and the clinical operations in which our residents participate.

3. The GME Office will operate a resident, program director and program coordinator list-serve. All three list-serves will be centrally monitored in the GME Office.
   a. The list-serve address will only be released to the respective recipients, and entities or individuals approved by the GME Office.
   b. Only afferent communications that are within the above guidelines will be allowed to be distributed to the residents.
   c. Communications regarding industry or pharmaceuticals will not be authorized, as per the guidelines in the Vendor Policy.
   d. Entities or individuals who repeatedly violate the above guidelines regarding appropriate messaging will be excluded from further use of the list-serve.

4. All surveys distributed to the residents must first be approved by the GME Office. Residents will be instructed to disregard any survey that has not been previously approved by the GME Office.

5. Residents’ email addresses will not be shared with any individual outside of the University unless there is, in the judgment of the DIO, direct reason, consistent with the training and clinical care environment, to do so.
SECTION 4:
INSTITUTIONAL POLICIES & ORGANIZATIONS AS IT RELATES TO GME
XXI. THE OFFICE OF GME & THE GMEC: COMPOSITION, MISSION, AND RESPONSIBILITIES (rev. 8/19/2020)

A. Composition of the Office of Graduate Medical Education Office
The GME Office is located on the 15th floor at the Murphy Building, empowered with a budget that is derived directly from the Dean of the School of Medicine. The funding of the GME Office occurs on an annual basis, with a budgeting process that allows for periodic needs assessment throughout the year and allowances as needed for both salary and general operating supply increases. The Graduate Medical Education Office is composed of:
1. The Associate Dean of Graduate Medical Education (Designated Institutional Official, DIO).
   a. The DIO’s primary responsibility is to assure a safe, effective and educational work environment for Tulane residents at all participating sites.
   b. The DIO is also responsible for ensuring institutional compliance with all ACGME regulations, as well as assuring that each residency program is in compliance with the Common Requirements and their respective specialty and subspecialty requirements.
   c. All correspondence from the program directors to the ACGME, and all communication to the University’s governance body, must be approved by the DIO.
   d. All financial matters, compliance issues, and major educational decisions, including sites for training, that affect residents and fellows must be approved by the DIO.
   e. All remediation, probation, suspension and termination issues (See Chapter XV) must be approved by the DIO.
   f. The DIO is responsible for chairing the Graduate Medical Education Committee as well as the Tulane Educational Compliance Committee, which oversees all aspects of education as it relates to compliance with their respective accrediting bodies (LCME, GME, CME).
   g. The DIO is a member of the Executive Medical Faculty and reports directly to the Dean of the School of Medicine.
   h. The DIO is responsible for preparing an annual report on the State of GME at Tulane University, to be delivered to the GMEC, the Executive Faculty (the Organized Medical Staff), and the Administrative Board of Tulane. A written summary of the report is to be delivered to each of the liaisons at the affiliated training locations. The report is to include updates on the current GME training environment as outlined in XX.E
   j. The DIO is responsible for ensuring each program completes their annual self-study (Chapter XXII. Policy on Program Evaluation, Improvement, and Annual Program Reporting)
   j. The DIO is responsible for ensuring that Special Reviews occur according to the policy and procedure outlined in Chapter XXII. (Chapter XXII. Policy on Program Evaluation, Improvement, and Annual Program Reporting)
   k. At least 50% of the DIO’s professional efforts must be devoted to the role of being the DIO; compensation and sufficient protected time to effectively carry out his or her educational, administrative, and leadership responsibilities is to be commensurate with this effort.
   l. The DIO is responsible for engaging in professional development applicable to his or her responsibilities as an educational leader.

2. The Assistant Dean of Graduate Medical Education.
   a. The Assistant Dean is responsible for assisting the DIO in all of the above responsibilities
   b. In the event of the DIO’s absence, the Assistant Dean of GME will fulfill all duties as they relate to the DIO’s position, including supervision of the training programs, reviewing and co-signing program information forms and correspondence with the ACGME and affiliated training sites.
c. In the event that a matter of business involves the residency program of origin from the DIO, or there is otherwise a perceived conflict of interest in the DIO chairing the GMEC on a matter, the Assistant Dean shall serve as the Chair of the GMEC in overseeing deliberations of that matter of business.

3. Senior Administrator. The Senior Administrator is responsible for the business and general operations of the GME Office, including assisting the DIO, Assistant Dean, and the financial manager to ensure optimal operation of the GME office.

4. GME Project Manager. The Program Manager is responsible for ensuring accurate payroll for each resident at Tulane, as well as benefits.

5. Credential Manager. The Credential Manager is responsible for ensuring accurate attestation of credentials for inquiries regarding past graduates of the Tulane Medical School and the Tulane GME programs.

6. Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary supports the administrative functions of the office.

7. The Office of the University’s Legal Counsel works directly with the GME Office, providing guidance for all issue that may involve legal considerations.

8. The GME Office also works closely with the University-supported Residents’ Assistance Program (See Chapter XVI. Residents’ Assistance Program and Resident Wellness).

B. Composition of the Graduate Medical Education Committee
1. Mission: The Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC) governs all activities related to the compliance and strategic mission of all residency programs at the Tulane University School of Medicine. The Tulane GMEC, working in conjunction with the DIO, is responsible for the oversight of all Tulane resident/fellow assignments, and of the quality of the learning and working environment at all participating sites.

2. Composition: The GMEC is composed of:
   a. The Associate Dean of Graduate Medical Education who shall serve as the chair.
   b. The Assistant Dean of Graduate Medical Education who shall serve as the vice-chair.
   c. A representative from the following components of Tulane’s GME Programs
      i. The Internal Medicine Program Director, who shall also represent the preventive medicine program.
      ii. The Surgery Program Director, who shall also represent the plastic surgery program.
      iii. The Ob/GYN Program Director
      iv. The Pediatrics Program Director, who shall represent the pediatric subspecialties and the med-peds program.
      v. The Psychiatry Program Director, who shall represent the neurology residency program, the vascular neurology program, the child psychiatry program, the addiction medicine program, the forensic psychiatry program, and the combined psychiatry programs (triple board and med psych).
      vi. One representative (Program Director or Associate Program Director) from the Internal Medicine Subspecialty Fellowships, who shall represent the dermatology residency and the allergy-immunology, cardiology, interventional cardiology, electrophysiology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, heme/onc, infectious disease, nephrology, and pulmonary/critical care fellowships. This representative shall be elected by his/her peers every two years (elections will occur on even years).
      vii. One representative from the Surgical Subspecialty Residencies (Program Director or Associate Program Director), who shall represent neurosurgery, orthopedics, otolaryngology,
ophthalmology, plastic surgery, and urology. This representative shall be elected by his/her peers every two years (elections will occur on odd years).

viii. One representative from the hospital-based services programs (radiology, anesthesia, pathology, pathology sub-specialties) (Program Director or Associate Program Director), who shall represent these respective programs. This representative shall be elected by his/her peers every two years (elections will occur on odd years).

d. Two resident representatives as elected from their peers through the Tulane Residency and Fellowship Congress.

e. Two program administrators as elected from their peers through the Program Administrators Council. These representatives shall be elected by their peers every two years (one program administrator will be elected in even years, the other will be elected in odd years).

f. A quality improvement/safety officer or his or her designee from either Tulane Hospital, the VA Hospital, or the University Medical Center.

g. A non-voting representative from the Tulane University School of Medicine Curriculum Committee.

3. Quorum: Quorum is defined by greater than 50% of the voting members, with a minimum of one representative from the Tulane Resident and Fellow Congress.

4. Absences. It is expected that all GMEC members attend each GMEC meeting. In the event of an unavoidable absence, each GMEC member may designate a designee to represent them for that meeting.

5. Institutional hierarchy: The decisions of the GMEC are reported through the DIO to the Executive Medical Faculty, of which the Dean of Medicine is the Chair. The Executive Faculty serves as the primary governing body of the Medical School in all matters academic and administrative. In turn, their decisions are reported through the Dean to the Provost of the University. The Provost answers directly to the President of the University. The President answers to the Administrators of the Tulane Educational Fund that has full governing authority of the University (i.e., the “Governing Body”). An organizational chart is displayed in Appendix D.

C. Responsibilities of the GMEC. The GMEC convenes every month, and has the following responsibilities:

1. Oversight of institutional accreditation, including review the ACGME institutional letter of notification from the IRC and monitoring of action plans for correction of citations and areas of noncompliance

2. Oversight of the individual programs’ ACGME accreditation, including the quality of the GME learning and working environment within the Sponsoring Institution, its ACGME-accredited programs, and its participating sites;

3. Applications for ACGME accreditation of new programs, voluntary withdrawal of ACGME program accreditation; and oversight of all processes related to reductions and closures of individual programs, participating sites and the Sponsoring Institution, as outlined in Chapter III, Policy on Program Closure, Reduction, or Expansion and Chapter IV, Policy on Disaster/Interruption of Resident Training

4. Review and approval of all institutional GME policies and procedures

5. Stipends and position allocation. The committee will review and provide recommendations to the Sponsoring Institution’s leadership regarding resident stipends, benefits, and funding for resident positions, as outlined in Chapter III, Policy on Residency Program Closure, Reduction, or Expansion, and Chapter V, Policy on Financial & Resource Support of Residents.

6. Responses to Clinical Learning Environment Review (CLER) reports

7. Oversight of the function and effectiveness of the Tulane Residency and Fellowship Congress, as outlined in Appendix A, The Residency Congress, and resident representation on Hospital and University committees, as outlined in Chapter IX, Residents’ Participation on Institutional Committees.
8. Vendor interactions between vendor representatives/corporations and residents/GME programs as outlined in *Chapter VII. Policy on Interacting with Vendors.*

9. Approval of the DIO’s Annual Report to the Organized Medical Staff as outlined in *Chapter XXII. Policy on Program Evaluation, Improvement, and Annual Program Reporting.*

10. Oversight of all GMEC sub-committees.
   a. The composition of ad-hoc or standing subcommittees, unless otherwise explicitly specified, is at the discretion of the GMEC.
   b. Any subcommittee that addresses required GMEC responsibilities must include at least one peer-selected resident/fellow, as assigned by the Tulane Residents and Fellows Congress.
   c. All subcommittee actions that address required GMEC responsibilities must be reviewed and approved by the GMEC.

11. Program Supervision. The GMEC is responsible for ensuring that each Tulane program is in compliance with all ACGME Common and Program-Specific requirements, and Tulane University rules and regulations. The GMEC, through review of Annual Reports, Programs’ Self-Study/Annual Reports and ACGME site visit reports, will ensure that each program maintains:
   a. Oversight of the ACGME accreditation status of all Tulane ACGME-accredited programs, including a review of all ACGME program accreditation letters of notification, monitoring of action plans for correction of citations and areas of noncompliance, and progress reports requested by a Review Committee
   b. Requests for all temporary or permanent changes in resident complement
   c. Oversight of the quality of educational experiences in each ACGME-accredited program that lead to measurable achievement of educational outcomes as identified in the ACGME Common and specialty/subspecialty-specific Program Requirements
      i. Effective communication and appropriate oversight between Tulane program directors and the site directors at each participating site for their respective programs
      ii. Compliance with resident duty hours for each residency program as outlined in *Chapter VIII. Policy on Residents’ Duty Hours.*
      iii. Resident supervision, including supervision that enables and ensures safe and effective patient care, educational needs of residents, and progressive responsibility appropriate to residents’ level of education, competence, and experience, as outlined in *Chapter XIII. Policy on Supervision of Residents*
      iv. Curriculum and evaluation that enables residents to demonstrate achievement of the ACGME general competencies as defined in *Chapter X. Policy on Core Curriculum and the Core Competencies* and as noted in the ACGME Common and Specialty-specific Program Requirements.
   d. Oversight of the programs’ annual evaluation and improvement activities,
   e. Oversight of major changes in ACGME-accredited programs’ structure or duration of education
   f. Oversight of additions and deletions of ACGME-accredited programs’ participating sites;
   g. Oversight of appointment of new program directors
   h. Oversight of all requests for exceptions to duty hour requirements, and oversight of all phases of educational experiments and innovations that may deviate from Institutional, Common, and specialty/subspecialty-specific Program Requirements
   i. Oversight of requests for appeal of an adverse action by a Review Committee and appeal presentations to an ACGME Appeals Panel.
k. Oversight of evaluation, promotion, and transfer or residents in compliance with Chapter I. Policy on Resident Eligibility and Selection

1. Oversight of discipline, and/or dismissal of residents in compliance with Chapter XV. Policy on Remediation, Suspension, Termination and Grievance

12. Deliberations and actions of the GMEC will be documented in minutes from each meeting, which will be reviewed and approved at the subsequent GMEC meeting. All GMEC minutes will be posted on the Red Wiki, ensuring that all program directors have access to the minutes.
XXII. POLICY ON PROGRAM EVALUATION, IMPROVEMENT & ANNUAL PROGRAM REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

A. Each residency program is required to have a Residency Education Committee (REC).
   1. The REC should be composed of the program director or his/her designee (who shall serve as chair), the associate program directors (where applicable), at least two faculty, and at least one resident from each level of training, as elected by their peers.
   2. The REC should meet at least quarterly to review the residency program.
   3. The responsibilities of the REC include:
      a. A review of at least one component (rotation) of the residency program at each meeting. A summary report of residents’ monthly evaluations of the rotation should be presented and addressed during the evaluation of the rotation. The rotation evaluation should include an assessment of its fidelity to program and institutional policies including the following:
         i. Resident educational resources (Chapter V. Policy on Financial & Resource Support of Residents)
         ii. Resident duty hours and work environment (Chapter VIII. Policy on Residents’ Duty Hours)
         iii. Resident Supervision (Chapter XIII. Policy on Supervision of Residents)
         iv. Resident Evaluation (Chapter XIV. Policy on Evaluation and Promotion)
      b. Addressing resident or faculty concerns regarding the program as a whole, as they might arise.
      c. Once per year, the REC should conduct an annual review of the residency program. The review should incorporate the residents’ evaluation of the program and the faculty’s evaluations of the program in constructing this review. This should be used to systematically evaluate the program, including the curriculum, and to construct an annual report as detailed below. If deficiencies are found, the program should prepare a written plan of action to document initiatives to improve performance in the areas. The action plan should be reviewed and approved by the REC and documented via meeting minutes.

B. Each residency program is required to have a Clinical Competency Committee (CCC).
   1. The CCC should be comprised of faculty instrumental to the operation of the training program.
   2. The program director can be a member of the CCC, but ideally should not chair the CCC.
   3. Residents from the program should not be members of the CCC; chief residents who have finished their training and are operating in a faculty role may participate in the CCC.
   4. The CCC should meet at least quarterly to review the performance of each resident in the training program with respect to progress in each entrustable professional activity (EPA).
      a. The CCC should integrate faculty-of-resident, nurse-of-resident, patient-of-resident, resident-of-self evaluations in assessing at which milestone each resident is on each EPA.
      b. The CCC must make an assessment for each resident on each EPA at least twice per year. Decisions for promotion, retention and termination should be made by this committee
      c. The CCC must communicate their assessment of each resident to the program director, who will be responsible for uploading individual resident’s milestone progress to the ACGME WebAds.
      d. The CCC, in concert with the program director, must ensure that each resident is informed of his or her progress on each EPA at least twice per year. The program director or his/her designee must meet in person with each resident twice a year to discuss their summative performance in each entrustable activity, their performance in each of the six core competencies, and where applicable, their performance on required procedures/cases.
5. The CCC is responsible for identifying any resident whose performance warrants remediation, probation, non-renewal or termination.

C. Raise and Resolve Committee

1. The Tulane University Graduate Medical Education office recognizes that all individuals involved with graduate medical education have a responsibility to ensure a work environment that is conducive to optimal education and patient care. Students, residents, faculty, and staff are all encouraged to raise and resolve any and all issues that might potentially compromise the educational and clinical care environment. While the majority of these issues can and should be resolved via formal or informal interactions with the faculty and program leadership, some misunderstandings, disagreements or complaints might still persist. The following procedure is to resolve residency-related issues that cannot be resolved through the program’s leadership.

2. Issues Addressed
   a. Issues shall not be limited, but should generally involve matters that compromise, or have the potential to compromise, the graduate medical education educational and patient care environment.
   b. The Raise and Resolve Committee will not hear issues related to probation, suspension or termination. These will be addressed according to the GME Policies and Procedures, Chapter XV, Policy on Remediation, Suspension, Termination and Grievance.

3. To the extent possible, students, residents, faculty, and staff are encouraged to exhaust all means of resolving the matter within regular channels of reporting in their respective role.
   a. Students are encouraged to bring issues first to one or more of the following: their supervising faculty, the clerkship director, the respective program director, the respective program’s Residency Education Committee, the Office of Medical Education, the Chair of the Department, the Designated Institutional Official, or the University Professionalism Committee.
   b. Residents are encouraged to bring issues first to one or more of the following: their supervising faculty, their program director, the program’s Residency Education Committee, the Chair of the Department, the Associate Dean of GME (DIO), the Assistant Dean of GME, or the The University’s Professionalism Reporting Platform. https://medicine.tulane.edu/education/professionalismenvironment-learning-program
   c. Faculty are encouraged to bring issues first to one or more of the following: their program director, their immediate supervisor (Section Chief or Chair), hospital administration, the program’s Residency Education Committee, the Chair of the Department, the Associate Dean of GME (DIO), the Assistant Dean of GME, or the The University’s Professionalism Reporting Platform. https://medicine.tulane.edu/education/professionalismenvironment-learning-program
   d. Staff are encouraged to bring issues first to one or more of the following: their immediate supervisor, the hospital/clinic site director, hospital administration, the program’s program director, the program’s Residency Education Committee, the Chair of the Department, the Associate Dean of GME (DIO), the Assistant Dean of GME, or the The University’s Professionalism Reporting Platform. https://medicine.tulane.edu/education/professionalismenvironment-learning-program

4. If the matter is not, or cannot, be resolved through these channels, the student, resident, faculty or staff may approach one of the members of the Raise and Resolve Committee Chair to address the issue.

5. The Raise and Resolve Committee shall be comprised of the following:
   a. Three faculty, at least one of which must be a program director. All three shall be from different departments.
   b. Two residents, both from different programs.

6. The Raise and Resolve Committee shall function as follows:
   a. The Raise and Resolve Committee Chair, who has received the concern via the institution’s reporting platform or directly from an individual, will either:
i. Attempt to manage the issue directly with the program in question, if it can be effectively done so, or

ii. Notify the other members of the Raise and Resolve Committee. Those members who are from the program in question will be recused from participating in the subsequent discussion and mediation.

b. The Raise and Resolve Committee will hear from the individual bringing the concern, either in person or via the concern, as well as from leadership from the program in question.

c. The Raise and Resolve Committee will endeavor to mediate a compromise suitable to both parties.

d. If the Raise and Resolve Committee cannot find a successful resolution of the issue, the matter shall be referred to the GMEC for consideration. The GMEC will then be responsible for ensuring the final resolution of the matter.

D. **Annual Reports.** Each program is required to provide an annual report at the end of each academic year. The report is due by July 30th of each academic year, and should be posted to the program’s wiki page.

The goal of the annual report is to identify areas of improvement in the training program. The GME Office recognizes that program directors and coordinators are busy, and additional bureaucratic work detracts from time that could be devoted to the residents and the residency program. As such, the Annual Report is divided into three sections:

Section 1 is Data the GME Office will pull directly from WebAds, (thereby relieving program directors from repetitive work);

Section 2 is data that the Program Director/Coordinator is responsible for providing on an annual basis (See Appendix F)

Section 3 is endurable materials that should be on file with the GME Office, and updated as needed

1. Section 1: Data the GME Office will pull directly from WebAds
   a. The program’s resident roster, including start/end dates, demographic data, and scholarly activity
   b. The program’s faculty roster, including scholarly activity.
   c. A listing of program citations, if any, and program responses.
   d. The ACGME resident and faculty survey reports
   e. Financial resident allocations by training site.
   f. Notification of each of its ACGME-accredited programs’ accreditation statuses and self-study visits.

2. Section 2: Data to be provided by the program on an annual basis (See Appendix F)
   a. Board pass rate by resident
   b. In-service scores by resident
   c. USMLE scores by resident
   d. The composition of the program evaluation committee and the process used to conduct the annual review.
   e. The source data used to inform and measure the annual review
   f. A narrative account of the previous year’s goals for improvement, with subsequent results.
   g. The three priority areas for improvement for the coming academic year
   h. A narrative response to all ACGME fallouts (compliance <80%) on the resident and faculty surveys.
   i. A narrative description of the program’s quality improvement project(s) and a listing of residents and faculty who participated in the project.
3. Section 3: Endurable Materials to be on-file in the GME Office, with updates occurring on a pro re nata basis.
   a. The Program’s resident manual.
   b. A copy of the resident-of-faculty, resident-of-rotation, resident-of-resident, patient/nurse-of-resident and faculty-of-resident evaluations
   c. A description of how the program addresses the following curricular components:
      i. Sleep deprivation and fatigue mitigation
      ii. Training residents on how to teach
      iii. Patient safety/Quality Improvement
      iv. Resident wellness, sustainability and burnout mitigation
   d. A sample copy of the mid-year, end-of-year promotion, and end-of-training letters to be sent to residents, documenting the resident’s interval progress with the core competencies.
   e. Updated Copies of Program Letters of Affiliation (PLA) for each Participating Training Site. The PLA should include (See also Chapter XIII)
      i. The faculty responsible for the educational and supervisory responsibilities for residents;
      ii. The responsibilities of faculty for teaching, supervision, and formal evaluation of residents.
      iii. The duration and content of the educational experience
      iv. The policies and procedures that will govern resident education during the assignment.
      v. The name of the site director serving as the liaison between the program director and the clinical site.
      vi. The number of residents assigned to this site each year, the nature of the rotation (in-house call, no call, home call) and the number of months residents rotates to this facility.

E. The Residency Manual: This should be organized as follows, and posted to the program’s wiki webpage:
   1. Section I: The Academic Year Calendar
      a. The Residency Education Committee (REC) Composition and meeting schedule
      b. The Clinical Competency Committee (CCC) Composition and meeting schedule
      c. The Curriculum Calendar and Matrix (by core competency)
   2. Section II: Program Expectations
      a. Overview of the Training Program
      b. Overall Goals and Objectives: Core Competencies and Learning Goals
      c. Overall Goals and Objectives by year of training (Progressive Lines of Responsibility)
      d. Block Diagram of a Sample Clinical Curriculum (Rotations)
      e. Scholarly Activity Opportunities
      f. A Description of Conferences and Educational Resources
      g. A Description of Participating Institutions (including rationale for why these sites have been chosen to be a part of the training program), and the local director at each participating site who is accountable for resident education;
   3. Section III: Description of Clinical Rotations and Electives with Goals and Objectives (Organized by core competencies)
   4. Section IV: Evaluation
   5. Section V: Program Policies. These policies should be compatible with the institutional policies, but they must be unique to the training program (i.e., the program cannot simply default to institutional policies).
      a. Moonlighting (Chapter VI)
      b. Interacting with vendors (Chapter VII)
      c. Duty hours (VIII)
      d. Vacation and leave (Chapter XI)
      e. Supervision and evaluation of residents (XIII)
REFERENCE

In accordance with Section I.B.6 of the ACGME Institutional Requirements, the GMEC must demonstrate effective oversight of underperforming ACGME-accredited graduate medical education residency and fellowship programs\(^1\) sponsored by Tulane University School of Medicine (the “Sponsoring Institution”) through a Special Review process. The Special Review process must include a protocol that: (1) establishes a variety of criteria for identifying underperformance that includes, at a minimum, program accreditation statuses of Initial Accreditation with Warning, Continued Accreditation with Warning, and adverse accreditation statuses as described by ACGME policies, including but not limited to Probationary Accreditation; and (2) results in a timely report that describes the quality improvement goals, the corrective actions, and the process for GMEC monitoring of outcomes, including timelines.

In addition to compliance with Section I.B.6, the GMEC has established a process for Internal Reviews of Residency Programs that is separate and apart from the Special Review process. The Internal Review is meant to encompass reviews the GMEC deems advisable, but that do not meet the heightened criteria for a Special Review.

DEFINITIONS

**Internal Review**: a GMEC process for internal review and oversight of Residency Programs to evaluate compliance with ACGME requirements and Sponsoring Institution Residency Program policies.

**Special Review**: a GMEC process for review and oversight of underperforming Residency Programs, consistent with ACGME requirements and this policy.

INTERNAL REVIEWS

**Criteria for an Internal Review**. The GMEC has established the events or criteria set forth in this section as meriting internal evaluation and review (the “Internal Review Criteria”). An event or criterion listed below is not necessarily indicative of Residency Program underperformance. An Internal Review may be conducted for routine oversight and evaluation purposes. The Internal Review Criteria shall include, but not be limited to:

Appointment of a new Program Director. An Internal Review will generally take place 6 - 12 months following the appointment.

Implementation of a new Residency Program. An Internal Review will generally take place within a Residency Program’s first year.

A pattern of concerns or issues related to recruitment, withdrawal, transfer, or dismissal of Residents to or from a Residency Program.

Significant changes occur at, or repeated concerns arise at or from, a participating site.

A pattern of complaints or concerns to the DIO, GMEC, through the Tulane Professionalism Reporting Platform or to another reporting body.

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\(^1\) For purposes of this Special Review and Internal Review Protocol and Policy, the term “Resident” collectively refers to both residents and fellows; “Residency Program” collectively refers to residency programs and fellowship programs.
Lack of evidence of faculty or Resident scholarly activity in a Residency Program, based upon the specialty and size of the Residency Program, or concerns related to board passage rates.

A pattern of negative findings on ACGME Resident or faculty surveys, including a compliance rate of less than 80% (or less than 75% for Residency Programs with fewer than six Residents) on survey matters, except in instances in which a Special Review is triggered, as set forth below.

A pattern of clinical and educational work hour violations or supervision concerns.

A Residency Program conducts an Annual Program Evaluation that fails to address each of the required components.

Failure to respond in a timely fashion to DIO requests for information necessary in ensuring compliance with accreditation and compliance with Sponsoring Institution or residency program policies.

Upon the request of the Residency Program’s Program Director.

A determination by the GMEC or DIO that an Internal Review is appropriate or timely, including in advance of an ACGME site visit.

**Internal Review Committee.** Internal Reviews shall be conducted by ad hoc committees appointed by the GMEC, with input or direction from the GME office at the GMEC’s discretion (each an “Internal Review Committee”). No member of an Internal Review Committee may be selected from the Residency Program under review.

Each Internal Review Committee shall include, at a minimum:

- At least two faculty members, one of whom is a member of the GMEC;
- An administrative member of the GME office (or a Program Coordinator selected by the GME office); and
- At least one Resident, selected or approved by the TRFC.

A faculty member selected by the Internal Review Committee or designated by the DIO shall serve as the Chair of the Internal Review Committee.

**Internal Review Procedures.** Internal Reviews may be conducted in accordance with the structure for Special Reviews of Residency Programs as set forth in this policy, or may follow a less formal format, as determined by the Internal Review Committee with consideration of the reasons for the Internal Review. If a less formal format is chosen by the Internal Review Committee, reasons for deviation from the Special Review of Residency Program structure must be documented. Internal Reviews shall be conducted upon notice provided to the Program Director of the Residency Program to be the subject of the Internal Review and notice provided to the Chair of the clinical department in which the Residency Program is located.

**Internal Review Reports.** All Internal Reviews shall result in a report from the Internal Review Committee to the GMEC that sets forth:

- The name of the Residency Program reviewed and the date or timeframe of the review;
- The names and titles of each member of the Internal Review Committee;
- A description of the reason for the review based on the Internal Review Criteria;
A description of the review process, including: a list of documents and information reviewed, the names of all individuals interviewed or, for Residents, the number of Residents interviewed by Residency Program year;

A summary of the Internal Review Committee’s findings; and

Any recommendations or required corrective actions, referenced to ACGME requirements, as applicable. An Internal Review Committee may recommend, based on its review, that the GMEC conduct a Special Review of the Residency Program.

SPECIAL REVIEWS OF RESIDENCY PROGRAMS

Criteria for a Special Review of a Residency Program. The GMEC has established the criteria listed below as indicators of potential underperformance by a Residency Program (the “Residency Program Special Review Criteria”), meriting Special Review.

A Residency Program receives an accreditation status of Initial Accreditation with Warning, Continued Accreditation with Warning, Probationary Accreditation or any other adverse ACGME accreditation status as described by ACGME policies.

A Residency Program receives multiple or repeated “Area for Improvement” findings from the applicable ACGME Review Committee.

There has been significant and verifiable complaints or issues related to any of the following, and/or there are significant adverse findings pertaining to a Residency Program in annual ACGME Resident or faculty survey results as indicated by a Residency Program compliance rate that is less than ninety percent (90%) and lower than the ACGME national program compliance rate by more than three percentage points (3%) on any of the following:

80-hour work week, averaged over a four week period.

Pressured to work more than 80 hours a week.

Personally experiencing abuse, harassment, mistreatment, discrimination, unprofessionalism, or coercion.

Personally witnessing abuse, harassment, mistreatment, discrimination, unprofessionalism, or coercion.

Program fosters an inclusive work environment.

Ability to raise concerns without fear of intimidation or retaliation.

Satisfied with the process for confidential reporting of unprofessional behavior.

Satisfied with the process to deal confidentially with problems and concerns.

Appropriate level of supervision.

A Residency Program fails to address, to the satisfaction of the DIO or GMEC, previous ACGME citations or Areas for Improvement.

A Residency Program fails to carry out previous Action Plans (as defined herein) within a reasonable period of time, or recommendations resulting from an Internal Review or Special Review.
A Residency Program is the subject of multiple complaints or referrals, including through the Tulane Professionalism Reporting Platform, including, but not limited to, complaints alleging bias, intimidation, discrimination, harassment or coercion or inadequate supervision.

A Residency Program’s clinical and educational work hours reports reflect repeated work hour violations or a trend in work hour violations (e.g., repeated violations on a particular rotation or an increase in work hour violations).

A Residency Program fails to conduct an Annual Program Evaluation or is non-compliant with its other responsibilities.

A Residency Program fails to provide, in a timely fashion, or comply with financial allocation of Resident positions.

A member of the GMEC recommends that a Residency Program undergo a Special Review, in which case, upon a majority vote of the GMEC, a Special Review will be initiated in accordance with this policy.

The Dean of the School of Medicine, a Program Director, or the DIO requests that the GMEC conduct a Special Review.

**Residency Program Special Review Committee.**

Each Special Review of a Residency Program will be conducted by an ad hoc committee appointed by the GMEC (a “Residency Program Special Review Committee”). No member of a Residency Program Special Review Committee may be selected from the Residency Program under review or from within the Residency Program’s department. Each Residency Program Special Review Committee shall include, at a minimum:

- The DIO or his or her appointed designee or in the event of a conflict of interest, the Assistant Dean of GME;
- At least one faculty member from the GMEC, or a Program Director who is not a member of the GMEC;
- At least one Resident as nominated, selected, and approved by the Tulane Resident and Fellow Congress; and
- The GME Manager of Systems and Quality Improvement.

The DIO, or his or her appointed designee or the Assistant Dean of GME, as applicable, shall serve as the Chair of a Residency Program Special Review Committee.

**Residency Program Special Review Procedures.**

A Special Review shall be conducted upon notice provided to the Program Director of the Residency Program to be the subject of the Special Review and notice provided to the Chair of the clinical department in which the Residency Program is located, as promptly as reasonably practicable following a determination that a Special Review of a Residency Program is appropriate or required.

A Residency Program Special Review Committee will review the following materials and consider, as appropriate based on the purpose of the Special Review:
Compliance with the ACGME Common, Specialty/Subspecialty Program Requirements and Recognition Requirements, as applicable, and Sponsoring Institution policies and procedures.

Effectiveness in addressing areas of non-compliance and concerns in ACGME Letters of Notification, Progress Reports submitted to the ACGME or applicable ACGME Review Committee, or other responses to the ACGME.

A Residency Program’s requirements, policies, and relevant supporting documentation.

Effectiveness of administering and maintaining a learning environment conducive to educating Residents in each of the ACGME Competency domains.

Results from internal or external Resident and faculty surveys, including ACGME annual Resident/faculty surveys.

Availability of and sufficiency of graduate medical education administrative, educational and financial resources.

Information regarding Resident and graduate performance, including:

- case, procedure and volume logs;
- Board pass rates;
- faculty and Resident scholarly activity information; and
- graduate surveys, if available.

Annual Program Evaluations, including Residency Program improvement efforts in:

- Educational objectives and effectiveness in meeting those objectives;
- Faculty development;
- Resident and faculty well-being; and
- Resident and faculty diversity, equity and inclusion.

Any other data or materials that the Special Review Committee considers necessary or relevant to the review.

Prior to the first meeting of the Residency Program Special Review Committee, the Residency Program will provide all documents and materials requested by the Special Review Committee.

Residency Program Special Reviews – Meetings and Interviews.

A Residency Program Special Review Committee will meet with and interview leadership, faculty, and Residents of the Residency Program under review, including:

- The Program Director and the Associate Program Director.
- The Chair of the Residency Program’s department.
At least two core faculty members of the Residency Program, preferably from the major training sites associated with the program.

At least:

- two Residents from the Residency Program, selected by their peer Residents, for a Residency Program with twelve or fewer residents.
- four Residents from the Residency Program, selected by their peer Residents, for a Residency Program with more than twelve Residents.
- one peer-selected Resident from each ACGME accredited program training level.

The Residency Program’s Program Coordinator.

The Residency Program Special Review Committee may meet with and interview additional individuals as appropriate to the Special Review, including faculty, additional Residents, Residents from other Residency Programs and representatives from participating sites.

Residency Program Special Review Committees will review compliance with Sponsoring Institution policies and procedures, Residency Program policies and procedures and ACGME requirements.

A Special Review Committee may continue to meet with leadership, Residents or other individuals, as needed, throughout the Special Review process, until the conclusion of the Special Review.

Residency Program Special Review Reports.

Residency Program Special Review Committees will provide updates to the GMEC in relation to the Special Review.

Special Reviews shall result in a timely report that describes Residency Program quality improvement goals, any corrective actions, and the process for GMEC monitoring of outcomes in accordance with ACGME requirements (a “Residency Program Special Review Report”).

A Residency Program Special Review Report will specifically identify:

The name of Residency Program reviewed and the date or timeframe of the review;

the names and titles of each member of the Residency Program Special Review Committee;

a description of the reason for the review, based on applicable Residency Program Special Review Criteria;

a description of the review process, including a list of documents and information reviewed, the names of all individuals interviewed, or for Residents, the number of Residents interviewed by Residency Program year;

a summary of the Residency Program Special Review Committee’s findings;

quality improvement goals and any recommended or required corrective actions to achieve these goals, referenced to ACGME requirements, as applicable;

a timeframe for a written response from the Residency Program, including submission of an Action Plan, and
suggestions to the GMEC for monitoring of the Residency Program.

The Chair of the Residency Program Special Review Committee, or the Chair’s designee, shall present the Special Review Report to the GMEC as of the first GMEC meeting subsequent to the Special Review Committee completing its Special Review, or, in the event that the Special Review Report is not final as of the first GMEC meeting subsequent to the Review Committee completing its Special Review, the Chair of the Special Review Committee or designee will present a preliminary Residency Program Special Review Report to the GMEC, with the final report submitted to the GMEC prior to the next meeting of the GMEC.

A Residency Program Special Review Report will be provided to the Residency Program’s Program Director, the Program’s department Chair and the Dean of the School of Medicine following presentation to the GMEC and any comments from the GMEC.

The Residency Program’s Program Director and the department Chair will have an opportunity to respond to the findings in the Special Review Report and provide additional information to the GMEC.

Action Plans and Monitoring.

The Program Director of a Residency Program that has undergone a Special Review shall develop an action plan, which shall be subject to approval by the Chair of the clinical department in which the Residency Program is located, in response to the findings in the Residency Program Special Review Report that explains the Residency Program’s plan to address the quality improvement goals and any recommended corrective actions in the Special Review Report (an “Action Plan”).

A Residency Program’s Action Plan must include timeframes for implementation of the actions and elements of the Action Plan. The Program Director will be required to report to the GMEC, or to a Subcommittee of the GMEC (as determined by the GMEC) on progress against the Action Plan following timelines in the Action Plan and Report.

The GMEC, directly or through a Subcommittee, may require modifications or supplements to an Action Plan based on the Residency Program’s progress reports and performance. The GMEC shall document in its meeting minutes the progress made by the Residency Program under review against the Action Plan and any modifications or supplements made to an Action Plan.

The DIO will intervene in the event a Residency Program does not take appropriate actions, in a timely manner, consistent with an Action Plan or Special Review Committee recommendations and will escalate the concerns to the Dean of the School of Medicine or designee as appropriate.

e. The DIO also will intervene, on an early basis, notwithstanding the procedures and timeframe references otherwise set forth in this Section D.6, if the Residency Program Special Review Committee finds that there are egregious violations of University or School of Medicine policies or procedures, or of ACGME requirements. The DIO will oversee, with the GMEC or a Subcommittee of the GMEC (as determined by the GMEC), the expeditious development of the necessary Action Plan(s) to address such egregious violations, and shall ensure that there is immediate implementation, with continuous monitoring, of such Action Plan(s).

RECORD RETENTION

A copy of all documents used and created in the Internal and Special Reviews, including but not limited to, all Special and Internal Review Committee meeting schedules, minutes, and notes, documents and emails prepared by or for the Special and Internal Review Committees, and Internal Reviews and Special Review
Reports and less formal summary documents, including related Action Plans, must be assembled and provided to the GME Office, in electronic or hard copy form, to be retained indefinitely.
XXIV. POLICY ON ACGME COMMUNICATIONS

A. The Office of Graduate Medical Education encourages program directors to interact with their respective specialty-specific RRC for matters of guidance and advice as it pertains to their compliance with the Common and Program-specific ACGME regulations, except as noted in Chapter XXII.

B. The Associate Dean of GME and subsequently, the GMEC, must approve all communications with the ACGME that involve the following, prior to their submission.
   1. All applications for ACGME accreditation of new programs
   2. Changes in resident complement
   3. Major changes in program structure or length of training
   4. Additions and deletions of participating sites
   5. Appointments of new program directors
   6. Progress reports requested by any Review Committee
   7. Responses to all proposed adverse actions
   8. Requests for exceptions of resident duty hours
   9. Voluntary withdrawal of program accreditation
   10. Requests for an appeal of an adverse action
   11. Appeal presentations to a Board of Appeal or the ACGME.
   12. All requests for experimentation/innovation as it regards exceptions to the ACGME Common and Specialty-specific requirements.
I. **References**

In accordance with Section IV.M of the ACGME Institutional Requirements, the Sponsoring Institution must maintain a policy which states that neither the Sponsoring Institution nor any of its ACGME-accredited programs will require a resident to sign a non-competition guarantee or restrictive covenant.

II. **Policy**

Neither Tulane University School of Medicine nor any of its ACGME-accredited residency programs will require a resident to sign a non-competition guarantee or restrictive covenant. Resident agreements of appointment shall not include non-compete provisions or restrictive covenants.
APPENDIX A: THE RESIDENT AND FELLOW CONGRESS

A. ARTICLE ONE: NAME, PURPOSE, AND OBJECTIVES

Section 1. Name
The name of this organization shall be: The Tulane Resident and Fellow Congress

Section 2. Purpose
The Resident and Fellow Congress is the residents’ voice to ensure the Office of Graduate Medical Education’s mission of striving for excellence in education. This organization will provide a mechanism by which residents can participate directly in GME activities for the purpose of:
   A. Opening dialog to identify concerns and facilitate resolution
   B. Encouraging resident input into graduate medical education governance and policy
   C. Fostering professionalism, empathy and personal growth and development for our physicians in training
   D. Improving:
      a. The educational experience and opportunities
      b. Representation of the interest of its members in deliberations with affiliated hospitals on issues regarding working conditions and benefits
      c. Communication with other health care providers, program directors, the medical staff and administration
      d. Active membership and participation in constituent societies of organized medicine
      e. Overall quality of patient care
      f. Resident and resident’s significant other’s well-being through social and charitable activities

B. ARTICLE TWO: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Membership
The membership shall be comprised of all physicians holding an internship, residency, or fellowship appointment at Tulane University School of Medicine and its affiliated hospitals and clinics.

Section 2: Rights of Membership
Physician members in good standing shall be entitled to all privileges of membership as provided in the constitution and bylaws of the association, including the duty to vote and the right to hold office.

Section 3: Termination of Membership
Membership shall be terminated upon:
   A. Written resignation
   B. Death
   C. Completion of training program
   D. Transfer or dismissal from training program
   E. A determination by 2/3 majority vote of the Congress that an individual’s actions are contrary to the Constitution, Bylaws, or best interest of the Organization.
C. ARTICLE THREE: MEETINGS
   Section 1. Meetings
   All regular and annual meetings of the Resident and Fellow Congress shall be conducted following the guidelines
   of Robert’s Rules of Order.

   Section 2. Board Meeting
   The executive council shall meet at least six times annually, and other times as deemed necessary by the
   President.

   Section 3. Quorum
   No meeting of the Congress shall take place nor shall any business of the Congress be conducted in the absence
   of a quorum as outlined in the Bylaws to this constitution.

D. ARTICLE FOUR: OFFICERS
   Section 1. Election of Officers.
   A. Nominations for all the elected positions, except President-elect, shall be made by the Resident and Fellow
      Congress membership no less than 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting.
   B. Nominations for President-Elect shall take place before November 30. Election by majority shall take place
      in January.
   C. In the event that there are no nominations for an elected position, a special meeting of the Board shall be
      called and the position filled via appointment.
   D. Absentee voting may occur during the 30 days immediately prior to the election.
   E. Election will be determined by majority of votes received. Run-off elections will be held if no candidate
      receives a majority vote.

   Section 2. Officers
   A. GME Liaison: Assistant Dean of Graduate Medical Education
      1. Supervise all operations of the Resident Congress
      2. Avenue for direct interface between the Resident and Fellow Congress and the DIO and GMEC
      3. Assist and advise the President in Operations of the Resident and Fellow Congress
      4. Attend or designate attendee for all Annual and Special Congress meetings
   B. President—Duties of the President:
      1. Preside over all Annual and Special meetings; under the supervision of the GME Liaison
      2. Preside over all Board meetings
      3. Shall appoint all committee chairpersons and maintain summary documentation of active committee’s
         and agenda items. This will be communicated to the GME Liaison at least quarterly
      4. Serve as an ex-officio member of all committees
      5. Within seven days of any meeting submit, in writing to the GME Liaison, all recommendations arising
         from the Resident and Fellow Congress
      6. Maintain open lines of communication with the GME Liaison on all issues which pertain to and
         encompass the overall Resident and Fellow Congress goals and objectives
      7. Serve as the Resident and Fellow Congress GMEC representative and report findings to this
         organization
   C. Vice-President (President-Elect)—Duties of the Vice-President:
      1. Preside over all meetings where the President is not in attendance
      2. Will work directly with the president to help supervise the operations of the association
      3. Facilitate communication between committees and departments
      4. Will be a representative to meeting with the chief residents of all departments.
5. May serve as Chairperson of any committee
6. Serve as the Graduate Medical Education Committee representative

D. Secretary—Duties of the Secretary:
   1. Maintains a current roster of membership and Board members
   2. Oversees interdepartmental communications
   3. Ensures the taking of minutes and communications
   4. Chair of Membership Committee.

E. Treasurer—Duties of Treasurer:
   1. Provide the Association with a proposed balanced budget for the year
   2. Keep the Association informed on monetary issues affecting the Association
   3. Chair of Finance Committee
   4. Investigate mechanism’s for funding

Section 3. Terms
Officers shall be elected or appointed for the term of one academic year at the Annual Meeting, with the exception of the President-Elect who will begin service when elected and become President at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting.

Section 4. Qualifications
Candidates for elected or appointed offices shall be a member in good standing.
Candidates for the office of President-Elect must be members in good standing for at least one year before running for office.
Exceptions must be approved by the Board.

Section 5. Vacancies
Elected or appointed officers will be considered vacant when an officer ceases to perform their duties secondary to death, resignation, removal and/or disqualification.

Section 6. Removal of Officers.
An officer may be removed during any Annual or Board meeting by a simple majority vote.
The officer shall be afforded due process prior to any dismissal proceedings.
Any officer who disqualifies from membership immediately ceases to be an officer.

E. ARTICLE FIVE: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Board Membership.
A. The Executive Board shall consist of a minimum of the President, Vice-President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer and six Directors; one shall be from a surgical residency program, one shall be from a non-surgical residency program, two shall be interns from any program, one shall be a fellow, and one shall be from any program.
B. All board member terms expire at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting following their election.

Section 2. Selection of Executive Board Members
A. The Directors of the Board shall be elected by majority vote at the Annual Meeting according to Article Four, Section 1 of the Constitution.
B. Qualifications, vacancies and removal of members from the Executive Board will follow the same guidelines as other officers.
Section 3. Meetings of the Board
A. All meetings of the Resident and Fellow Congress Executive Board shall be conducted under the Robert’s Rules of Order.

B. Special meetings of the Executive Board may be called by either the President or by the majority of Board members. The GME Liaison will be notified of Board meetings and attends upon formal invitation. The GME Liaison will attend all Annual and Regular Resident and Fellow Congress meetings.

Section 4. Duties of the Board of Directors
The duties of the Executive Board members shall be:
A. Advise the officers on matters brought to the association’s attention
B. To aid in developing policy that shall guide the affairs of the Resident and Fellow Congress
C. To assist in the dissemination of information to the members and serve as a voice from their represented departments
D. To assist in the dissemination of information from the Executive Board back to their respective departments.

F. ARTICLE SIX: COMMITTEES
The committees of the Association shall be composed of members of the Congress. Committees will be designated each year according to the concerns and goals of the Congress.

G. ARTICLE SEVEN: DUES, FUNDING AND ASSESSMENT
Funds may be set by annual dues or assessment of the members or on recommendation of the Board as provided by the bylaws.

H. ARTICLE EIGHT: AMMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION
1. The Resident and Fellow Congress Constitution may be amended at any annual meeting.
2. Proposed amendments to the constitution shall be presented in writing to the Tulane Dean of Graduate Medical Education and publicized to the membership at least six months prior to the proposed amendment shall be considered
3. Members in good standing may vote in absentee with a signed letter to be opened only at the time of counting votes.
4. An amendment to the Constitution must be approved by a ¾ majority voting membership in order to pass.
Bylaws
Tulane University School of Medicine:
Resident and Fellow Congress

Article I. Membership
Section 1. Good standing
A member shall be considered to be in good standing who currently is a resident or a fellow with Tulane University and is not on probation or serving any disciplinary sanctions.

Section 2. Privileges
A member in good standing shall have the:
- Right to vote
- Right to hold office
- Right to serve on the committees
- Right to participate and attend all meetings

Section 3. GME Liaison
The GME Liaison shall be the Assistant Dean of GME and he shall serve as the interface between the Resident Congress and the DIO and GMEC. The GME Liaison will provide direct supervision and function in an advisory role. The GME Liaison will attend all Regular, Special and Annual Resident Congress Meetings.

Article II. Meetings
Section 1. Board meetings
A. Any member of the Resident Congress may attend any general meeting. Any person other than Resident Congress members, who wish to participate in discussions of an agenda item pertinent to their responsibility, must be invited by either a member of the Board or one of the officers.

B. The TRFC reserves the right to meet without the DIO, faculty members, or other administrators present.

C. Board meeting may be called into executive session restricted to Officers and Directors upon 2/3 majority vote of the Board members present at a Board meeting.

Section 2. Special meetings
Special or executive board meeting may be called at any time by the President or upon written request of a majority of the Board.

Section 3. Annual Meetings
Annual Meetings shall be held each May according to the Constitution. The GME Liaison will attend both Annual and Regular Congress Meetings.

Section 4. Regular Meetings
Regular Meetings shall be held quarterly.

Section 5. Quorum
An assembly of 1/3 of the membership shall constitute a quorum for the conduction of business of all Annual and Special meeting of the Congress.

An assembly of 50% of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the conduction of business at all Board meetings. Board members on scheduled vacation, leave of absence or rotations more than 30 miles from Tulane’s downtown medical campus are excused from Board meetings and shall not count for or against a quorum.

Article III. Officers
Section 1. Voting
Absentee voting may occur during seven days immediately prior to the election by submitting ballots to the Resident Congress Secretary or designee.
Each member voting absentee shall initial the roster signifying that the member has voted. The roster and ballots shall be submitted to the Assistant Dean of GME’s office the day prior to the election.

The GME Liaison shall be a non-voting member.

Section 2. Due process
An officer or executive board member may be removed from office at any Annual, Special, or Board meeting of the Congress.

The officer or Board member shall be given notice of the intent to remove one week prior to the meeting. The officer shall have the right to speak on his/her behalf to the general assembly prior to any removal vote.

Article IV. Vacancies
A vacancy of any elected office shall be filled by a member nominated by the President and confirmed by simple majority vote of the Board at any Board meeting. A vacancy in the office of President shall be filled by the Vice-President.

Article V. Board
The Board shall be comprised of intern, resident and fellow members.

Article VI. Committees
Committee Chairpersons shall be appointed by the President. All committee members shall be selected at the discretion of the Chairperson.

Any person other than committee members that should attend a committee meeting must be invited by one of the committee members.

Any person denied participation on any committee shall have the right to petition the Congress for review. The Board shall have the power by majority vote to assign additional committee members.

Article VIII. Amendments
The Resident Congress Bylaws may be amended at any Annual, Special, or Board meeting.

Proposed amendments to the Bylaws shall be presented in writing at least one meeting before the proposed amendment shall be considered. The two meetings must be at least fourteen days apart.

Members in good standing may vote in absentee with a signed letter to be opened only at the time of counting the votes.

An amendment to the Bylaws must be approved by a 2/3 majority of the voting membership in order to pass.

Bylaws changes shall be forwarded to the Tulane Dean of Graduate Medical Education upon their passage.

Article VIII. Reporting
The President of the Resident Congress shall report, to the GME Liaison, within seven days and in writing, the minutes and recommendations from all meetings. The President in consultation with the GME Liaison shall regularly report to the GMEC. The GME Liaison is responsible to directly oversee operations of the Resident Congress.
Tulane University School of Medicine
Mission and Statement of Commitment to Graduate Medical Education
December 21, 2021

Mission

Tulane University School of Medicine’s mission for graduate medical education is to ensure that each of its residents and fellows are provided an educational experience of the highest quality. The School of Medicine strives to be a true leader in graduate medical education, with a vision of being a distinctive, preeminent research-intensive medical school for residents, fellows, students, and all trainees, transforming health through discovery, lifelong learning, and patient-centered health care.

As part of the School of Medicine’s responsibility to provide an educational experience of the highest quality, our mission includes supporting and expanding equity, diversity, and inclusion in graduate medical education. We firmly believe that equity, diversity, and inclusion in all our residency and fellowship programs improves education, provides tremendous opportunities for community engagement, and creates better-trained physicians.

Statement of Commitment

Tulane University School of Medicine is committed to providing organized graduate medical educational programs with guidance and supervision of residents and fellows and facilitation of their professional and personal development, while ensuring safe and appropriate care for patients. Graduate medical education is integral to the missions of Tulane University and the School of Medicine. The School’s graduate medical education programs are conducted in compliance with the requirements of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, as applicable.

As the sponsoring institution for all Tulane University graduate medical education programs, the School of Medicine is committed to ensuring the provision of the administrative, educational, financial, human, and clinical resources necessary to support each of the School’s graduate medical education programs, its residents, fellows, faculty, and staff. The School of Medicine’s support includes the provision of the necessary facilities, equipment, and personnel required for successful graduate medical education training.

The School of Medicine’s commitment is monitored and further supported by the Tulane University Board of Administrators, the Dean of the School of Medicine, the Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education (Designated Institutional Official), the Chairs of the School of Medicine’s clinical departments and by the School of Medicine’s Graduate Medical Education Committee.

Michael A. Fitts
President, Tulane University
As a representative of the Board of Tulane University

Lee Hamm, MD
Dean, Tulane University School of Medicine
As a representative of School of Medicine senior administration

Paul Gladden, MD
Designated Institutional Official
TULANE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE RESIDENT AGREEMENT
1430 Tulane Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana 70112

THIS AGREEMENT between The Administrators of the Tulane Educational Fund, on behalf of the Tulane University School of Medicine (the “School of Medicine”) and __________ (“Resident”) is entered into for the period from dd/mm/yyyy through dd/mm/yyyy. Under the sponsorship of the School of Medicine and supervision by faculty members of the School of Medicine, Resident will serve as a ____(#) (PGY) year resident in the ______________ Residency/Fellowship Program (the “Program”).

1. Policies and Procedures Resident Handbook. The Resident and Staff Graduate Medical Education Policies and Procedures for ___ (hereinafter “the Manual”) contains the institutional guidelines, policies and procedures governing the selection, appointment, evaluation, and retention of residents at the School of Medicine, including policies referenced in this Agreement. Resident will receive a copy of the Manual during orientation and it is posted on the GME website (https://medicine.tulane.edu/education/graduate-medical-education). The Manual, and the policies therein, are subject to revision from time to time. It is the responsibility of Resident to be familiar with the information contained in the Manual, including any revisions, and to be in compliance with the policies and procedures contained in the Manual at all times during the term of this Agreement.

2. [IV.C.2.c)] Stipend. Commencing dd/mm/yyyy through dd/mm/yyyy, Resident will receive an annualized stipend of $_________. The stipend is subject to the applicable federal and state income tax, social security tax, and other applicable deductions.

3. [IV.C.2.i)] Leaves. The School of Medicine provides for discretionary vacation, sick leave, parental leave, bereavement leave, educational leave and additional leaves of absence as further set forth in the Section 2, XI of the Manual.

4. [IV.C.2.j)] Effect of Leave. The use of leave exceeding the time frames established by the School of Medicine or by the Program may require an extension of Resident’s training in order for Resident to satisfy requirements for Program completion and eligibility to participate in specialty board examinations. Further information on the effects of leave and timely notice regarding the effects of leave are set forth in Section 2, XI of the Manual.

5. [IV.C.2.c)] Additional Benefits.

a. Support Services. The School of Medicine provides access to confidential, affordable medical health assessments, counseling, medical and psychological support services and treatment, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, as further detailed in the Manual.

b. [IV.C.2.g)]; [IV.C.2.h)] Benefits; Disability Insurance; Health Insurance. Subject to the terms and conditions of the plan documents and underlying insurance policies in effect from time to time, Resident is eligible to participate in employee benefit programs generally
available to School of Medicine residents. These benefit programs currently include payment of premiums for life insurance and disability insurance. Health insurance is offered for residents and their eligible dependents. These and other benefits, including enrollment information, as applicable, are described more fully in benefit summaries on the web site of the School of Medicine (https://medicine.tulane.edu/education/graduate-medical-education/resources-residents-fellows) and in Section 2, V of the Manual on financial and resource support of residents. Eligibility for medical insurance benefits and disability insurance benefits for Resident and Resident’s eligible dependents begin on the first day that Resident is required to report for residency/fellowship. Residents new to a residency program at the School of Medicine will need to select and enroll in a medical insurance plan, or waive coverage, within the applicable enrollment period.

c. [IV.C.2.f] **Professional Insurance.** Professional liability insurance coverage for claims arising from care and treatment provided by Resident while acting in the course and scope of his/her/their residency program at the School of Medicine or other Tulane affiliated facilities (“Tulane”) is a combination of coverages that include qualification of residents with the Louisiana Patient’s Compensation Fund (“PCF”) pursuant to La. R.S. 40:1231.1 et seq. (the Louisiana Medical Malpractice Act, the “Act”). Residents are enrolled with the PCF and are qualified health care providers entitled to the protections and benefits of the Act, including the limitation of liability. The Act’s statutory scheme includes Tulane’s coverage of residents by its Self-Insurance Program. Both of these coverages are occurrence based and provide legal defense and protection against claims or actions arising out of an event that occurred while the person was a resident acting on behalf of the School of Medicine in Louisiana, regardless of when the action is filed. Coverage with respect to State of Louisiana and/or Federal facilities have separate coverages from the School of Medicine’s Program and additional information pertaining to such coverages can be found in Section 2, V in the Manual, if applicable. Tulane also secures excess coverage by commercial insurance policies that apply to claims arising when residents are rotating or acting in the course and scope of his/her/their residency on behalf of Tulane in other states than Louisiana. These excess insurance policies are claims made.

d. [IV.C.2.k] **Educational Resources; Board Eligibility.** Resident shall have access to information related to eligibility for specialty-based examinations. Information related to eligibility for specialty board examinations is maintained by and available from each Program.

6. [IV.C.2.b] **Duration of Appointment/Termination.**

a. **One-Year Term.** The term of this Agreement is one year, as stated in the opening paragraph of this Agreement. Resident is not guaranteed subsequent reappointment even if Resident is participating in a residency program that requires multiple years of training to complete the residency.

b. [IV.C.2.d] **Condition for Reappointment and Promotion.** Reappointment and promotion decisions are based on Resident’s performance in the Program. Conditions for reappointment and promotion to a subsequent program year are described Section 3, XIV in the Manual. Any subsequent appointment will be documented by execution of a new agreement.
c. **Termination/Dismissal.** During the term of this Agreement, the School of Medicine may dismiss Resident from the Program and terminate this Agreement according to the conditions and processes described in the Manual, including due to a failure by Resident to adhere to academic, clinical and professional program and institution standards. This Agreement will terminate as of the effective date of a dismissal of Resident from his/her/their Program.

7. **[IV.C.2.e)] Grievances and Due Process.** The School of Medicine’s policy relating to resident grievances and the appeals and fair hearing policy and procedure is set forth in Section 3, XV of the Manual. Residents are afforded a hearing with respect to certain actions, including suspension, non-renewal of a resident contract, non-promotion or resident dismissal.

8. **[IV.C.2.a)] Resident Responsibilities.** Resident physicians must:

a. Meet the qualifications for resident eligibility outlined in Section 1, I of the Manual.

b. Comply with Tulane’s verification procedures, which include:

   i) Provide identification verification (social security number and additional verifications) and verification of Resident’s right to work in the United States, as further outlined in **Section 18** of this Agreement.

   ii) Provide proof of Resident’s compliance with the School of Medicine’s then-current immunization policy.

   iii) Accurately complete the Tulane application for appointment including all information requested and return the document in a timely manner prior to the hiring date so all information can be verified including medical school and previous residency training prior to beginning patient responsibilities.

   iv) If Resident’s eligibility for employment is dependent on the Resident’s ability to obtain appropriate immigration status, such status must be obtained on or prior to the date on which the Resident’s appointment is scheduled to begin.

   v) Completion of authorization forms as may be required for participation in the Program or in connection with the appointment application.

c. Obtain, prior to the start of employment, and thereafter maintain, a full, unrestricted Louisiana medical license or a training permit from the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (LSBME). In connection with obtaining a medical license in Louisiana, Resident must undergo and satisfy LSBME’s applicable background checks.

d. Develop a personal program of self-study and professional growth under the general supervision of appropriately credentialed attending teaching staff.

e. Participate in safe, effective and compassionate patient care under supervision, commensurate with Resident’s level of training, advancement and responsibility.

f. Participate fully in the educational activities of the Resident’s program and, as required, assume responsibility for teaching and supervising medical students, and other residents.
g. Participate fully in institutional orientation and activities and attend/participate in at least fifty percent of education programs and other activities involving the medical staff.

h. Participate in institutional programs and activities involving the medical staff and adhere to professional standards of the medical staff.

i. Develop an understanding of ethical, socioeconomic and medical/legal issues that affect graduate medical education and participate in institutional committees and councils, especially those committees or councils that conduct patient care/peer reviews or involve quality assurance or quality improvement. Resident is expected to apply appropriate cost containment measures in the provision of patient care.

j. Keep charts, records, and/or reports up to date and signed in compliance with applicable medical record policies at all times. Failure to complete medical records and outstanding clinical or academic paperwork will result in discipline, including, but not limited to, suspension without pay.

k. Follow applicable rules, regulations, policies and procedures of Tulane University School of Medicine, Tulane University and its affiliated institutions.

l. Act in a professional and ethical manner.

Resident’s failure to meet and continue to satisfy each of the responsibilities listed in this Section 8 may result in discipline, up to and including dismissal and termination of this Agreement.

9. Resident Review. The position of a resident physician in the School of Medicine involves a combination of supervised, progressively more complex and independent patient evaluation and management functions and formal educational activities. Resident’s competence and progress in clinical training is evaluated on a regular basis in accordance with the Manual.

10. Closures or Reduction in Funding. In the event the School of Medicine decides to close or decides to close or reduce the size of residency or fellowship program, affected residents will be notified as soon as possible. The School of Medicine will work to replace those training slots at another institution affiliated with the School of Medicine to allow current residents in affected program(s) to complete their residency at the School of Medicine or assistance will be provided to residents in enrolling in another ACGME-accredited program in which residents can continue their education, as detailed in the School of Medicine’s Policy on Closure, Reduction or Expansion set forth in the Manual.

11. Counseling Services, Disability, and Impairment. The School of Medicine provides access and/or referral to medical, psychological and/or financial counseling, and support services as described in the Manual. The Manual describes the policies pertaining to residents with disabilities and includes policies relating to physician impairment and substance abuse.

12. [IV.C.2.I)] Clinical and Educational Work Hours. Resident’s training, research, teaching and clinical assignments are the primary responsibility of Resident’s program with additional review
and approval by the Chairman of the Department of [______________]. Resident’s work hours will be consistent with program requirements and School of Medicine work hour limitations, as further set out in Section 2, VIII of the Manual.

13. **[IV.C.2.d] Moonlighting.** The School of Medicine has incorporated policies covering professional activities outside of the residency program (moonlighting) into the Manual at Section 2, VI. First year residents (PGY-1 residents) are not permitted to moonlight. Resident agrees to abide by the School of Medicine’s moonlighting policy.

14. **Harassment/Discrimination.** The School of Medicine is committed to maintaining a learning environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. Concerns related to harassment, discrimination, or unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature will be handled as described in Tulane University’s Equal Opportunity/Anti-Discrimination Policy. A copy of Tulane’s EO/Anti-Discrimination Policy can be found at: https://equity.tulane.edu/report-claim/policies. All concerns related to harassment, discrimination, or unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature should be directed to the Office of Institutional Equity (504-862-8083) or at oie@tulane.edu, or by submitting a concerns report at Tulane.edu/concerns.

15. **Severability.** If any provision of this Agreement is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this Agreement not held so invalid, and each such other provision shall, to the full extent consistent with law, continue in full force and effect.

16. **Modification and Waiver.** This Agreement may not be modified or amended except by an instrument in writing signed by the parties hereto. No term or condition of this Agreement shall be deemed to have been waived, nor shall there be any estoppel against the enforcement of any provision of this Agreement, except by written instrument of the party charged with such waiver or estoppel. No such written waiver shall be deemed a continuing waiver unless specifically stated therein, and each such waiver shall operate only as to the specific term or condition waived and shall not constitute a waiver of such term or condition for the future or as to any act other than that specifically waived.

17. **Governing Law.** This Agreement is made in the state of Louisiana and shall be controlled by the laws of the state of Louisiana in all matters or interpretations of this Agreement.

18. **Eligibility for Employment: ** The Immigration Reform and Control Act requires that the identity and residency status of all persons employed by Tulane University be verified and that the candidate be legally eligible for employment in the United States. On or before the Resident’s first day of employment the Resident must present documentation to establish the Resident’s identity and employment eligibility and complete an Employment Eligibility Verification form. This appointment is contingent upon Resident’s production of such documents and completion of the required form upon Resident’s date of hire. In addition, Tulane University participates in the Department of Homeland Security’s E-Verify program. This appointment is also contingent on receiving an appropriate authorization from the Department of Homeland Security.

I accept the appointment outlined above and agree to all rules and regulations of Tulane University, the School of Medicine and of the affiliation institution/participating sites to which I am assigned. I agree to discharge all the duties of a resident as determined jointly by the affiliated institutions and the respective
directors of training programs at Tulane University School of Medicine, and I acknowledge that I have read and understand the institutional policies in the Manual referred to in Paragraph 1.

ACCEPTED:

________________________, M.D.
Date
Resident/Fellow Signature

________________________, M.D.
Resident/Fellow Printed Name

________________________
Date
Residency/Fellowship Program Director Signature

________________________
Residency/Fellowship Program Director Printed Name

________________________
Date
Program Department Chair Signature

________________________
Program Department Chair Printed Name

________________________
Date
Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education/DIO

________________________
Associate Dean Printed Name
Appendix D: ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Tulane University
School of Medicine
Office of Graduate Medical Education
2021-2022

President
Michael A. Fink, MD

Provost
Robb Forman, MD

Senior VP/Dean*
L. Lee Barnes, MD

Associate Dean & DOO
Paul Gladden, MD

Resident Fellowship Committee

*The Dean reports to the President as Senior Vice President and to the Provost for academic appointments.

1. Replaced Rebecca Schroll, MD, effective November 2021.
2. Replaced on GMEC by John Carlson, MD, effective October 2021.
4. Geriatric Medicine is represented by Internal Medicine

November 2021
Appendix E: CODE CLOUD AND CODE GREY ARMY COVERAGE ASSIGNMENTS

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<th>CODE CLOUD: TULANE</th>
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<tr>
<td>b. Intensive care medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>c. General surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td>d. General pediatrics (Lodging only)</td>
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<td>e. Pediatric ICU (Lodging only)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>f. OB/Gyn (Lodging only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>i. Ophthalmology</td>
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<tr>
<td>ii. Urology</td>
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<tr>
<td>iii. Orthopedics</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv. Oncology</td>
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<tr>
<td>v. Neurology</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>vi. Gastroenterology</td>
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<td>vii. Interventional radiology</td>
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<tr>
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<td>c. General surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PRECAUTIONARY SERVICES</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Faculty</td>
<td>(To be shared with LSU)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii. Urology</td>
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<td>(To be shared with LSU)</td>
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<td>iii. Orthopedics</td>
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<td>viii. Diagnostic radiology</td>
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<td><strong>PRECAUTIONARY SERVICES</strong></td>
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<td>vii. Interventional radiology</td>
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<td>viii. Diagnostic radiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>ix. Anesthesiology</td>
<td>Faculty</td>
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Appendix F: List of Affiliated Sites

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<tr>
<th>Institution Code</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution Type</th>
<th>Ownership or Control Type</th>
<th>Recognized Healthcare Entity by</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>210485</td>
<td>Tulane University Hospital and Clinics</td>
<td>General/Teaching Hospital</td>
<td>For-profit</td>
<td>Joint Commission</td>
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<td>210863</td>
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<td>Jefferson Parish School System</td>
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<td>Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System</td>
<td>Specialty Hospital</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Governmental Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>219542</td>
<td>Renew School Clinic</td>
<td>Specialty Hospital</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Governmental Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>219549</td>
<td>Recovery School District-New Orleans Therapeutic Day Program</td>
<td>Specialty Hospital</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Governmental Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21C118</td>
<td>Bridge City Correctional Facility for Youth</td>
<td>Specialty Hospital</td>
<td>Ambulatory Care Clinic/Office</td>
<td>Governmental Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21C954</td>
<td>Jefferson Parish Coroner's Office</td>
<td>Specialty Hospital</td>
<td>Community Hospital</td>
<td>Governmental Agency</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX G: ANNUAL EVALUATION AND SELF-STUDY TEMPLATE

Annual Program Evaluation Template

Academic Year (AY) ________

Use this template for aggregating information from a single year's Annual Program Evaluation. The template is suggested, and you may adapt it in any way you find useful to facilitate program improvement. You may also use attachments or appendices if additional detail is relevant to tracking a given issue.

Program: __________________________ Date: ______________

A. Membership: Program Evaluation Committee (Include PGY level for peer-elected residents participating) and a narrative account of the process used to conduct the annual review

1.  
2.  
3.  
4.  
5.  
6.  
7.  
8.  
9.  
10.  

B. Mandatory Source Data to be used in the annual review, and to be provided directly to the GME Office.
   a. Board Pass Rate by resident
   b. In-Service scores by resident
   c. USMLE scores by resident

C. Additional Source Data used in the review of the training program

   Resident of Rotation Evaluations  
   Resident of Program Evaluations  
   Resident of Faculty Evaluations  
   Resident of Institution Evaluations  
   Faculty of Program Evaluations  
   Duty Hour Reports  
   Evaluation compliance  
   ACGME survey data  
   Internal survey data  
   Summary results of resident focus groups/retreats  
   In-service Scores  
   Board Pass Rate/Scores  
   Procedure/Case Log Reports  
   Scholarly activity  
   Fellowship/Career Placement results  
   Recruitment/Match results/scores  
   Other ______________________
D. Program Goals for Improvement from the Previous Year and Interval Progress Reports

1. Goal
   Result

2. Goal
   Result

3. Goal
   Result

E. The Three Areas of Greatest Improvement for the Coming Year. Goals should be operationalized as SMART Goals (Specific, Measurable, Aggressive but Realistic, Time-Limited)

1. Goal
   Narrative description of the action plan

2. Goal
   Narrative description of the action plan

3. Goal
   Narrative description of the action plan

F. Narrative response to all Faculty and Resident ACGME survey responses that were below 80% compliance (identify the source/cause of the fallout, and planned corrective action).

G. A descriptive account of the quality improvement project(s) conducted by the residents over the previous year. Include resident and faculty participants, the topic, source data used to inform the project, and project results.