

## SECTION X. AOA PROGRAM ACCREDITATION DURING TRANSITION TO SINGLE ACCREDITATION SYSTEM

### 10.1 Revisions to Specialty Basic Standards

The specialty college must provide documentation to COPT validating a need for the revisions to their specialty basic standards.

### 10.2 New Program Approvals

New AOA program applications after July 1, 2015 will require evidence of a documented plan for transition to ACGME accreditation.

### 10.3 Increase Approvals

- a. Applications for program increases will require evidence that the program is in a Medicare cap building period or provide other valid rationale (e.g., an increase to comply with ACGME program size requirements or increase to apply and benefit from other public sources of funding) to warrant the increase in size.
- b. Applications for program increase after July 1, 2015 will require evidence of a documented plan for transition to ACGME accreditation.

### 10.4 ACGME Accreditation Status

- a. The ACGME accreditation status of AOA OPTIs, institutions, or programs (pre-accreditation, continued pre-accreditation, initial accreditation contingent, initial accreditation, etc) is considered a substantive change and requires reporting to the AOA, SPEC, and OPTI as required by Standard A.5.2.

### 10.5 AOA Program Actions

The PTRC has the ability to place a program on probation with or without the ability to recruit.

- a. AOA training programs may not accept trainees beyond the date in which the trainee can complete the program by June 30, 2020 if the program has not made application for program accreditation by the ACGME. The program may only participate in the AOA Match, or in other contracting arrangements such as signing outside the Match, if such application has been submitted by the dates indicated in Chart A below.

**Chart A**

Length of Training (Years)	Specialty	Program must stop accepting trainees if no ACGME application is submitted by:
One	Traditional Rotating Internship Aerospace medicine NMM +1	January 1, 2019 (Last Match Feb. 2019)
Two	Child and Adolescent Neurology Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Occupational/environmental medicine Public health and preventive medicine	January 1, 2019
Three	Dermatology Family Medicine Internal Medicine NMM/OMM (including preliminary year) Pediatrics Proctologic Surgery	January 1, 2018

<b>Length of Training (Years)</b>	<b>Specialty</b>	<b>Program must stop accepting trainees if no ACGME application is submitted by:</b>
Four	Anatomic Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Anesthesiology Emergency Medicine FM/NMM ** IM/NMM ** IM/Pediatrics Neurology OB-GYN Ophthalmology (including preliminary year) PMR (including preliminary year) Psychiatry	January 1, 2017
Five	Diagnostic Radiology (including preliminary year) EM/FM ** EM/IM ** General Surgery Orthopedic Surgery Otolaryngology & Facial Plastic Surgery Radiation Oncology (including preliminary year) Urological Surgery	January 1, 2017
Seven	Neurological Surgery	January 1, 2017

\*\* With the exception of IM/pediatrics, combined (and integrated) programs must submit a curriculum to the appropriate AOA and/or ABMS certifying boards for approval (after parent programs have applied for ACGME accreditation) in order to accept trainees beyond the deadline date in the chart.

- b. AOA fellowship programs that do not apply for ACGME accreditation cannot accept new trainees after July 1 of the year in which the fellow can complete their training by June 30, 2020. Programs may participate in matching or signing fellows if such application has been submitted by the dates indicated in Chart B below.

**Chart B**

<b>Length of Training (Years)</b>	<b>Sub-Specialties</b>	<b>Program must stop accepting trainees if no ACGME application is submitted by:</b>
One	Addiction Medicine Anesthesiology-Pain Management Cardiac Electrophysiology Critical Care-Surgery Dermatopathology Forensic Pathology Forensic Psychiatry Geriatric Medicine-FM	January 1, 2019

Length of Training (Years)	Sub-Specialties	Program must stop accepting trainees if no ACGME application is submitted by:
One	Geriatric Psychiatry Geriatrics-IM (Clinical Track) Gynecologic Oncology Hand Surgery Hospice And Palliative Medicine Interventional Cardiology MOHS Micrographic Surgery Musculoskeletal Oncology Neurophysiology Orthopedic Sports Medicine Otolaryngic Allergy Pain Medicine Pediatric Anesthesiology Pediatric Dermatology Pediatric Radiology Sleep Medicine Sports Medicine Transplant Hepatology Undersea And Hyperbaric Medicine Vascular/Interventional Radiology	January 1, 2019
Two	Adult And Pediatric Allergy And Immunology Cardiothoracic Surgery (Independent Program) Correctional Medicine Critical Care-Medicine Emergency Medicine Services Endocrinology General Vascular Surgery Geriatrics-Internal Medicine (Academic Track) Infectious Diseases Medical Toxicology Nephrology Oncology Pediatric/Emergency Medicine ** Pulmonary Diseases Rheumatology	January 1, 2019
Three	Cardiology Female Pelvic Med/Reconstructive Surgery Gastroenterology Gynecological Oncology Hematology & Oncology Maternal Fetal Medicine Neonatal Medicine Pulmonary-Critical Care Reproductive Endocrinology Plastic Surgery (Independent Program)	January 1, 2018

See footnotes under Chart A

**c. Program Eligibility For 2019 AOA Match / Accept New Trainees That Would Complete Training After June 30, 2020**

- i. Programs that can participate in the 2019 AOA Match / accept trainees that would complete training after June 30, 2020:
  - Programs with both AOA and ACGME accreditation;
  - Combined/integrated programs acknowledged by ACGME;
  - Internship programs that have applied for ACGME accreditation by 1/1/19 or receive a waiver from PTRC;
  - Nmm+1 programs that have applied for ACGME accreditation by 1/1/19 or receive a waiver from PTRC; and
  - Fellowship programs 1-year-in-length that have applied for ACGME accreditation by 1/1/19 or receive a waiver from PTRC.
- ii. Programs whose 2019 AOA Match eligibility / ability to accept trainees that would complete training after June 30, 2020 will be determined on a case-by-case basis by PTRC at its august 2018 meeting (see standard 10.6.a and 10.6.b):
  - Programs with a status of continued pre-accreditation; and
  - Programs with a status of initial accreditation contingent upon sponsoring institution initial accreditation.
- iii. Programs that cannot participate in the 2019 AOA Match / accept trainees that would complete training after June 30, 2020 (unless a waiver is granted by PTRC):
  - Programs with pre-accreditation (except internships, one-year fellowships, and nmm+1 programs);
  - Combined/integrated programs not acknowledged by ACGME; and
  - Programs approved by PTRC after July 1, 2015 not accredited by ACGME.

**10.6 Continued Pre-Accreditation Status**

a. Program continued pre-accreditation status: AOA programs that do not have ACGME initial or continued accreditation as of May 1, 2018 must work with their OPTI and sponsoring institution to develop and submit a plan by June 1, 2018 in order to participate in the 2019 AOA Match / accept trainees that would complete training after June 30, 2020. The plan must include:

- The number of instances the program has been reviewed by the ACGME review committee;
- Areas not in compliance (citations) as well as any citations that have been resolved;
- How the program plans to address all citations and achieve initial accreditation;
- An estimate of when the program will be reviewed again by the ACGME review committee; and
- Whether the program has utilized the AOA's application assistance program.

The plan will be reviewed by the Specialty College Evaluating Committee (SPEC) and PTRC for approval of recruitment eligibility at its summer 2018 meeting. This does not negate continued application for ACGME initial accreditation.

b. Institution continued pre-accreditation status: AOA institutions that do not have ACGME initial or continued accreditation as of May 1, 2018 must work with their OPTI

and sponsoring institution to develop and submit a plan by June 1, 2018 in order to participate in the 2019 AOA match / accept trainees that would complete training after June 30, 2020. The plan must include:

- The number of instances the institution has been reviewed by the ACGME review committee;
- The number of programs affected by the institution's continued pre-accreditation status;
- Areas not in compliance (citations) as well as any citations that have been resolved;
- How the institution plans to address all citations and achieve initial accreditation;
- An estimate of when the institution will be reviewed again by the ACGME review committee; and
- Whether the institution has utilized the AOA's application assistance program.

The plan will be reviewed by the Internship and Institution Evaluating Committee (IIEC) and PTRC for approval of the institution's program recruitment eligibility at its summer 2018 PTRC meeting. This does not negate continued application for ACGME initial accreditation.

- c. Institutions and programs that receive continued pre-accreditation from the ACGME review committee twice must utilize the AOA's application assistance program.
- d. AOA programs that do not have ACGME initial or continued accreditation as of July 1, 2019 must work with their OPTI and sponsoring institution to develop and submit a plan by September 1, 2019 for the potential transfer of all trainees to an ACGME accredited program or to teach out the remaining trainees under the AOA's restricted accreditation authority. The plan will be reviewed by the Specialty College Evaluating Committee (SPEC) and PTRC for approval at its November 2019 PTRC meeting. This does not negate continued application for ACGME initial accreditation.

### 10.7 ACGME Application Status

- a. Any AOA approved programs that have not submitted an application for ACGME accreditation by July 1, 2016 will have the following information displayed on the Opportunities website:  
"This program has not submitted an application for ACGME accreditation."  
In addition, the AOA staff will notify the appropriate specialty college and OPTI.
- b. Any AOA approved programs that submit an application for ACGME accreditation by July 1, 2016, or that are dually-accredited, and that submit an application for ACGME Osteopathic Recognition by July 1, 2016, will have the following information displayed on the Opportunities website:  
"This program has submitted an application for ACGME Osteopathic Recognition."  
This information will be updated annually and in addition, the AOA staff will notify the appropriate specialty college and OPTI.

### 10.8 Exemptions

PTRC has the ability to approve exemptions to Section X policies on a case-by-case basis.

### 10.9 Expedited Appeal

Training programs have 30 days after the date of the decision letter from the PTRC with which to appeal a Standards X decision. Appeals of Standards X decisions will go directly to the AOA Board of Trustees for final decision. The filing fee for appeals remains the same as under the standard appeals process