

# Memo



AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION

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**Date:** April 18, 2017

**From:** PTRC

## RE: Fellowship Waiver Process

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[Section X of the AOA Basic Documents for Postdoctoral Training](#) requires three-year subspecialties/fellowships to apply for ACGME accreditation by a specific date in order to accept trainees that would complete training after June 30, 2020. There is a challenge to this requirement, however. Specifically, the ACGME application process will only allow subspecialty programs to submit an accreditation application if their core residency program has achieved initial accreditation. The fellowship can complete the application but the ACGME application system will not allow the application to be “submitted” by the DIO and receive Pre-Accreditation.

In response to this issue, the AOA Program and Trainee Review Council (PTRC) approved the process to grant Section X waivers to fellowships that may be in this situation.

1. For fellowship programs where the **core program has ACGME initial accreditation**, the fellowship must submit its ACGME application and be in pre-accreditation prior to offering a contract to a potential fellow.
2. For fellowship programs where the **core program has pre-accreditation or continued pre-accreditation**, the subspecialty program must have entered its accreditation application into the ACGME ADS system. The AOA will confirm the application with the Executive Director of the Review Committee, prior to offering a potential fellow a contract. This exception is permitted for one year, following which the core program must have achieved initial accreditation and the subspecialty program have submitted its accreditation application in order to recruit potential new fellows.

Requests for a waiver through this process must be made in writing to the PTRC. Please contact the Single GME team at 312-202-8272 or [singlegme@osteopathic.org](mailto:singlegme@osteopathic.org) with any questions or concerns.