

GME Policy #: I-H	Graduate Medical Education Policy & Procedures Pennsylvania Hospital	Page 1 of 5 Effective: 06-18-08
	Subject: Licensing of House Staff	

POLICY

All house staff who participate in Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACGME) accredited or American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)-recognized training programs must have a graduate training license (“MT license”) as a condition of participation.

House staff engaged in providing services outside the scope of the regular training program (“moonlighting”) must be appropriately licensed.

As required by the Pennsylvania State Board of Medicine for licensure of medical doctors the following requirements must be met for a resident to advance to the post-graduate year as stated below:

- PGY 2 - A resident must present a passing score on Step 1 and Step 2 of the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) as a prerequisite to entering the second year/level in their training program. If date of graduation from medical school is on or after June 30, 2005, both the clinical skills and clinical knowledge results will be required.
- PGY 3 and above - A resident must present a passing score on Step 3 of the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) series as a prerequisite to entering the third year/level or above in their training program.

SCOPE


This policy applies to all Pennsylvania Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania Health System (PAH) house staff whether in accredited or unaccredited training programs.

IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of the Chair of each Department and the Directors of Residency Training (Program Directors) in coordination with the Office of Graduate Medical Education (GME) and the Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC).

PROCEDURE

All applications for initial training licenses and renewal of existing training licenses MUST be processed by the Office of GME prior to being processed by the Pennsylvania

Supersedes: NEW	
	Issued by: R. Michael Buckley, MD Designated Institutional Official

GME Policy #: I-H	Graduate Medical Education Policy & Procedures Pennsylvania Hospital	Page 2 of 5 Effective: 06-18-08
	Subject: Licensing of House Staff	

State Board of Medicine. Failure to follow this procedure will result in delays in the issuance of these licenses.

Certain conditions must be met before a trainee can advance beyond the PGY-2 level of training. Careful attention should be paid to these requirements, so that advancement decisions can be made in a timely manner.


- In order for a resident to progress to the PGY-2 level, a resident must take and pass Step 1 and Step 2 of the USMLE. The resident is expected to pass and report to the Program Director the results of this examination no later than February 1st of the PGY-1 year.
- In order for a resident to progress to the PGY-3 level, the resident must take and pass Step 3 of the USMLE. The resident is expected to pass and report to the Program Director the results of this examination no later than February 1st of the PGY-2 year.

The following information regarding **Graduate Training license requirements** is copied directly from the Pennsylvania State Board of Medicine's regulations for licensure, 49 PA Code Chapter 17 in effect on March 14, 2008 (compliance with current regulations remains the responsibility of the licensee).

Graduate medical training—Training accredited as graduate medical education by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education or by another accrediting body recognized by the Board for the purpose of accrediting graduate medical education, or training provided by a hospital accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals which is acceptable to an American Board of a Medical Specialty towards the training it requires for the certification it issues in a medical specialty or subspecialty.

§ 17.22. Graduate medical trainee registration.

(a) A person may not practice medicine as a part of a graduate medical education program without a valid graduate license issued by the Board. The issuance of the license demonstrates the approval of the Board for participation of the designated trainee in the graduate medical education program. The training institution, as a prerequisite for maintaining its approved status in this Commonwealth, shall provide the Board with the information on its graduate medical trainees as required by the Board.

Supersedes: NEW	
	Issued by: R. Michael Buckley, MD Designated Institutional Official

GME Policy #: I-H	Graduate Medical Education Policy & Procedures Pennsylvania Hospital	Page 3 of 5 Effective: 06-18-08
	Subject: Licensing of House Staff	

(b) A physician working in a hospital who does not possess a valid graduate license shall be reported to the Board.

(c) Short-term trainees and physicians from out-of-State or out-of country institutions doing rotations through training facilities in this Commonwealth shall submit an application for a graduate license and submit the fee in § 16.13 (relating to licensure, certification, examination and registration fees). The training institution shall accept full responsibility for the trainee.

§ 17.23. Approval and accreditation of graduate training programs.


The Board is responsible for determining the character of instruction and the facilities possessed by each of the various medical education institutions and hospitals who carry out graduate medical education programs in this Commonwealth. The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) of the American Medical Association possesses the facilities and staffing required to perform evaluations of the qualifications of the various programs and also the mechanism for accreditation of acceptance programs. The Board and the ACGME work cooperatively in evaluating and approving the training programs in this Commonwealth. A comity exists between the Board and the ACGME under which all intended observations of training programs for accreditation are communicated to the Board and the Board makes all requests for accreditation or investigation of training programs to the ACGME. If an investigation of the programs of the various institutions in this Commonwealth is to be conducted, the Board will provide one of its members or appoint an individual to accompany the investigator on each occasion. An institution within this Commonwealth seeking approval of its programs by the ACGME will be informed that action taken by the accrediting agency will be related to the Board.

The following is the criteria for obtaining a **license without restriction** - copied from the Pennsylvania State Board of Medicine's regulations, 49 PA Code Chapter 17 in effect on March 14, 2008 (compliance with current regulations remains the responsibility of the licensee).

§ 17.1. License without restriction.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) and § 17.2 (relating to license without restriction endorsement), to secure a license without restriction an applicant shall:

(1) Have passed a licensing examination acceptable to the Board by having achieved one of the following:

Supersedes: NEW	
	Issued by: R. Michael Buckley, MD Designated Institutional Official

GME Policy #: I-H	Graduate Medical Education Policy & Procedures Pennsylvania Hospital	Page 4 of 5 Effective: 06-18-08
	Subject: Licensing of House Staff	

- (i) A passing score on Step 1, Step 2 and Step 3 of the USMLE as determined by USMLE completed within a 7-year period.
- (ii) A score of 75 on FLEX I and a score of 75 on FLEX II, as determined by the Federation.
- (iii) A score of 75, obtained in an individual attempt, on the licensing examination provided by the Federation from June 1968 to December 1984.
- (iv) A passing score as determined by the NBME on the National Boards.
- (v) A passing score on Part I of the National Boards or Step 1 of the USMLE plus Part II of the National Boards or Step 2 of the USMLE plus Part III of the National Boards or Step 3 of the USMLE completed within a 7-year period.
- (vi) A score of 75 on FLEX I and Step 3 of the USMLE completed within a 7-year period.
- (vii) A passing score on Part I of the National Boards or Step 1 of the USMLE plus Part II of the National Boards or Step 2 of the USMLE plus FLEX II completed within a 7-year period.
- (viii) A passing score, as determined by the Medical Council of Canada, on the examination of the Medical Council of Canada taken in or after May 1970, if the examination was taken in English.
- (ix) A passing score, as determined by the licensing authority of another state, territory or possession of the United States, on a state board examination taken prior to December 1973, if the examination was taken in English.


(2) Have graduated from an accredited medical college or from an unaccredited medical college.

(3) Have been certified by the ECFMG if the applicant is a graduate of an unaccredited medical college.

(4) Have successfully completed the following graduate medical training requirement:

(i) A year of graduate medical training at a first or second- year level if the applicant is a graduate of an accredited or unaccredited medical college and participated in a graduate medical training program prior to June 30, 1987.

(ii) Two years of graduate medical training at a first and second-year level if the applicant is a graduate of an accredited medical college and did not participate in a graduate medical training program prior to June 30, 1987.


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	Issued by: R. Michael Buckley, MD Designated Institutional Official

GME Policy #: I-H	Graduate Medical Education Policy & Procedures Pennsylvania Hospital	Page 5 of 5 Effective: 06-18-08
	Subject: Licensing of House Staff	

(iii) Three years of graduate medical training at a first, second and third-year level if the applicant is a graduate of an unaccredited medical college and did not participate in a graduate medical training program prior to June 30, 1987.

(5) Satisfy the general qualifications for a license specified in § 16.12 (relating to general qualifications for licenses and certificates).

(b) An applicant who is a graduate of an unaccredited medical college shall submit a complete application and shall, in addition to satisfying the requirements in subsection (a), submit a diploma and transcript verified by a medical college listed in the International Medical Education Directory and chartered and recognized by the country in which it is situated for the provision of medical doctor education. The transcript must identify the successful completion of the equivalent of 4 academic years of medical education including 2 academic years in the study of the arts and sciences of medicine generally recognized by the medical education community in the United States and 2 academic years of clinical study of the practice of medicine as generally recognized by the medical education community in the United States.

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