

INSTITUTIONAL AND/OR PROGRAM CLOSURE/REDUCTION POLICY

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Institutional and/or Program Closure/Reduction Policy is to set forth the University of Tennessee College of Medicine (“UT College of Medicine” or “Sponsoring Institution”) policies and procedures governing the reduction in size of an ACGME-accredited graduate medical education program sponsored by UT College of Medicine (each a “Program”), the closure of a Program or the closure of UT College of Medicine.

REFERENCE

Consistent with Section IV.O. of the ACGME Institutional Requirements, the Sponsoring Institution must have a policy that addresses Graduate Medical Education Committee (“GMEC”) oversight of reductions in size or closure of each Program, or closure of the Sponsoring Institution, that includes the following: (i) the Sponsoring Institution must inform the GMEC, Designated Institutional Official (“DIO”) and affected residents and fellows participating in a Program (individually a “resident” or collectively “residents”) as soon as possible when it intends to reduce the size of or close one or more Programs, or when the Sponsoring Institution intends to close; and (ii) the Sponsoring Institution must allow residents already in an affected Program(s) to complete their education at the Sponsoring Institution or assist them in enrolling in (an)other ACGME-accredited program(s) in which they can continue their education.

POLICY

A. Notification/Oversight

In the event of the closure of UT College of Medicine or if UT College of Medicine intends to close a Program or reduce the size of a Program, the GMEC, DIO and affected residents will be notified by the College of Medicine as soon as possible. The GMEC has responsibility for oversight of all processes related to the reduction or closure of Programs, participating sites and the Sponsoring Institution.

B. Continuation of Resident Education and Training

If reasonably possible, Program reductions will be made over a period of time to allow affected residents to complete training within their Program or complete training at UT College of Medicine, provided educational opportunities consistent with accreditation continue to exist.

If it is not possible for affected residents to complete their training at UT College of Medicine, UT College of Medicine and affected Programs, with oversight by the GMEC, will assist residents in enrolling in other ACGME-accredited programs in which they can continue their education, including in programs at other training sites in Tennessee and within the University of Tennessee system.

A list of all approved programs can be found on the ACGME website, which will serve as a resource to identify programs which may be able to accept permanent transfers. Receiving programs must appoint transferring residents to approved positions. Permanent increases in resident complement requests should be made through each program’s respective ACGME Review and Recognition Committee, on the ACGME’s Accreditation Data System.

C. Substantial Interruption in Patient Care or Education and Disasters

The process for the temporary or permanent transfer of residents due to a substantial disruption in patient care or education are detailed in the UT College of Medicine Graduate Medical Education *Substantial Disruptions in Patient Care or Education Policy*. Examples of an extraordinary circumstances include an abrupt closure of a hospital, a natural disaster, or a catastrophic loss of funding.