

Frequently Asked Questions: Pediatric Anesthesiology Review Committee for Anesthesiology ACGME

Question	Answer
Personnel	
If the program director is not board certified in the subspecialty, what specialty qualifications are acceptable to the Review Committee? <i>[Program Requirement: 2.4.a.]</i>	The Committee expects that all uncertified program directors who are eligible for board certification in pediatric anesthesiology are actively pursuing certification, even if the process is not complete. For program directors who are not eligible for subspecialty certification, the Review Committee will evaluate qualifications on a case-by-case basis, including consideration of each of the remaining qualifications as outlined in Program Requirements 2.4. and 2.4.b.-d.
Educational Program	
Is the program responsible for fellows' maintenance of current certification in advanced cardiac life support (ACLS)? <i>[Program Requirement: 4.4.]</i>	The Program Requirements do not specifically dictate that fellows maintain current certification in ACLS. However, the Review Committee strongly encourages programs to work with their fellows to maintain the ACLS certification they achieved during their anesthesiology residency programs.
Should the fellowship have a substance use disorder policy that is separate from the policy for the core anesthesiology residency program? <i>[Program Requirement: 4.12.]</i>	The Review Committee expects that the substance use disorder policy be written so that it applies to both the residency and any fellowship(s), and that faculty members from the fellowship(s) have had input into the development and ongoing review of the policy.
What types of scholarly projects are acceptable and what are appropriate ways to disseminate the project? <i>[Program Requirement: 4.15.]</i>	Examples of scholarly projects and ways to disseminate the results include preparing and presenting grand rounds; preparing and presenting a case analysis at a local, regional, national, or international meeting; a departmental case presentation or journal club; conducting a quality improvement or patient safety study that is disseminated within the department or institution, or as a poster at a local, regional, national, or international meeting; or conducting research that is disseminated at a local, regional, national, or international meeting.

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Must the presentation or publication of fellows' scholarly activity occur before completion of the fellowship? <i>[Program Requirement: 4.15.a.]</i>	No. A fellow's involvement in a project must begin or continue during the fellowship, but the presentation or publication can occur after the fellowship has been completed.
Evaluation	
Must the program obtain feedback from patients' families as part of a multisource evaluation of fellows? <i>[Program Requirement: 5.1.b.1.]</i>	Although the fellowship program can choose to use input from patients' families if it wishes, the requirement only directs that multiple evaluators be used. It is acceptable for programs to obtain feedback on fellow performance from nurses, other professional staff members, peers, and self-evaluations by the fellows, and not obtain input from patients or their family members.
The Learning and Working Environment	
Does the Review Committee limit the maximum number of consecutive weeks of night float? <i>[Program Requirement: 6.26.]</i>	No. The Review Committee recognizes that under certain circumstances, fellows may derive benefit from night float work, but the benefit should be clear to and understood by both faculty members and fellows. During an accreditation review, the Review Committee will determine whether fellows on night float are able to take advantage of educational sessions and other opportunities offered during regular daytime hours. If the Committee determines that fellows derive little benefit from night float or are not able to participate in other educational sessions as a result of night call responsibilities, the program may be cited for inadequate educational experience on the respective rotation.
Other	
May fellows engage in independent practice of their core specialty during the fellowship program? <i>[Common Program Requirement (Fellowship): 4.16.]</i>	Yes. The Review Committee elected not to permit the independent practice option in the Common Program Requirements (Fellowship) because the requirement states that the fellowship program may "assign" fellows to engage in independent practice. Fellowship programs cannot require fellows to practice in their core specialty. Fellows may voluntarily elect to moonlight in their core specialty, provided all work hour limits are met.

Question	Answer
What does the Review Committee require of a fellow taking approved medical, parental, or caregiver leave(s) of absence? <i>[Institutional Requirement: 4.8.]</i>	The Review Committee allows for flexibility in approved leaves of absence at the program level, provided that all clinical experience requirements are met, including case and procedure logs, and that the Clinical Competency Committee considers the affected fellow fully prepared for autonomous practice. The program director is encouraged to seek guidance from the American Board of Anesthesiology's Absence from Training Policy and/or contact the American Osteopathic Board of Anesthesiology to ensure that there will be no adverse effects on the fellow's board eligibility and ultimate board certification in pediatric anesthesiology.