



ALTERNATE ENTRY PATH PROGRAM GUIDELINES

PROGRAM OBJECTIVE

The Alternate Entry Path (AEP) program allows international medical graduates who were certified in anesthesiology in another country and are practicing anesthesiology in the United States (U.S.) to qualify to take our primary certification exams. The program's objective is to encourage outstanding internationally trained and certified anesthesiologists to become productive members of U.S. academic anesthesiology programs.

Program participants will spend four years in an academic anesthesiology training program as fellows, researchers or faculty members. Participants are expected to actively participate in departmental educational activities and to otherwise retain or gain basic anesthesiology knowledge and experience that would help them to attain ABA certification. **Anesthesiology departments may have as many as four international medical graduates enrolled in the AEP program at one time.**

QUALIFICATIONS

When the anesthesiology department enrolls the international medical graduate in the AEP program, the department must have an anesthesiology residency or fellowship training program with "continued full" accreditation status by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME).

CLINICIAN EDUCATOR PATHWAY

To be considered for entry into the AEP Clinician Educator Pathway, physicians must:

- Be internationally trained in an ABA-approved training program with 4+ years (3+ years of anesthesiology-specific training) of post-graduate education in anesthesiology
- Have a letter of support from the sponsoring program's chair and program director
- Be board certified in anesthesiology from an ABA-approved certifying body
- Be clinically active with a prospective continuous four-year faculty appointment in an ACGME-accredited anesthesiology program
- Hold an academic rank of assistant professor or higher at the time of application
- Have the sponsoring program's department chair and program director submit a four-year mentoring plan for future academic development as a clinician educator, co-signed by the physician, for prospective approval by our Credentialing and Continuing Certification Committee. We must receive the four-year plan no later than four months before the department enrolls the internationally certified anesthesiologist in the AEP program and the four-year period of continuous experience commences.

RESEARCH & FELLOWSHIP PATHWAY

To be considered for entry into the AEP research or fellowship pathway, physicians must:

- Be internationally trained and certified anesthesiologists practicing in the U.S.
- Have a pre-existing track record of scholarship as represented by the scholarship of discovery, dissemination and application. The scholarship of discovery is accomplished by obtaining peer-reviewed funding or by publication of original research in peer-reviewed journals. The scholarship of dissemination is accomplished by publication of review articles in peer-reviewed journals or chapters in text books. The scholarship of application is accomplished by publication of case reports or clinical series at local, regional, or national professional and scientific society meetings. High-quality ongoing scholarship is critical to acceptance into the AEP program.
- Have the chair of the anesthesiology department that sponsors them submit a four-year plan, co-signed by the physician, for prospective approval by our Credentials Committee. We must receive the four-year plan no later than four months before the department enrolls the physician in the AEP program and the four-year period of continuous experience commences.
- Complete a total of four years of continuous experience in one anesthesiology department.

PERIODIC EVALUATION REPORTS

At six-month intervals, the program must attest that the AEP physician is still a fellow or faculty member with a full-time primary appointment in an ACGME-accredited program or is still actively engaged in research. At the same time, an assessment of the physician's performance during the preceding six months relative to the American Board of Medical Specialties- and ACGME-approved six general physician competencies must be submitted.

All AEP participants must annually take the In-Training Exam (ITE). Once participants achieve a score of 40 or higher, they no longer need to take the ITE.

CERTIFICATION ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

AEP participants must complete the planned and approved four-year program in one anesthesiology department before we will accept them as candidates for primary certification. Our policy book lists the registration eligibility requirements all physicians must fulfill to be accepted as a candidate.