



## Frequently Asked Questions The Milestones

### Quick Contacts

Email Milestones development and content questions to: [Milestones@acgme.org](mailto:Milestones@acgme.org).

For technical assistance, including questions about specific programs, email [ADS@acgme.org](mailto:ADS@acgme.org) and include the program number and question in the body of the email.

Email other accreditation questions to [acgme-i@acgme-i.org](mailto:acgme-i@acgme-i.org).

<b>Milestones – General</b>	
What are the Milestones?	For accreditation purposes, the Milestones are competency-based developmental outcomes (e.g., knowledge, skills, attitudes, and performance) that can be demonstrated progressively by residents/fellows from the beginning of their education through graduation to the unsupervised practice of their specialties.
What are the Supplemental Guides?	The Supplemental Guides are resources developed by each program in conjunction with a set of Milestones. Supplemental Guides provide concrete examples, educational information, references, and assessment methods and tools identified to aid in the understanding and use of the Milestones for a given specialty. ACGME and ACGME-I staff will assist each program to develop their Supplemental Guide. A Microsoft Word version of each Supplemental Guide will then be provided with the intent that programs customize the tables with examples, resources, and assessments that are used locally.
Can a resident/fellow graduate if Level 4 is not achieved on all milestones?	ACGME-I has no required minimums for Milestones reporting. The determination of an individual's readiness for graduation is at the discretion of the program director.
Can a resident's/fellow's Milestones reports/assessments be shared with potential fellowship programs with which the individual is interviewing?	Milestones data should not be shared with programs that are interviewing residents/fellows. Once a resident/fellow has matriculated into a new program, the individual's final Milestones evaluation will be available automatically via the Accreditation Data System (ADS) to aid in the educational hand-off of the learner and the development of an individualized learning plan.
When does reporting take place?	For the most current reporting dates, check the <a href="#">Milestones</a> section of the ACGME-I website. Typically reporting happens between November and mid-January, and again between April and mid-June each academic year. Note that after the reporting period ends, there is no mechanism to enter the reports.
<b>Reporting</b>	
How should a resident/fellow doing a six-month research rotation be evaluated?	Residents and fellows performing research for a duration of six months still need to be evaluated. It is recognized that many of the subcompetencies will not have been evaluated during this period, and as such, the Milestones evaluation would remain as it was during the previous assessment period.

<p>How should a program facilitate the evaluation of a resident/fellow who is rotating through another specialty department?</p>	<p>Residents/fellows who are completing some of their learning in another specialty department (e.g., a categorical neurology resident in internal medicine, an integrated plastic surgery resident in general surgery) must have their Milestones evaluations completed by the program in which they are enrolled. The Clinical Competency Committee (CCC) must use evaluations from the other department to make its Milestones determinations.</p> <p>Some of the Medical Knowledge and Patient Care milestones will likely not have been taught/assessed and should be evaluated as such. The other subcompetencies should have been assessed and must be evaluated. The core program should work with the other specialty department to determine the most appropriate assessment method and tool to facilitate good assessment and feedback to both the resident/fellow and the program's CCC.</p>
<p>How should a program facilitate evaluation of an off-cycle resident?</p>	<p>Residents/fellows who are "off-cycle" will be reported at the same time as their peers. If a resident/fellow graduates prior to the reporting date, and ADS has been updated prior to the start of the reporting period, there will not be a final report. Programs must ensure that each resident's/fellow's record is updated appropriately, as a report is required for every resident/fellow with an "active" status.</p> <p>It is understood that the evaluation of these residents/fellows will differ from those of their peers. If an off-cycle resident/fellow misses a significant portion of the evaluation period, the CCC may choose to hold over the same evaluations as the previous reporting period. If the Review Committee-International has any concern, it will be able to determine whether an off-cycle resident/fellow is indeed enrolled in the program.</p> <p>All residents/fellows, regardless of when they graduate, should receive a final Milestones evaluation.</p> <p>If a learner begins on or after 1 September but before or on 15 January, the program will first report that learner's Milestones in the April-June (year-end) reporting period of the current academic year. Note that this includes learners with an "Off-Cycle" status in ADS.</p> <p>If a learner completes or ends the program on or after 1 September but before or on 15 January, the program will report that learner's final Milestones evaluation in the November-January (mid-year) reporting period of the current academic year. Note that this includes learners with an "Off-Cycle" status in ADS.</p>

<p>What does the report that the programs can print and place in residents'/fellows' files look like?</p>	<p>After a program submits Milestones data through ADS, a report is prepared (in PDF format) for each individual resident/fellow. The report includes all the milestones the resident achieved during the previous reporting cycle. The program director can choose to print this report and use it as part of the resident's/fellow's semiannual evaluation with the resident/fellow; there is a space for signatures if the program chooses to use it that way. It is not required that programs print these reports; ACGME-I does not require any further action after the Milestones data is submitted.</p>
<p>When will the "resident report" be available for programs to print?</p>	<p>The individual detailed PDF documents are posted 10-14 days after the close of a reporting window. The reports are then permanently available in ADS.</p>