



ACGME International

**Advanced Specialty Program Requirements for
Graduate Medical Education in
Allergy and Immunology
(Internal Medicine or Pediatrics)**

Reformatted: 1 April 2022
Revised: 12 December 2015, Effective: 1 July 2016
Initial approval: 1 August 2014

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Int. Introduction

Background and Intent: Programs must achieve and maintain Foundational Accreditation according to the ACGME-I Foundational Requirements prior to receiving Advanced Specialty Accreditation. The Advanced Specialty Requirements noted below complement the ACGME-I Foundational Requirements. For each section, the Advanced Specialty Requirements should be considered together with the Foundational Requirements.

Int. I. Definition and Scope of the Specialty

Allergy and immunology specialists provide expert medical care for patients with allergic and immunologic disorders. These specialists may serve as consultants, educators, and physician scientists in asthma, allergic disorders, immunologic disorders, and immunodeficiency diseases.

Int. II. Duration of Education

Int. II.A. The educational program in allergy and immunology must be 24 or 36 months in length.

I. Institution

I.A. Sponsoring Institution

I.A.1. A fellowship in allergy and immunology must function as an integral part of ACGME-I-accredited residency in internal medicine or pediatrics.

I.B. Participating Sites

I.B.1. Fellow education at a participating site that is a private practitioner's office must be limited to the offices of program faculty members and must have defined goals and objectives.

II. Program Personnel and Resources

II.A. Program Director

See International Foundational Requirements, Section II.A.

II.B. Faculty

II.B.1. At least one core faculty member should be a qualified allergist and immunologist who has completed an ACGME-I-accredited residency in pediatrics, or who has specialty qualifications that are deemed equivalent or acceptable to the Review Committee-International.

II.B.2. At least one core faculty member should be a qualified allergist and immunologist who has completed an ACGME-I-accredited residency in internal medicine, or who has specialty qualifications that are deemed equivalent or acceptable to the Review Committee-International.

II.C. Other Program Personnel

See International Foundational Requirements, Section II.C.

II.D. Resources

II.D.1. The program must treat a sufficient number of adult and pediatric patients throughout the program to provide fellows with comprehensive education in allergic disorders, asthma, immunodeficiency diseases, and immunologic disorders.

III. Fellow Appointment

III.A. Eligibility Criteria

III.A.1. Prior to appointment in the program, fellows should have completed an ACGME-I-accredited residency program in internal medicine or pediatrics, or an internal medicine or pediatrics residency acceptable to the Sponsoring Institution's Graduate Medical Education Committee.

III.B. Number of Fellows

See International Foundational Requirements, Section III.B.

IV. Specialty-Specific Educational Program

IV.A. ACGME-I Competencies

IV.A.1. The program must integrate the following ACGME-I Competencies into the curriculum.

IV.A.1.a) Professionalism

IV.A.1.a).(1) Fellows must demonstrate a commitment to professionalism and an adherence to ethical principles.

IV.A.1.b) Patient Care and Procedural Skills

IV.A.1.b).(1) Fellows must provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health. Fellows must demonstrate competence in:

- IV.A.1.b).(1).(a) assessing the risks and benefits of allergic and immunologic disorder therapies, including allergen immunotherapy, drug therapy, and immunomodulatory therapy;
- IV.A.1.b).(1).(b) conducting comprehensive and detailed medical interviews with children and adults who present suspected allergic and/or immunologic disorders;
- IV.A.1.b).(1).(c) performing a physical examination appropriate to the specialty;
- IV.A.1.b).(1).(d) selecting, performing, and interpreting the results of diagnostic tests and studies; and,
- IV.A.1.b).(1).(e) performing and evaluating results in at least five of the following procedures:
 - IV.A.1.b).(1).(e).(i) allergen immunotherapy preparation and administration;
 - IV.A.1.b).(1).(e).(ii) contact or delayed hypersensitivity testing;
 - IV.A.1.b).(1).(e).(iii) drug hypersensitivity diagnosis and treatment;
 - IV.A.1.b).(1).(e).(iv) food hypersensitivity diagnosis and treatment;
 - IV.A.1.b).(1).(e).(v) immediate hypersensitivity skin testing;
 - IV.A.1.b).(1).(e).(vi) immunoglobulin treatment and/or other immunomodulator therapies; and,
 - IV.A.1.b).(1).(e).(vii) pulmonary function testing.

IV.A.1.c) Medical Knowledge

- IV.A.1.c).(1) Fellows must demonstrate knowledge of established and evolving biomedical clinical, epidemiological, and social-behavioral sciences as well as the application of this knowledge to patient care. Fellows must demonstrate knowledge of:
 - IV.A.1.c).(1).(a) required core didactic topics through performance in objective examinations and application to patient care.

- IV.A.1.d) Practice-based Learning and Improvement
- IV.A.1.d).(1) Fellows must demonstrate the ability to investigate and evaluate their care of patients, to appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and to continuously improve patient care based on constant self-evaluation and lifelong learning. Fellows must develop skills and habits to meet the following goals:
- IV.A.1.d).(1).(a) conduct comprehensive literature searches and critiques.
- IV.A.1.e) Interpersonal and Communication Skills
- IV.A.1.e).(1) Fellows must demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in the effective exchange of information and collaboration with patients, their families, and health professionals. Fellows must:
- IV.A.1.e).(1).(a) counsel and educate patients about their diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment.
- IV.A.1.f) Systems-based Practice
- IV.A.1.f).(1) Fellows must demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care, including the social determinates of health, as well as the ability to call effectively on other resources in the system to produce optimal care.
- IV.B. Regularly Scheduled Educational Activities**
- IV.B.1. There must be a structured curriculum in the core didactic topics, including:
- IV.B.1.a) pathophysiology;
- IV.B.1.b) diagnosis;
- IV.B.1.c) differential diagnosis; and,
- IV.B.1.d) complications and treatment of disorders of innate and adaptive immunity, to include:
- IV.B.1.d).(1) hypersensitivity (IgE and non-IgE-dependent);
- IV.B.1.d).(2) immunodeficiency and autoimmunity;
- IV.B.1.d).(3) disorders of mast cells, basophils, eosinophils; and,
- IV.B.1.d).(4) contact system-related angioedema.

IV.C. Clinical Experiences

- IV.C.1. Fifty percent of the program must be devoted to direct patient care activities, clinical case conferences, and medical record reviews.
- IV.C.1.a) At least 20 percent of the required minimum direct patient care activity must focus on patients from birth to 18 years.
- IV.C.1.b) At least 20 percent of the required minimum direct patient care activity must focus on patients over the age of 18 years.
- IV.C.2. Twenty-five percent of the program must be devoted to scholarly activity and research.
- IV.C.3. Twenty-five percent of the program must be devoted to other educational activities.
- IV.C.4. Fellow experiences in direct patient care must include:
- IV.C.4.a) continuing care of pediatric and adult patients with allergic disorders, asthma, immunologic disorders and immunodeficiency diseases; and,
- IV.C.4.b) direct contact with pediatric and adult patients with the following diagnoses:
- IV.C.4.b).(1) anaphylaxis;
- IV.C.4.b).(2) asthma;
- IV.C.4.b).(3) atopic dermatitis;
- IV.C.4.b).(4) contact dermatitis;
- IV.C.4.b).(5) drug, vaccine, or immunomodulator allergy, or adverse or allergic reactions to drugs, vaccines, immunomodulator therapies, or other biological agents;
- IV.C.4.b).(6) food allergy;
- IV.C.4.b).(7) ocular allergies;
- IV.C.4.b).(8) primary and acquired immunodeficiency;
- IV.C.4.b).(9) rhinitis;
- IV.C.4.b).(10) sinusitis;
- IV.C.4.b).(11) stinging or biting insect and arthropod allergy; and,
- IV.C.4.b).(12) urticaria and angioedema.

IV.D. Scholarly Activity

IV.D.1. Fellows' Scholarly Activity

IV.D.1.a) The program must provide fellows with a research experience that results in an understanding of the basic principles of study design, performance (including data collection), data analysis (including statistics and epidemiology), and reporting research results.

IV.D.1.b) Under faculty member supervision, each fellow must design and conduct allergy and/or immunology research that is either laboratory-based, epidemiologic, continuous quality improvement, or clinical investigation-based.

IV.D.1.b).(1) Fellows must present their research findings orally and in writing.

IV.D.1.c) Fellows should be instructed on how to read and critique the relevant medical literature.

IV.D.2. Faculty Scholarly Activity

See International Foundational Requirements, Section IV.D.2.

V. Evaluation

See International Foundational Requirements, Section V.

VI. The Learning and Working Environment

See International Foundational Requirements, Section VI.