Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Policy Against Concurrent Identical Specialty & Sub-specialty Training Programs

Keywords: ACGME-accredited, ACGME-equivalent, Advanced Specialty Training (ASTP), ECFMG sponsorship, non-standard training programs, training programs

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I. DEFINITIONS

1. Non-Standard Training (NST) Program: Clinical training for foreign national physicians in advanced subspecialty programs for which there is no Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) accreditation or American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) Member Board certification. At the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, we call these programs ACGME-equivalent programs.

2. NST Trainee: A physician in an NST program who holds a J-1 visa sponsored by the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG).

II. PURPOSE

This recognition provides a framework for approval and oversight of training opportunities in the United States for physicians whose J-1 visas are sponsored by the ECFMG through the Exchange Visitor Program of the United States Department of State. The ACGME recognizes ACGME-accredited Sponsoring Institutions that offer NST Programs (ACGME-equivalent) and that demonstrate substantial compliance with Recognition Requirements. The recognized Sponsoring Institution bears the responsibility for each NST program (ACGME-equivalent) and NST trainee under its auspices, for assessment of the impact of NST programs (ACGME-equivalent) on related ACGME-accredited program(s), and for compliance with regulatory requirements for J-1 participants.

III. POLICY

1. NST programs (ACGME-equivalent) cannot be approved if ACGME-accreditation for that advanced subspecialty is available.

2. ECFMG will only sponsor visas for participation in ACGME-accredited programs, or NST Programs (ACGME-equivalent) where ACGME accreditation or ABMS certification is not available.

3. In order to ensure equity among trainees, the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine will not approve coexistent NST Programs and Advanced Specialty Training Programs (faculty level positions) in the identical advanced subspecialty.

IV. RELATED POLICY: Visa Sponsorship for Clinical Training

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