Key Updates for General Pediatrics
Program Directors
Spring 2021

The ABP acknowledges the work of program directors is complex, challenging and stressful. It is also critically important, meaningful and rewarding! The relationship between ABP and PDs must have a foundation of trust. Together we are responsible for verifying the competence of pediatric graduates to the public.

New Process for Requesting Waivers of Training for Parental Leave or Covid Impact For Graduating Residents

If a graduating resident has experienced a medical/parental/family leave or had an absence from training due to Covid-19, program directors may request a waiver by completing this form.

Up to two months of elective training can be waived if the program director is supportive and the resident's training is evaluated as satisfactory. Waivers can be requested within three months of the scheduled graduation date. There is no need for program directors to send a separate letter to request a waiver effective this year.

Please remember, the waiver is actually a recognition of competence achieved in less than the usual total duration of training (36 months) for the program.

Request a Waiver
Absences from Training: New Information to Be Shared July 2021

Details of this policy will be communicated in late spring 2021, prior to the start of the next academic year. This may affect trainees who graduate in 2022 and later.

There will be no changes to the ABP’s current Absences from Training Policy (PDF) for residents and fellows in three-year categorical residency and fellowship training programs. The policy will continue to allow up to two months of elective time to be waived beyond the usual three months of vacation/leave time allowed in a three-year residency or fellowship.

The revised policy will allow up to six weeks of elective time to be waived for pediatric hospital medicine fellows, and residents in combined training. More details and a FAQ will be provided.
Enter Your New Residents for the Next Academic Year

Please help us ensure that trainees’ records are correct, and that requested information is completed by the established deadlines. The ABP depends on program directors and program coordinators to provide complete and accurate data so that trainees’ eligibility for certification can be determined.

Delays in obtaining correct information result in a longer credentialing process, creating undue stress on trainees.

Add your new residents to the Program Portal by June 15, 2021. Adding them now will help ABP match their data from the administration of the General Pediatrics ITE and reduce tracking errors.

Enter Your New Residents
End-of-Year Evaluation Period for All Trainees Coming Soon

This spring, programs will be able to evaluate all trainees by completing their evaluations in the Program Portal. This includes evaluations for both final year, graduating trainees, and those who are earlier in their training period.

There will be no more paper forms to complete, notarize and send back to the ABP.

Be on the lookout in May for an update with more information. Once the window opens, you will be sent a notification with instructions for using the Residency Evaluation Panel, located on your Program Portal dashboard.

You have six weeks to complete the evaluations and we appreciate in advance your compliance with timely completion of all evaluations.
General Pediatrics Initial Certifying Exam Administration
Dates: October 12, 13, or 14, 2021

Please remind your residents that the regular deadline to register for the 2021 General Pediatrics Certifying Exam ended at 3:00 pm EASTERN time March 31, 2021.

A late registration that requires an additional application fee began on April 1, 2021 and ends at 3:00 pm EASTERN time May 17, 2021.

The deadlines are firm, and no registration extensions will be granted.

Exam Dates and Fees
General Pediatrics ITE Administration Dates: July 14–28, 2021

Important information:

- General Pediatrics programs, please coordinate with combined medicine-pediatrics programs to order for their residents.
- The cost is $85 per examination.
- Payment is due in full 30 days from the order date.
- Order and pay by accessing the ABP’s Program Portal.
- Programs are discouraged from ordering extra exams – no refunds will be given for unused exams.
- A 15-day testing window is offered for more flexibility (July 14–28, 2021).
- Residents taking the exam must be proctored and all proctors must acknowledge and agree to the terms of the proctor agreement. Enter each proctor in the ABP Program Portal.

Remember that chief residents and others who have graduated from the residency and those completing supervised practice are not eligible to take the exam. Individuals who are ineligible to take ITE but still take the exam, will not be scored.

A Proctor Guide will be available via the ABP Program Portal in June 2021.

Order Your Exams
As we recently mentioned at APPD, please be on the lookout for invites from Dr. David Turner and the Competency-Based Medical Education (CBME) team to participate in a Roundtable Discussion focused on the future for CBME and Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs).

These sessions will be grouped by program size and provide an informal (virtual) opportunity for bidirectional communication about our CBME-related efforts.

**Telemedicine EPA:** developed and is available for review/feedback. An email with the EPA/feedback form was sent by APPD Board and we appreciate in advance your feedback!

**EPA 14:** Modifications to include focus on addressing racism and social determinants of health have been made. It will be available for review/feedback soon.

Want to Learn More About EPAs?
Continuing Certification (MOC) Part 4 Credit

The ABP now offers improved options for you to apply for Part 4 credit. These templates allow you to receive credit for addressing an educational gap or issue in your program by providing a description of what you and your team were trying to improve, the changes made to the educational program to accomplish the overarching goal of the project and at least 3 data points (e.g., baseline, post-intervention, sustainability).

ACGME Annual Program Evaluation: Part 4 Improvement Template
Continuous improvement of residency and fellowship training programs is at the core of the ACGME Annual Program Evaluation. This application is designed specifically for Residency or Fellowship Program Leaders to obtain Part 4 MOC credit (25 points) for ongoing program improvement in response to the ACGME Annual Program Evaluation.

Residency and Fellowship Programs: Part 4 Improvement Template
This application is designed specifically for Residency or Fellowship Program Leaders to obtain Part 4 MOC credit (25 points) for improvements to the educational programs designed to train pediatric residents and subspecialty fellows.

These efforts may utilize a variety of improvement metrics, such as overall ITE or SITE scores, internal surveys, trainee evaluations, course evaluations, Milestones, and/or Entrustable Professional Activities (EPA).
Have Questions or Need Support?

Visit the Program Directors page for videos that demonstrate How to Use Your Program Portal, ABP requirements for training, policies and Program Director Guides for Assessment, Professionalism, Milestones, Global Health and other educational assistance.

If you have questions, you may contact us via the Communication center in the ABP Program Portal. We’re happy to help!

Visit Program Directors Page

Questions? Contact our Team

Telephone: 919-929-0461
Support Center Hours: 8:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m. ET, M–F
Business Hours: 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m., M–F
Email: gpcert@abpeds.org
Program Portal: olt.abp.org