

Requests for Changes in Resident or Fellow Complement Review Committee for Anesthesiology

Temporary Increase in Complement for Up to One Month

A temporary increase in resident or fellow complement for up to one month does not require Review Committee approval.

Temporary Increase in Complement for More than One Month

The program director may prospectively request a temporary increase in the number of residents or fellows when unforeseen circumstances result in a short-term excess in the total number of residents or fellows in the program.

In general, temporary increases should not exceed one resident or fellow beyond the approved number and should not continue for more than two years. Temporary increases *do not* change the permanent ACGME-approved complement, and once the period of the temporary increase ends, programs will be expected to return to the approved permanent complement. Similarly, if the program decides not to use the approved temporary complement increase, it cannot accept another resident or fellow or use that position for any purposes other than outlined in the original request.

To formally request a temporary increase in complement, the program director must log into the Accreditation Data System (ADS), select “Complement Change” from the menu under the Program tab, and provide the following required information:

1. Educational rationale – examples of acceptable rationales for temporary complement increases include:
 - a resident or fellow delaying completion of residency/fellowship, causing an overlap with incoming residents or fellows
 - a resident or fellow transferring from a program that has closed, causing a short-term excess in the program that accepts the transfer
2. Major changes in the program since its last review
3. Responses to any previous citations identified in the ACGME Letter of Notification following the most recent review by the Committee

Once completed, the request will be electronically sent to the designated institutional official (DIO) for approval. The DIO may approve the request, reject and delete the request, or reject and return the request for modifications. If the DIO approves the request, the information is submitted in ADS and forwarded to the Review Committee for consideration. The program director should allow at least three business days for a response from the Review Committee staff to a temporary complement change request.

Permanent Increase in Complement

Programs must hold a status of Continued Accreditation to be considered for a permanent complement increase. Programs with a status of Continued Accreditation with Warning, Initial Accreditation, Initial Accreditation with Warning, or Probationary Accreditation are not eligible for a permanent complement increase.

The Review Committee reviews permanent increase requests at its scheduled meetings. Programs should check posted meeting agenda closing dates on the [Anesthesiology](#) section of the ACGME website and plan accordingly before submitting such a request.

A permanent increase in resident or fellow complement must first be approved by the Sponsoring Institution's Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC), after which approval must be requested from the Review Committee through ADS.

To formally request a permanent increase in resident or fellow complement, the program director must log into ADS, select "Complement Change" from the menu under the Program tab, and provide the following required information:

1. Educational rationale
 - a. Most importantly, this should describe how a permanent complement increase will enhance resident or fellow education.
 - b. If applicable, this should also describe any new resources (equipment, facilities, etc.) that will accommodate the complement increase (note: the resources must be currently available and operational. Do not include future plans to add resources.)
2. Resident or fellow Case Log reports (if applicable) for the most recent program graduates (four years of experience must be included)
3. Proposed block diagram that clearly demonstrates how the requested increase will impact the curriculum. If the program's block diagram will not change with the increase, include a detailed explanation in the educational rationale indicating why there will be no change.
4. Major changes in the program since its last review
5. Responses to any previous citations identified in the ACGME Letter of Notification following the most recent review by the Committee

Review Committee Considerations

In its review of permanent complement increase requests, the Review Committee considers all areas of a program to determine whether there will be sufficient case volume and educational/environmental resources to accommodate the requested additional residents or fellows within the learning environment. One area alone is not sufficient to deny a request for a permanent complement increase. Areas the Review Committee considers include, but are not limited to:

- Procedure/case log volume for graduates
In particular, graduate volume below, at, or near the required number is of concern.

- Program progress toward resolution of citations and areas for improvement
- ACGME Resident/Fellow and Faculty Survey results
- Three-year aggregate and ultimate certification board pass rates
- Faculty and resident/fellow scholarship
- Significant leadership or programmatic instability

Process

Once completed, the request will be electronically sent to the DIO for approval. The DIO may approve the request, reject and delete the request, or reject and return the request for modifications. If the DIO approves the request, the information is submitted in ADS and forwarded to the Review Committee for consideration.

Within 48 hours of the applicable Review Committee meeting, the program will receive an automated notification of the Committee's decision. The Letter of Notification detailing the rationale for approving or denying the permanent complement increase request will be sent to the program within 60 days of the Review Committee meeting.