

Medical University of South Carolina GME  
Educational Oversight of Non-Standard Training (NST) Policy

The Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) has obtained ACGME recognition for sponsoring Institutions with Non-Standardized Training (NST) Programs. NST Recognition will be conferred upon Sponsoring Institutions only and will not be conferred upon individual NST programs. The following educational oversight policy will govern all NST programs at MUSC.

NST Program Definition:

- 1.) Current or planned trainees with J1B VISA sponsorship.
- 2.) An advanced clinical subspecialty discipline for which there is no ACGME accreditation, and/or no ABMS subspecialty board certification available.

Purpose:

- 1.) To provide the MUSC Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC) a policy for educational oversight of all NST programs.
- 2.) To ensure trainees have a high-quality educational experience which enhances patient care, and the GME educational experience.
- 3.) To provide Departments and Program Directors of NST with a guide for institutional requirements under the ACGME required oversight of the MUSC GME NST training programs.

Rules of Governance:

- 1.) The MUSC GMEC will conduct annual reviews of each NST and non-ACGME program through our Annual Program Evaluation (APE) process and will be subject to oversight by the GMEC Quality and Compliance committee and the DIO.
- 2.) The NST or non-ACGME Program Director should attend the quarterly GMEC meetings as Ex-officio members.
- 3.) Upon completion of the program and verification by their program director the trainee(s) will receive a certificate of completion from the GME office.

## NST Program Requirements:

### 1.) Program Leadership/ Faculty:

- a. Within the first 3 months of a trainee's start date in the program, the program director must complete an initial competency evaluation in MedHub utilizing ACGME milestones from the most closely related ACGME specialty.
- b. A supervising faculty member must be physically present to supervise the trainee until the program director documents ACGME milestones sufficient for delegating authority, responsibility, and conditional independence.
- c. Faculty members must directly observe, evaluate, and frequently provide feedback on trainee performance during each educational experience. The faculty should provide frequent evaluations for each of the trainee's educational experiences.
- d. The program director or designee must meet with each trainee every six months to review the trainee's performance.
- e. The program director must provide a summative evaluation of the trainee in MedHub upon completion or separation from the program.
- f. The program must provide a learning and working environment in which the trainees have the opportunity to raise concerns and provide feedback without fear of intimidation or retaliation in a confidential manner.
- g. The NST program director must ensure the educational hours of trainees must be limited to no more than 80 hours per week, averaged over a four-week period. This should be inclusive of all in-house clinical and educational activities as well as clinical responsibilities performed at home. The fellows will log their duty hours in MedHub and the program director/coordinator as well as the GME office will review for compliance.
- h. The NST program director must ensure, trainees are scheduled for a minimum of one day in seven free of clinical and educational duties when averaged over four weeks. At-home clinical responsibilities can not be assigned on these days off.

### 2.) Curriculum

- a. Educational goals: NST programs must contain the following educational components.
  - i. A set of program aims consistent with the Medical University of SC's mission, the needs of the Charleston community, and the desired capabilities of their graduates.
  - ii. Competency based goals and objectives for each educational experience, designed to promote progress to autonomous practice in their specialty.
  - iii. A comprehensive listing of fellow responsibilities for patient care, management, and graded supervision in their specialty.
  - iv. Structured educational activities beyond patient care including protected time to participate in the program's didactic activities.
  - v. Didactic activities and educational experiences should be based on the closest subspecialty milestones. They should provide learning in the core competencies of Medical Knowledge, Practice-based Learning and Improvement, Interpersonal and Communication Skills, and Systems Based Practice. These educational activities should provide experiences blending supervised patient care, clinical teaching, and didactic educational events.
  - vi. The program should incorporate educational experiences that promote patient safety, and professionalism.
- b. Trainee Responsibilities:
  - i. Trainees must provide patient centered, compassionate, equitable, appropriate, and effective care for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health.
  - ii. Trainees must be able to perform all medical, diagnostic, and surgical procedures essential for their area of practice.
  - iii. Trainees must demonstrate knowledge of their specialty and its application to patient care.
  - iv. Trainees must demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in the effective exchange of information and collaboration with patients, their families, and health professionals.

- v. Trainees must demonstrate the ability to investigate and evaluate their care of their patients, to appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and continuously improve patient care based on self-evaluation and lifelong learning.
- vi. Trainees must demonstrate awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context of health care, including the structural and social determinants of health, as well as the ability to call on other resources to provide optimal care.
- vii. NST Trainees must log their duty hours in Med Hub on a weekly basis. The program director and the GME office will monitor for compliance with the 80-hour work week.

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