

Department of Anesthesia

Title: Academic Requirements

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## POLICY

Medical Knowledge is an essential core competency and one of the 24 milestones in anesthesiology residency training. Residents in anesthesiology must obtain knowledge of biomedical, clinical, epidemiological, and social-behavioral sciences as outlined in the American Board of Anesthesiology Content Outline.

The Department of Anesthesiology at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital requires all residents to participate in four sets of standardized examinations during their residency training:

### 1. United States Medical Licensing Examination – Step 3:

In accordance with the policy of the Office of Graduate Medical Education, all residents must pass USMLE Step 3 by June 30 of the PGY-2/CA-1 year. This means that hard copies of the passing score must be *received* in the GME office by June 30. If a passing USMLE Step 3 score has not been received by this date, the PGY-3/CA-2 contract is null and void.

### 2. Anesthesia Knowledge Test (AKT):

All residents will take three Anesthesia Knowledge Tests: AKT-1 month, AKT-6 month, and AKT-24 months. Residents who score below the 30<sup>th</sup> percentile will undergo academic counseling.

### 3. In-Training Examination (ITE):

All residents will take the annual ABA/ASA In-Training Examination at the scheduled time in late winter. Residents who score below the 30<sup>th</sup> percentile will be issued a Letter of Deficiency for the Medical Knowledge core competency and placed on a period of “Academic Remediation” until the subsequent In-Training Examination. Per GME guidelines, this letter provides the resident with (a) notice of the deficiency and (b) an opportunity to cure the deficiency. If the resident satisfactorily resolves the Medical Knowledge deficiency, and continues to perform acceptably thereafter, the period of unacceptable academic performance will not affect the house officer’s intended career development. If the Program Director/CCC determines that the house officer has failed to satisfactorily cure the Medical Knowledge deficiency and/or improve overall performance to an acceptable level, the Program Director/CCC may elect to take further action, which may include one or more of the following steps: issuance of a new Letter of Deficiency, election not to promote to the next PGY level, extension of contract (which may include extension of the defined training period), or dismissal from the residency program.

#### 4. **BASIC Certification Examination:**

All CA-2 residents will take the American Board of Anesthesiology BASIC certification examination in July of the CA-2/PGY-3 year.

- A resident who fails the BASIC examination for the first time will receive (1) a Letter of Deficiency for the Medical Knowledge core competency; and (2) an “Unsatisfactory” ABA training report for the six-month Clinical Competence Committee reporting period during which the examination was taken.
- A resident who fails the BASIC examination a second time will be dismissed from the residency training program.

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