

RESIDENT ASSIGNMENTS DURING DISASTER EVENTS

INTRODUCTION

The ACGME has defined a disaster as “an event or set of events causing significant alteration to the residency experience at one or more residency programs”.

PROCEDURE

In the event Bridgeport Hospital’s Incident Command System is activated as a result of a Code D (disaster event) declaration, and impacts the training sites utilized by residents and/or fellows, the DIO (Designated Institutional Official) or his/her designee, shall work with the Medical Staff Director in protecting the residents’ assignments, education and compensation (salary and benefits) to the best of their ability.

For disaster events with prolonged implications to resident assignments, education and compensation, within 10 days of the initial event, the DIO will contact the ACGME and determine which of the following applies:

1. If residents/fellows affected by the closing of a site can be immediately reassigned to other affiliated training sites, this will be done and there will be no break in training or compensation.
2. If no other short-term training site is available and it is determined that the closed site will re-open within 90 days or less, compensation will continue in full and the residency training period will be extended as necessary.
3. If no other short-term training site is available and the closed site will not be available for training for more than 90 days, the Program Director, with the assistance of the GMEC and the ACGME, will immediately make efforts to find suitable training at another site. Compensation will be provided for up to 90 days. If an appropriate alternative training site is not identified within 90 days, the resident/fellow will be directed to file for unemployment compensation.

COMMUNICATION

All efforts will be made by the DIO to contact Program Directors and residents directly. Additionally, the following communications will occur to ensure that all programs and trainees have as much information as possible.

The DIO will be responsible for calling or emailing the ACGME and the Institutional Review Committee to provide information and gather information

1. Program Directors will be responsible for calling or emailing their RRC Executive Director with information or requests for information.
2. Residents will be responsible for calling or emailing their RRC Executive Director with information or requests for information.

3. The ACGME will provide information for changing resident information on its website.
4. Within 10 days of a declared disaster the DIO will contact the ACGME to discuss due dates that the ACGME will establish for the programs to a) submit program reconfigurations to ACGME and b) inform each program's residents of resident transfer decisions. Due dates for submission will be no more than 30 days after the disaster unless otherwise approved by ACGME.

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