

Meeting the Requirements: What To Do When the ACGME Tells You It's Not All Good

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Dr. Mary Ann Edens (LSU-Shreveport) and Dr. Jan Shoenberger (Los Angeles County + USC)

Speakers' Disclaimer: We are not affiliated with the ACGME. Opinions expressed are our own.

Topics that will be covered in this session:

1. How a program gets into trouble may vary widely – The institution, chair, faculty, Program Director and residents may all contribute
2. ACGME definitions
 - a. **Probationary Accreditation** – “An accreditation status that is conferred when the Review Committee determines that a program or sponsoring institution has failed to demonstrate substantial compliance with the requirements”
 - b. **Continued Accreditation with Warning** – “If a program or sponsoring institution does not demonstrate substantial compliance, a Review Committee may warn a program or sponsoring institution if it determines areas of noncompliance may jeopardize its accreditation status”
3. ACGME cannot change your status to Probationary Accreditation without a site visit
4. Once given Probationary Accreditation:
 - a. It cannot exceed 2 consecutive annual reviews
 - b. You will undergo another site visit
 - c. You cannot apply for an increase in complement
 - d. You must notify in writing all enrolled/matched residents and all applicants invited to interview of your status
 - e. You will get to see the site visitors' report
 - f. You can request an appeal (but have to pay the costs)
5. Strategize for site visit
 - a. Pay attention to the details
 - b. Identify obstacles and make a strategy to deal with them
 - c. Communicate with DIO and chair
 - d. Involve and inform the residents and faculty ASAP
 - i. Transparency and frequent communication is key
6. Dealing with the fallout
 - a. You will need support – find outlets where you can safely vent your frustrations
 - b. The other PD's in you institution will be interested in your program resolving it's problems
 - i. Your program being at risk means theirs could be too
 - c. Remember who your constituency is – the residents
 - i. If you keep their interest in mind, you will stay on the right track
 - d. You must be a master communicator
 - e. Ask the ACGME questions when things are not clear
 - i. Make sure your DIO knows you are communicating with ACGME
7. The upside
 - a. Look at the adversities as opportunities for improvement
 - b. In the end, you will be more experienced, more valuable and better at your job