

Augusta University
House Staff Policies and Procedures

Policy
HS 22.0 Disaster Response Policy


Source
Graduate Medical Education Office

1.0 Purpose

This policy is established to protect the well-being, safety, and educational experience of House Staff enrolled in our GME training programs in the event of a disaster impacting the GME programs sponsored by Augusta University in accordance with ACGME requirements that state the Sponsoring Institution (i.e., MCG) must maintain a policy consistent with ACGME Policies and Procedures that addresses support for each of its ACGME-accredited programs and House Staff in the event of a disaster or other substantial disruption in patient care or education.


2.0 Procedure

- 2.1 Following declaration of a disaster or other substantial disruption in patient care or education, the GMEC working with the DIO and other sponsoring institutional leadership will strive to restructure or reconstitute the educational experience as quickly as possible.
- 2.2 The DIO and GMEC, in consultation with the Dean of MCG (i.e., the chair of the Governing Body), will make the determination that transfer to another program is necessary as quickly as possible in order to maximize the likelihood that House Staff will be able to complete program requirements within the standard time required for certification in that specialty.
- 2.3 If it is determined that MCG can no longer provide an adequate educational experience for its House Staff, MCG will, to the best of its ability, arrange for the temporary transfer of House Staff to programs at other sponsoring institutions until such time as MCG at Augusta University is able to resume providing the training experience.
- 2.4 House Staff who transfer to other programs as a result of a disaster or other substantial disruption will be provided by their Program Directors with an estimated time that relocation to another program will be necessary. Should that initial time estimate need to be extended, the House Staff will be notified by their Program Directors using written or electronic means identifying the estimated time of the extension.
- 2.5 If the disaster or other substantial disruption prevents MCG from re-establishing an adequate educational experience within a reasonable amount of time following the disaster or other substantial disruption, then permanent transfers will be arranged.
- 2.6 The DIO will be the primary institutional contact with the ACGME including the Institutional Review Committee Executive Director regarding disaster plan implementation and needs within MCG in accordance with ACGME requirements.
- 2.7 In the event of a disaster or other substantial disruption affecting other sponsoring institutions of GME programs, the DIO at Augusta University will work collaboratively with the other sponsoring institutions' DIO with the consideration of accepting House Staff from other institutions. Programs currently under an adverse accreditation decision by the ACGME will not be eligible to participate in accepting transfer House Staff. All ACGME requirements will be followed including requesting complement increases from GMEC and ACGME if needed.
- 2.8 Programs will be responsible for establishing procedures to protect the academic and personnel files of all House Staff from loss or destruction by disaster. This should include at least a plan for storage of data in a separate geographical location away.



David Hess, M.D.
Dean, Medical College of Georgia

7/12/22
Date



Natasha M. Savage, M.D.
Senior Associate Dean, Graduate Medical Education and DIO

7/12/22
Date

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