

UNC School of Medicine
General Surgery Residency
Policy on Satisfactory Completion of Residency

August 22, 2013

Rationale:

The program must routinely state to licensure and other certifying and accrediting agencies whether or not a given resident satisfactorily completed one or more years of residency education. This Program has not previously defined “satisfactory completion” or “one year” for this purpose.

To date, the Residency Review Committee of Surgery (RRC) and the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) have remained silent in defining these terms.

The American Board of Surgery (“Board”) is also silent on the question of “satisfactory completion” except with respect to admissibility to the certification process wherein the Board states that one, ‘Must have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the authorities of their graduate educational program in Surgery, to their peers and to the Board, that one has attained the level of qualifications in Surgery required by the Board’. The Board does, however, describe the requirements for “one year” as follows: “The Board normally expects a residency year to include no less than forty-eight (48) weeks of full-time surgical experience. For documented medical problems or maternity leave, the Board will accept forty-six (46) weeks of surgical training in one of the first three years and 46 weeks of training during one of the last two years. Thus the Board requires a total of 142 weeks of full-time surgical experience during the first three clinical years and 94 weeks during the last two years. [American Board of Surgery, Inc., *Booklet of Information*, July 2003 – June 2004. Requirements for Certification in Surgery II.B.5.]

While individuals with less than five years of general surgery residency are not admissible to the Board certification process, in the absence of prior definition by this Program, by the RRC or the ACGME, this Program will adopt the definition of “one year” of residency as put forth by the American Board of Surgery.

Policy:

- 1) “One year” of residency in this program shall consist of forty eight (48) weeks of full-time surgical experience. For documented medical problems, maternity leave or paternity leave the Program will accept forty six (46) weeks of full-time surgical experience as comprising “one year” of residency.
- 2) In order to receive credit for each of the first three years of general surgery residency, an individual must during that time accrue a total of one hundred forty-two (142) weeks of full-time surgical experience.
- 3) To receive credit for each of the penultimate and ultimate (typical of the fourth and fifth) years of residency one must during that time accrue a total of ninety four (94) weeks of full-time surgical residency experience.

- 4) "Satisfactory completion" of one year of residency will be ascribed when a resident:
- a. Meets the definition of "one year" (above) *and*
 - b. Is not on probation for any reason or has satisfactorily remediated all conditions associated with probationary status *and*
 - c. Has met the goals and objectives for all service rotations-.
- 5) This policy is effective immediately.

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Program Director

Approved by the Department Education Advisory Committee ___/___/___