GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE POLICY NO. 18

A. SUBJECT: Reduction in Size/Closure of GME Training Programs

B: EFFECTIVE DATE: August 28, 2013(R)

C: POLICY:

The University of Virginia Health System shall seek to provide its graduate medical trainees with fair and equitable treatment when those trainees are affected by institutional decision to close or reduce the number of graduate medical trainees in a GME program sponsored by the University of Virginia Health System.

D: PURPOSE:

Circumstances and considerations that may lead to closure or reduction in the size of a training program include, but are not limited to:

1. Failure of the training program to correct concerns and/or comply with recommendations of the GME Committee based on the Internal Review of the program;
2. Failure of the training program to correct citations of the program's Residency Review Committee (RRC) of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME);
3. Decreased financial or educational resources to support the training program;
4. Reallocation of positions among the postgraduate programs;
5. The Program Director of a program that has not had graduate medical trainees enrolled within four years shall initiate procedures to close the program.

E: PROCEDURE

The following procedure will be followed in the event that the health system and/or a training program director decide to reduce the number of positions in or close a training program:

1. Graduate medical trainees, the GMEC, and the DIO will be notified by UVA Health System as soon as possible when it intends to reduce the size or close one or more programs, or when UVA Health System intends to close.
2. Every attempt will be made to reduce the number of positions over a period of time and/or by reducing entry level positions through decreased recruitment and enrollment so that currently enrolled graduate medical trainees can complete their training.
3. If completing the program is not possible, the program director and the Graduate Medical Education Office will assist displaced graduate medical trainee(s) in securing an appointment to another training program in which they can continue their education/training.
4. If necessary, the Medical Center will continue salary and benefits until the end of the current appointment term or until the graduate medical trainee begins in a new program, whichever comes first.
5. The institution will protect remaining graduate medical trainees from inappropriate duty hours and service obligations resulting from closures/reductions.
F: INSTITUTIONAL and/or AFFILIATES

Should the University of Virginia Medical Center or any affiliated institution close or reduce their funding of graduate medical trainee slots during a residency training program, the University of Virginia Medical center shall attempt to locate funds for completion of the academic year and shall strive to replace those training slots within other programs at the Medical Center or at other affiliated institutions.

Approved by: GMEC, July 2005
Updated: February, 2005
Updated/Approved by: GMEC, May 2, 200
Updated/Approved by GMEC – August 30, 2007
Updated/Approved by GMEC – March 15, 2010
Updated/Approved by GMEC-August 28, 2013