

Effective: 05/14/2021; Revised: 10/20/2023; 5/17/2024; 6/13/2025
Page 1 of 2

CONTINUATION OF GME SUPPORT IN THE EVENT OF A DISASTER OR SUBSTANTIAL DISRUPTION- EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES POLICY

For the purposes of this policy, a disaster is an event or set of events at VUMC causing significant alteration to the residency/fellowship experience at one or more VUMC residency/fellowship programs.

Policy

In the event of a disaster, VUMC will continue to provide administrative support for its GME programs through the disaster and will abide by ACGME Policy and Procedures to Address Extraordinary Circumstances. In the event that such a disaster or its consequences warrant reduction or closure of a program(s), then the Training Program Reduction/Closure Policy will take effect.

If, in the event of a disaster impacting an ACGME program, an adequate educational experience cannot be provided for each House Staff the sponsoring institution will, where possible:

1. Revise its educational program to comply with the applicable Common, specialty specific Institutional and Program Requirements within 30 days of the invocation of the policy.
2. Arrange temporary transfers to other programs/institutions until such time as the residency/fellowship programs can provide an adequate educational experience for each of its House Staff. VUMC in collaboration with the receiving programs/institutions will work to ensure continuation of salary, benefits, and professional liability coverage for each House Staff while they remain employed by VUMC.
3. Cooperate in and facilitate permanent transfers to other programs/institutions. Programs/institutions will, to the extent possible, make the keep/transfer decision expeditiously to maximize the likelihood that each House Staff will complete the residency year on schedule and, to the extent possible, will maintain continuity of salary and benefits.
4. Work to reconstitute the program and/or arrange for temporary or permanent transfers of the residents and/or fellows to maximize the likelihood that each

Effective: 05/14/2021; Revised: 10/20/2023; 5/17/2024; 6/13/2025
Page 2 of 2

resident or fellow will complete the academic year with the least disruption to her or his education.

Within 10 days of the invocation of the Extraordinary Circumstances policy, the DIO, or designee(s), will contact the ACGME to receive the timelines the ACGME has established for its programs. The DIO will call or email the ACGME Institutional Review Committee Executive Director with information and/or requests for information. When appropriate, the DIO will contact executive directors of specific residency review committees (RRCs).

The DIO will determine the need and will contact the ACGME to discuss due dates that the ACGME will establish for the programs as necessary. This may include but is not limited to the following:

1. To submit program reconfigurations to the ACGME and
2. To inform each program's House Staff of the decision to reconstitute the program and/or transfer the House Staff either temporarily or permanently.

The due dates for submission shall be no later than 30 days after the invocation of the ACGME policy unless other due dates are approved by the ACGME.

See the ACGME Policy and Procedures at www.acgme.org for more information and contact information for DIOs, Program Directors and House Staff to utilize in the event of a disaster or extraordinary circumstances.

In the event of substantial disruptions in patient care or education the sponsoring institution will provide assistance for continuation of salary, benefits, professional liability coverage, and resident/fellow assignments.

If the Extraordinary Circumstances policy impacts a non-ACGME program, VUMC will use reasonable effort to temporarily or permanently transfer House Staff to other institutions as appropriate.

Revisions Reviewed and Approved by GMEC: 06/13/2025