



**Bylaws Amendment**

RESOLUTION: 13(20)

SUBMITTED BY: Zachary Jarou, MD, MBA  
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Emergency Medicine Residents' Association  
Young Physicians Section

SUBJECT: Counting Fellowship Training Time Toward FACEP

**PURPOSE:** Amends the Bylaws to permit candidate physician members in post-residency training programs immediately following an emergency medicine residency program who have opted to continue as candidate members have the time spent in the fellowship training program count toward the three years of continuous membership immediately prior to election to ACEP Fellow status.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Budgeted staff resources to update the Bylaws. Potential increased revenue for FACEP application fees.

1 WHEREAS, Upon the completion of residency, many emergency physicians complete fellowships in  
2 subspecialty areas of emergency medicine; and  
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4 WHEREAS, Upon the completion of residency, fellows are eligible to continue their ACEP membership by  
5 either becoming a “regular” member of ACEP or by continuing as a “candidate” member; and  
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7 WHEREAS, Most fellows are paid salaries according to institutional pay scales and receive compensation  
8 similar to residents; and  
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10 WHEREAS, Candidate membership is more affordable for fellows; and  
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12 WHEREAS, Candidate membership includes EMRA membership, which allows fellows to continue to  
13 receive the majority of benefits they received as residents; and  
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15 WHEREAS, Candidate members may make significant post-residency contributions to the College while  
16 completing additional fellowship training; and  
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18 WHEREAS, Other emergency medicine organizations provide members with “fellow status” immediately  
19 upon graduation from residency; and  
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21 WHEREAS, Attaining FACEP status may increase long-term membership retention and involvement with  
22 ACEP; therefore be it  
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24 RESOLVED, That the ACEP Bylaws, Article V – ACEP Fellows, Section 1 - Eligibility, be amended to read:  
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26 **ARTICLE V — ACEP FELLOWS**  
27 **Section 1 — Eligibility**  
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29 Fellows of the College shall meet the following criteria:  
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- 31 1. Be candidate physician, regular, or international members for three continuous years immediately prior to  
32 election.

- 33 2. Be certified in emergency medicine at the time of election by the American Board of Emergency Medicine, the  
34 American Osteopathic Board of Emergency Medicine, or in pediatric emergency medicine by the American  
35 Board of Pediatrics.
- 36 3. Meet the following requirements demonstrating evidence of high professional standing at some time during their  
37 professional career prior to application.
- 38 A. At least three years of active involvement in emergency medicine as the physician's chief professional  
39 activity, exclusive of residency training, and;
- 40 B. Satisfaction of at least three of the following individual criteria during their professional career:
- 41 1. active involvement, beyond holding membership, in voluntary health organizations, organized medical  
42 societies, or voluntary community health planning activities or service as an elected or appointed public  
43 official;
- 44 2. active involvement in hospital affairs, such as medical staff committees, as attested by the emergency  
45 department director or chief of staff;
- 46 3. active involvement in the formal teaching of emergency medicine to physicians, nurses, medical students,  
47 out-of-hospital care personnel, or the public;
- 48 4. active involvement in emergency medicine administration or departmental affairs;
- 49 5. active involvement in an emergency medical services system;
- 50 6. research in emergency medicine;
- 51 7. active involvement in ACEP chapter activities as attested by the chapter president or chapter executive  
52 director;
- 53 8. member of a national ACEP committee, the ACEP Council, or national Board of Directors;
- 54 9. examiner for, director of, or involvement in test development and/or administration for the American  
55 Board of Emergency Medicine or the American Osteopathic Board of Emergency Medicine;
- 56 10. reviewer for or editor or listed author of a published scientific article or reference material in the field of  
57 emergency medicine in a recognized journal or book.

58  
59 Provision of documentation of the satisfaction of the above criteria is the responsibility of the candidate, and  
60 determination of the satisfaction of these criteria shall be by the Board of Directors of ACEP or its designee.

## Background

This resolution amends the Bylaws to permit candidate physician members in post-residency training programs immediately following an emergency medicine residency program who have opted to continue as candidate members have the time spent in the fellowship training program count toward the three years of continuous membership immediately prior to election to ACEP Fellow status.

ACEP candidate members who enter fellowship training programs directly after completion of an emergency medicine residency program have the option of transitioning to regular membership (pay regular dues) or remain as a candidate member (pay candidate dues) until completion of the fellowship training program. Members who remain in the candidate member category while completing the fellowship training program do not currently have that time count toward the three years of continuous membership to qualify for ACEP Fellow status. Since 3.A. stipulates “exclusive of residency training,” this proposed change in the ACEP Fellow requirements cannot be misinterpreted to include all candidate physician members.

There are currently 639 candidate members in a fellowship program based on ACEP membership statistics as of August 31, 2020.

## ACEP Strategic Plan Reference

Goal 2 – Enhance Membership Value and Membership Engagement

Objective B – Increase total membership and retain graduating residents.

**Fiscal Impact**

Budgeted staff resources to update the Bylaws. Potential increased revenue for FACEP application fees.

**Prior Council Action**

The Council has discussed and adopted numerous resolutions regarding ACEP Fellows (FACEP) requirements, but none that are specific to allowing candidate physician members to qualify.

Amended Resolution 7(13) Candidate Members in Fellowship Training adopted. This Bylaws amendment clarified that residents entering a fellowship program directly upon completing an emergency medicine residency have the option to remain a candidate member or transition to active membership.

**Prior Board Action**

Amended Resolution 7(13) Candidate Members in Fellowship Training adopted.

February 2013, approved cosponsoring the resolution Candidate Members in Fellowship Training with the Bylaws Committee for submission to the 2013 Council.

June 2011, assigned an objective to the Bylaws Committee to propose Bylaws revisions to allow candidate members entering a fellowship, after completion of an emergency medicine residency, the option of active membership.

**Background Information Prepared by:** Sonja Montgomery, CAE  
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