ACGME Concurrent Application Pilot
FAQ Guide
July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026

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Pilot Background and Criteria

Question	Answer
What is the Concurrent Application Pilot all about?	The Concurrent Application Pilot was initiated, in alignment with the ACGME's medically underserved areas and populations (MUA/P) and graduate medical education (GME) framework, to reduce barriers to GME development in MUA/Ps. This pilot shortens the timeframe to both new Sponsoring Institution and program accreditation by allowing a program application to be submitted before or around the same time as its Sponsoring Institution's application, and for the program to undergo an accreditation site visit prior to the Sponsoring Institution being reviewed by the Institutional Review Committee (IRC).
How does this pilot benefit MUA/Ps?	Since the Concurrent Application Pilot shortens the timeframe for both Sponsoring Institution and program accreditation, it could benefit MUA/Ps vulnerable to high leadership turnover or that have grant deadlines, such as Teaching Health Center programs. Other benefits, which may also impact programs that aren't MUA/Ps, include the ability to potentially build cap sooner under the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), as well as a shorter timeline to streamline hiring decisions for the new Sponsoring Institutions and program(s).
Is the pilot limited to Institutions and programs serving MUA/Ps?	No. While this pilot was created with MUA/Ps in mind, it is open to Sponsoring Institutions of all types, sizes, and locations. Any potential Sponsoring Institutions interested in reducing the timeline to getting programs in the identified specialties accredited are encouraged to participate, and especially those in rural and underserved areas.
Can existing Sponsoring Institutions participate in the pilot?	No. This pilot is not intended for existing Sponsoring Institutions. The benefit of this pilot is a shorter timeline to accreditation for a new Sponsoring Institution and program(s) but would not benefit a Sponsoring Institution that is already or has previously been accredited.
Can specialties other than those listed on the Intent to Apply form petition to submit new applications during the pilot?	No. Sponsoring Institutions in this pilot may not submit applications for programs in any specialties other than those indicated in the Concurrent Application Pilot section of the Intent to Apply for Institutional Accreditation form. The specialties included in the pilot are family medicine, general surgery, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, preventive medicine, and psychiatry, which are the same core specialties eligible for rural and Teaching Health Center GME Development grants through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). After a Sponsoring Institution achieves a status of Initial Accreditation, if it has submitted applications for one or more programs as part of the pilot, applications for any specialty or subspecialty program(s) can be submitted. Program applications in non-pilot specialties do not need to be submitted within 90 days of the Sponsoring Institution application. They will be processed following standard accreditation processes.
Is there a limit to the number of program	No. There is no limit on the number of eligible program applications that can be submitted during the pilot, although it is recommended

applications that can be submitted during the pilot?	to limit the number to one or two to ensure they are complete and accurate, as the program applications must be submitted within 90 days of the Sponsoring Institution's application.
If a Sponsoring Institution has already submitted an Intent to Apply form to the ACGME, but has not yet submitted an institutional application, can it participate in the pilot?	If the Sponsoring Institution is new (no history of a status of Accreditation Withheld or Withdrawal of Accreditation) and has not yet submitted institutional or program applications via the ACGME's Accreditation Data System (ADS), it can participate in the pilot, even if an Intent to Apply for Institutional Accreditation form has already been submitted. If this form has already been submitted, download the form again (from the Institutional Application and Requirements page), complete *only* the Concurrent Application Pilot section of the form, and email it directly to muap@acgme.org.
If a Sponsoring Institution has already applied for accreditation but has not yet been reviewed by the IRC, can it participate in the pilot and submit program applications?	To participate in the pilot, an institution must be new (no history of a status of Accreditation Withheld or Withdrawal of Accreditation) and must not have submitted an institutional or program application in ADS. If a Sponsoring Institution has already submitted its application for accreditation, it is not eligible to participate in the Concurrent Application Pilot.

Pilot Process	
Question	**Answer**
How much time overall could an institution save by participating in the pilot?	It can currently take more than a year for a Sponsoring Institution and program to become accredited. In the Concurrent Application Pilot, the timeline to accreditation for both a Sponsoring Institution and its applying program(s) is nine to 12 months following submission of the first application. Contact the respective Review Committee staff with questions about Review Committee meeting dates.
If a program application is submitted before its Sponsoring Institution submits an application, how long does the program have to wait to be reviewed?	If a program's application is submitted before its Sponsoring Institution's application, the program's accreditation site visit can take place before the IRC reviews the institution's application. If that happens, the program application would then be held by the specialty Review Committee until the IRC confers Initial Accreditation on the Sponsoring Institution. As soon as that happens, the program application can be placed on the Review Committee's next meeting agenda for review (if it is before the agenda closing date).

In the pilot, the Sponsoring Institution and any of its program applications must be submitted within 90 days of each other. Once the first application is submitted, both should be reviewed within nine to 12 months. While most Review Committees meet three times a year, note that two of those overseeing specialties in the Concurrent Application Pilot only meet twice a year (the Review Committees for Preventive Medicine and Psychiatry). |
| Do current Review Committee agenda | Yes. The published IRC and specialty Review Committee agenda closing and meeting dates are the same for the Concurrent |

closing and meeting dates apply for the pilot?	Application Pilot. Refer to the dates posted on the IRC and specialty sections of the ACGME website. While most Review Committees meet three times a year, note that two of those overseeing specialties in the Concurrent Application Pilot only meet twice a year (the Review Committees for Preventive Medicine and Psychiatry).
If a Sponsoring Institution does not achieve Initial Accreditation, what happens to a program application that was already submitted by that institution?	If a program application is submitted before its Sponsoring Institution's application is reviewed by the IRC, and when the institution is reviewed it receives a status of Accreditation Withheld, both the program and the Sponsoring Institution will be withdrawn from the Concurrent Application Pilot and must follow the standard application processes if they choose to apply again. In this case, the program will need to submit new application materials and undergo another accreditation site visit (if applicable) once its Sponsoring Institution achieves Initial Accreditation; new program accreditation fees will be assessed with that re-application, and the original program application information will be retained in ADS.
What happens if a Sponsoring Institution and its program applications are not submitted within 90 days of each other?	If the Sponsoring Institution and its program applications are not submitted within 90 days of each other, the Sponsoring Institution and program(s) will be withdrawn from the pilot and they must follow the standard application processes if they choose to apply again. If a program application was already submitted, the program will need to submit new application materials and undergo another accreditation site visit (if applicable) once the Sponsoring Institution achieves Initial Accreditation; new program accreditation fees will be assessed with that re-application, and the original application information will be retained within ADS. If the Sponsoring Institution's application was already submitted, program applications can be submitted after the Sponsoring Institution achieves Initial Accreditation.
What happens if a Sponsoring Institution's and its program applications are not submitted before the end of the pilot period?	If applications for both a Sponsoring Institution and its applying programs are not submitted before the end of the pilot period, the Sponsoring Institution and program(s) will be withdrawn from the pilot and they must follow the standard application processes if they choose to apply again. If a program application was already submitted, the program will need to submit new application materials and undergo another accreditation site visit (if applicable) once its Sponsoring Institution achieves Initial Accreditation; new program accreditation fees will be assessed with that re-application, and the original application information will be retained within ADS. If the Sponsoring Institution's application was already submitted, program applications can be submitted after the Sponsoring Institution achieves Initial Accreditation.

If a Sponsoring Institution entered the Concurrent Application Pilot near the end of the pilot period, however, it will still have the full 90 days of the pilot to submit both the institutional and program applications, even if it extends past the end of the pilot period. |

Pilot Resources	
Question	**Answer**
What resources are there to assist institutions and programs with submitting quality applications and preparing for a program accreditation site visit?	For new Sponsoring Institutions, FAQs are available on the Institutional Application and Requirements page of the ACGME website. These provide additional information and guidance related to the Institutional Requirements. For programs, FAQs are available on the Program Requirements and FAQs and Applications tab of the respective specialty's section of the website: • Family Medicine • General Surgery • Internal Medicine • Obstetrics and Gynecology • Pediatrics • Preventive Medicine • Psychiatry The Guide to the Common Program Requirements includes information on how to implement program requirements. FAQs and resources regarding site visits can be found on the Site Visits page of the website. The Rural Track Program designation page of the website offers several resources for those interested in pursuing the ACGME Rural Track Program (RTP) designation. The FAQs for Taxonomy of Sponsoring Institutions and Participating Sites provides guidance on how to enter participating sites. The following resources are available in the ACGME's digital learning platform, Learn at ACGME (note that a free account is required to access most of the content in the platform): • An Overview of Institutional Accreditation • Three-part course series on Applying for Program Accreditation • The Most Common Citations and How to Avoid Them • Learning Path for New Program Directors • Program Accreditation Site Visits: Top 10 Things to Know • ACGME Rural Track Program Designation (new program) The Institutional and specialty Review Committee staff members are also great resources and are available to answer questions about complying with different requirements when preparing to complete an application for accreditation. Find IRC staff contact information on the Institutional Review Committee web page; find specialty Review Committee staff contact information on the respective specialty section.

| | Email questions about the taxonomy of Sponsoring Institutions and participating sites to sponsoringinstitutions@acgme.org. |
| | Email questions about ACGME RTP designation or the Concurrent Application Pilot to muap@acgme.org. |