

Agenda Item 9g:  
Primary Care Residency (PCR) Program Review  
Updates to Standards and Guidelines

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June 2020 Song-Brown Policy Meeting

# PCR Standards

- Per the Health Care Workforce Training Act, the Commission creates standards that align with statute.
- Commission approved October 23, 2014.
- Staff proposed updates:
  - Combined individual standards for Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Obstetrics/Gynecology, and Pediatrics into one PCR standards document.
  - Removed reference to American Osteopathic Association based on the one GME system in place starting in 2020.

# PCR Guidelines

- Guidelines mirror statute.
- Song-Brown grant agreement language references adherence to Commission Standards and Guidelines.
- Last updated September 29, 2014.
- Staff proposed changes:
  - Combined individual guidelines for Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, OB/GYN, and Pediatrics into one PCR Guideline document.
  - Removed reference to American Osteopathic Association based on the one GME system in place starting in 2020.

# Considerations

- Guidelines and Standards are sometimes duplicative.
- Song-Brown grant agreement language references Commission Standards and Guidelines.
- Does the Commission want to keep the Guidelines?
  - The [2020-21 PCR Grant Guide](#) contains the current Standards and Guidelines for Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Obstetrics/Gynecology, and Pediatric programs.

# Implementation Timeline

Changes to the Standards and Guidelines will take effect for the 2021 PCR application cycle.

**SONG-BROWN HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE TRAINING ACT  
STANDARDS FOR PRIMARY CARE RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAMS  
PURSUANT TO HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE, SECTIONS 128200, et.  
ADOPTED BY THE CALIFORNIA HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE POLICY COMMISSION  
(Updated: May 22, 2020)**

- I. Each Primary Care Residency (Obstetrics and Gynecology [OB/GYN], Pediatrics, Internal, and Family Medicine) Training Program shall be approved by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education's Residency Review Committee.
- II. Each Primary Care Residency Program approved for funding and contracted with under the Song-Brown Health Care Workforce Training Act (hereinafter "the Act") shall, prior to the initiation of training and the transfer of state funds:
  - A. Be approved by the appropriate Residency Review Committee of the American Medical Association, as documented in a formal letter of approval from the Residency Review Committee.
  - B. Be provided by an accredited medical school or a teaching hospital which has programs or departments that recognize Family medicine, Internal medicine, OB/GYN, and Pediatrics as major independent specialties.
- III. Each Primary Care Residency Training Program approved for funding under the Act shall include a component of training in medically underserved multi-cultural communities, lower socioeconomic neighborhoods, or rural communities, and shall be organized to prepare primary care physicians for service in such neighborhoods and communities.
- IV. Each training institution receiving funds under the Act shall develop appropriate strategies to encourage primary care physicians who are in the training program funded by the Act, to enter into practice in areas of unmet need for primary care physicians within California as defined by the Commission (hereinafter referred to as "areas of unmet need"). Such strategies shall incorporate the following elements:
  - A. An established procedure to identify, recruit, and match primary care medicine residents who possess characteristics which would suggest a predisposition to practice in areas of unmet need, and who express a commitment to serve in areas of unmet need.
  - B. An established counseling and placement program designed to encourage training program graduates to enter practice in areas of unmet need.
  - C. A program component such as a preceptorship experience in an area of unmet need, which will enhance the potential of training program graduates to practice in such an area.

**CALIFORNIA HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE POLICY COMMISSION  
PRIMARY CARE RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAMS  
GUIDELINES FOR FUNDING APPLICANTS AND FOR PROGRAM EVALUATION  
(Updated: 5/14/2020)**

**Definition of Primary Care Residency Programs**

An accredited graduate medical education training program for primary care physicians (Medical Doctor–M.D. or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine–D.O.) who receive training in the areas of family medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, or pediatrics.

**Strategies Relating to Areas of Need**

The California Healthcare Workforce Policy Commission (Commission) gives special consideration to primary care training programs which have developed coherent strategies for locating their graduates in California areas of unmet need for primary care physicians as defined by the Commission. Such strategies shall include the following:

- Developing close ties with communities and neighborhoods experiencing a shortage of medical care.
- Attracting and admitting members of minority groups to the program.
- Demonstrating success in placing graduates in medically underserved areas.

**Concept of Healthcare Teams**

The primary care residency program should organize and teach primary care residents how to work with and use physician assistants and/or nurse practitioners in their practice and familiarize residents with the team approach to healthcare delivery. The Commission shall give special consideration to primary care residency programs integrated with primary care physician assistant or primary care nurse practitioner training programs.

**Involvement of Local Community Physicians**

Residency training programs should use primary care physicians from the local community.

**Board-Certified Training Program Director**

The primary care residency training program director should be a physician certified by the American Board in one of the specialties of Family Medicine, OB/GYN, Pediatrics, or Internal Medicine for Primary Care Practice's or American Osteopathic Board.

**Medical Departments or Equivalent**

Training institutions shall have a Family Medicine, OB/GYN, Pediatrics, or Internal Medicine department or administrative unit equivalent to those of the major clinical specialties.

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**Affiliations**

The Commission shall take into consideration the existence of a written agreement of affiliation or association between a hospital and an accredited medical school when making recommendations to the director for allocation of Song-Brown funds.

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