



RIGHT RESIDENT RIGHT PROGRAM READY DAY ONE



May 14, 2020

Updated APGO and CREOG Residency Application Response to COVID-19

This document updates and replaces the previous guidelines distributed on April 14, 2020 by APGO and CREOG regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic and its impact on the transition from Undergraduate Medical Education (UME) to Graduate Medical Education (GME). This document reflects the recommendations announced by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and the Coalition for Physician Accountability regarding the 2021 residency application cycle.

The leadership of APGO and CREOG continues to meet during the pandemic to discuss how to address the concerns of our stakeholders: medical students, program directors and medical schools. **Our primary goal remains to provide the best opportunity for both students and programs to have a fair and equitable application process in the upcoming year.** Therefore, APGO and CREOG reiterate the following guidelines for the 2021 residency application cycle made in April 2020:

1. Limit away rotations for the 2020-2021 academic year to those students who cannot acquire those experiences locally
2. Be flexible in the number of specialty specific letters of recommendation required
3. Encourage residency programs to develop alternate means of conveying information about their program than visiting electives and second looks. Innovative approaches to introducing their residents, their residency program and location to applicants are encouraged.

With the recent announcement by the AAMC on the ERAS timeline that residency programs will gain access to applications and MSPE letters on October 21, 2020, APGO and CREOG propose the following **revised** timeline for the 2021 application cycle:

1. Delay application submission deadline to **November 1, 2020**
2. Release all interview offers on **November 10 and November 17**
3. Limit the number of interview offers to the number of interview spots available
4. Allow a **minimum of 48 hours** for applicants to accept interview offers
5. Begin interviews no earlier than **November 17**
6. Release final status to applicant (interview, reject, waitlist) no later than **December 23**

In addition, we recommend that all programs commit to online interviews and virtual visits for all applicants, including local students, rather than in-person interviews for the entire cycle. APGO and CREOG commit to creating a set of tools for programs and students including guidelines and best practices to optimize the experience for programs and applicants.

Moving forward, APGO and CREOG will be developing and releasing guidelines for students participating in this unique application cycle. We will continue to monitor the ongoing pandemic and continue to share updates, innovations and best practices with the UME and GME communities.

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