

Joint Statement - February 27, 2026



Today, SAEM, AACEM, and RAMS joined colleagues across the Emergency Medicine community in sending a joint statement to ACGME leadership seeking clarity about the timeline surrounding the proposed changes to the Emergency Medicine Program Requirements. Because these discussions are important to our programs, trainees, and the future of our specialty, we want to keep you informed and share the letter sent to them.

Dear ACGME Leadership,

On behalf of the undersigned emergency medicine organizations, we would like to express our appreciation for the ACGME's thoughtful and deliberate approach to the proposed Emergency Medicine Program Requirements. We recognize the significance of these decisions and the care required in their evaluation.

However, the absence of a decision and a clearly articulated timeline has created substantial challenges for both training programs and trainees. Program leaders must make strategic decisions related to recruitment, resource and time allocation, curriculum design, and institutional planning well in advance. Without clarity regarding the anticipated timeline and process, responsible long-term planning is impossible.

Similarly, transparency regarding the anticipated timeline is crucial for medical students as they choose a specialty and start the residency application process. It's important that we empower our current and future trainees with adequate information during a process in which they may feel little control. Without a clear path and timeline, we risk impacting future application cycles and recruitment to Emergency Medicine.

The continued uncertainty is contributing to significant stress among the Emergency Medicine community. Clear communication regarding next steps, even if the decision itself requires additional time, would go a long way in reducing tensions and allowing program leaders, faculty, and trainees to plan appropriately for their educational mission.

We respectfully request greater transparency and clarity regarding next steps, including:

- The anticipated timeframe for a final determination
- Any remaining steps in the review process
- What additional information or data may be required to inform the decision

If specific questions, data needs, or stakeholder perspectives would be helpful, our organizations stand ready to assist in gathering information and engaging our members. We are committed to supporting our community through the implementation process. We support a thoughtful process that ensures the best possible outcomes for emergency medicine training and patient care.

Thank you for your continued leadership and engagement.