

NST Handbook

Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis has obtained ACGME recognition as a Sponsoring Institution with Non-Standard Training Programs. NST Recognition is only for the Institution, not for individual NST Programs.

What is the Purpose of NST? The ACGME provides oversight of training opportunities in the United States for trainees who are on a J-1 Visa by the ECFMG that get accepted into a Non-ACGME Accredited program. The Sponsoring Institution is solely responsible for every NST program and NST trainee to maintain compliance with ACGME policies and requirements for J-1 visa holders.

When a Non-ACGME Accredited program accepts a trainee on a J1 Visa, they will be automatically required to request to be a Non- Standard Training Program.

Once a program gets approved to be NST, they ***do not*** have to apply again for NST if they get another J1 Visa trainee later down the line. They ***must*** notify the GME Office.

Definition:

1. Non-Standard Training (NST) Program: Clinical training for foreign national physicians in advanced subspecialty programs for which there is no Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) accreditation or American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) Member Board certification.
2. NST Trainee: A physician in an NST program who holds a J-1 visa sponsored by the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG).

Oversight:

In accordance with the standards set by ACGME, the following are topics for which the GMEC is required to have oversight:

- Program proposal review, application for recognition
- Trainee eligibility
- Program Director qualifications
- Supervision & assessment of trainees
- Recording & compliance with applicable work hour rules

ACGME WebADS:

[WebADS](#) is the data collection system for ACGME. WebADS is the central portal for reporting program details and primary communication tool between ACGME, the Sponsoring Institution, and individual programs.

When a program is approved by the Graduate Medical Education Committee to switch into Non-Standard Training Status, the program will receive access to WebADS from the GME Office.

When a program does not have a trainee on a J-1 visa, they will drop from NST status & the program will be marked as Inactive in WebADS so the program will not be required to complete these steps.

Requirements to upload in ADS:

Trainee information

Participating Sites (these can only be the exact same as the most closely related program that was listed on the NST application)

Upload block schedule

Program Requirements to be Documented in New Innovations:

- Personnel File
 - Trainee prerequisite training
 - Employment contract
 - J-1 Visa documentation
- Block schedule
 - Blocks built at an appropriate interval for ACGME Work Hour rule calculation
- Rotation curriculum assigned to NST rotation
 - Educational goals
 - Trainee responsibilities for
 - Patient management
 - Supervision during the NST program
 - Description of required:
 - educational experiences
 - didactic session
 - assessment methods
 - procedural experience requirements
- Assessments
 - Within the first 3 months, an initial competence assessment must be completed by the Program Director including an ACGME Milestones assessment from the most closely related ACGME-accredited specialty or subspecialty
 - Direct supervision until the NST program director has documented the ACGME Milestones achievement
 - Semi-annual evaluation
 - Summative evaluation
- Work Hours
 - Recording all work hours
 - Compliance with the 80-hour week rule
 - Compliance with the 1 day off in 7 rule
 - Completion of the Quarterly Duty Hours attestation by program leadership

Additional Resources:

<https://www.acgme.org/programs-and-institutions/institutions/non-standard-training-nst-recognition/>

[GME Website on NST](#)

[Read GME Institutional Oversight for Non-ACGME programs](#)

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