

REPORT 9
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
(REFERRED TO REFERENCE COMMITTEE B)

Resolution 15-204: Parity for International Medical Graduates with US Medical Graduates in Years of Graduate Medical Education Requirement for Licensure, introduced at the 2015 House of Delegates annual meeting, called on the Pennsylvania Medical Society to aggressively pursue, including by legislative means, parity in the number of years of GME training requirement for IMGs and USMGs for licensure, and report back the progress in two years.

BACKGROUND

To achieve the legislative goal of this resolution, an amendment to the Medical Practice Act of 1985 (MPA) will need to be enacted. Currently, section 29(c) of the MPA requires graduates of unaccredited medical colleges¹ to complete “successfully, as a resident, three years of approved graduate medical training, educational requirements prescribed by the board and certification by the Educational Council for Foreign Medical Graduates, or its successors.”² In contrast, section 29(b) of the MPA requires graduates of an accredited medical college³ to complete “successfully, as a resident, two years of approved graduate medical training.”⁴

PAMED ACTION

PAMED’s legal staff has drafted a bill to amend section 29(c) of the MPA to require graduates of unaccredited medical colleges to complete two years of residency, the same as the requirement for graduates of accredited medical colleges.

PAMED’s government relations staff has identified a potential sponsor of the bill and will be providing a copy of PAMED’s bill to that legislator.

PAMED will follow the progress of that bill and lobby for its passage by the legislature.

¹ An “unaccredited medical college” is defined as “An institution of higher learning which provides courses in the art and science of medicine and surgery and related subjects, is empowered to grant professional degrees in medicine, is not accredited by any accrediting body recognized by the board and is listed by the World Health Organization, its successors or assigns, or is otherwise recognized as a medical college by the country in which it is situated. Any accrediting bodies recognized by the board on the effective date of this act shall continue to serve in that capacity unless and until the board recognizes a successor.”

² 63 P.S. § 422.29(c) (relating to license without restriction).

³ An “accredited medical college” is defined as “An institution of higher learning which has been fully accredited, by any accrediting body recognized by the board, as an agency to provide courses in the art and science of medicine and surgery and empowered to grant academic degrees in medicine. Any accrediting bodies recognized by the board on the effective date of this act shall continue to serve in that capacity unless and until the board recognizes a successor.”

⁴ 63 P.S. § 422.29(b).

RECOMMENDATION

1. The Board of Trustees recommends the adoption of this Board Report 9.

David A. Talenti, MD
Chair