



**ACGME International**

**Advanced Specialty Program Requirements for  
Graduate Medical Education in  
Dermatopathology  
(Dermatology, Pathology)**

Initial Approval:

1 **ACGME International Specialty Program Requirements for**  
2 **Graduate Medical Education**  
3 **in Dermatopathology (Dermatology, Pathology)**  
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5 **Int. Introduction**  
6

7 *Background and Intent: Programs must achieve and maintain Foundational Accreditation*  
8 *according to the ACGME-I Foundational Requirements prior to receiving Advanced Specialty*  
9 *Accreditation. The Advanced Specialty Requirements noted below complement the ACGME-*  
10 *I Foundational Requirements. For each section, the Advanced Specialty Requirements*  
11 *should be considered together with the Foundational Requirements.*  
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13 **Int.I. Definition and Scope of the Specialty**  
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15 Dermatopathology is the subspecialty of dermatology and pathology that is concerned with  
16 the study and diagnosis of diseases of the skin and adjacent mucous membranes, cutaneous  
17 appendages, hair, nails, and subcutaneous tissues by histological, histochemical,  
18 immunological, ultrastructural, molecular, and microbiological techniques. Graduate medical  
19 education programs in dermatopathology provide organized education in all current aspects  
20 of dermatopathology, including basic science, laboratory procedures, laboratory  
21 management, and quality assurance.  
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23 **Int.II. Duration of Education**  
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25 Int.II.A. The educational program in dermatopathology must be 12 or 24 months in length.  
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27 **I. Institution**  
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29 **I.A. Sponsoring Institution**  
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31 I.A.1. A fellowship in dermatopathology must function as an integral part of an  
32 ACGME-I-accredited residency in dermatology, anatomic pathology, or clinical  
33 and anatomic pathology.  
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35 I.A.2. The Sponsoring Institution must provide clinical services and qualified faculty  
36 members in dermatology and anatomic pathology or anatomic and clinical  
37 pathology.  
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39 **I.B. Participating Sites**  
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41 See International Foundational Requirements, Section I.B.  
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43 **II. Program Personnel and Resources**  
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45 **II.A. Program Director**  
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47 See International Foundational Requirements, Section II.A.  
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49 **II.B. Faculty**  
50

51 See International Foundational Requirements, Section II.B.  
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53	<b>II.C.</b>	<b>Other Program Personnel</b>
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55		See International Foundational Requirements, Section II.C.
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57	<b>II.C.</b>	<b>Resources</b>
58		
59	II.D.1.	The program must provide at least 5,000 new accessions per fellow per year with a variety of dermatopathology specimens that represents the breadth of dermatopathology.
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63	II.D.2.	The program must provide each fellow with a designated work area, microscope, and computer with internet access.
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66	<b>III.</b>	<b>Fellow Appointment</b>
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68	<b>III.A.</b>	<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>
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70	II.A.1.	Prior to appointment in the program, fellows must have successfully completed an ACGME-I-accredited residency program in dermatology, anatomic pathology, or anatomic and clinical pathology, or a dermatology, anatomic pathology, or anatomic and clinical pathology residency program acceptable to the Sponsoring Institution's Graduate Medical Education Committee.
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76	<b>II.B.</b>	<b>Number of Fellows</b>
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78		See International Foundational Requirements, Section III.B.
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80	<b>IV.</b>	<b>Specialty-Specific Educational Program</b>
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82	<b>IV.A.</b>	<b>ACGME-I Competencies</b>
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84	IV.A.1.	The program must integrate the following ACGME-I Competencies into the curriculum.
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87	IV.A.1.a)	Professionalism
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89	IV.A.1.a).(1)	Fellows must demonstrate a commitment to professionalism and an adherence to ethical principles.
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92	IV.A.1.b)	Patient Care and Procedural Skills
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94	IV.A.1.b).(1)	Fellows must provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health. Fellows must demonstrate competence in:
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99	IV.A.1.b).(1).(a)	diagnosing skin disorders by direct inspection and microscopy using special stains, immunohistochemistry, and immunofluorescence; and,
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103	IV.A.1.b).(1).(b)	reviewing and diagnosing dermatopathological specimens.
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106	IV.A.1.b).(2)	Fellows must be able to perform all medical, diagnostic, and surgical procedures considered essential for the area of practice of dermatopathology.
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110	IV.A.1.c)	Medical Knowledge
111		
112	IV.A.1.c).(1)	Fellows must demonstrate knowledge of established and evolving biomedical clinical, epidemiological, and social-behavioral sciences, including scientific inquiry, as well as the application of this knowledge to patient care. Fellows must demonstrate knowledge of:
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118	IV.A.1.c).(1).(a)	dermatopathology, to include the related basic sciences and laboratory and clinical sciences, from application to practice, as well as performance on objective exams.
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122	IV.A.1.d)	Practice-Based Learning and Improvement
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124	IV.A.1.d).(1)	Fellows must demonstrate the ability to investigate and evaluate their care of patients, to appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and to continuously improve patient care based on constant self-evaluation and lifelong learning.
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128	IV.A.1.e)	Interpersonal and Communication Skills
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130	IV.A.1.e).(1)	Fellows must demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in the effective exchange of information and collaboration with patients, patients' families, and health professionals.
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135	IV.A.1.f)	Systems-Based Practice
136		
137	IV.A.1.f).(1)	Fellows must demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care, including the social determinates of health, as well as the ability to call effectively on other resources in the system to produce optimal care.
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143	<b>IV.B.</b>	<b>Regularly Scheduled Educational Activities</b>
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145	IV.B.1.	The didactic curriculum must include regularly scheduled lectures, tutorials, seminars, and conferences.
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148	IV.B.1.b)	Fellows should have instruction which includes the use of and access to study sets and files of usual and unusual cases, as well as other educational resources, including the internet.
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152	IV.B.1.c)	Surgical pathology conferences should include the review of slide sets of diseases relevant to dermatopathology.
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- 155 IV.B.1.d) Fellows should attend relevant clinical dermatology, surgical, pathology,  
156 and dermatopathology conferences.  
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- 158 **IV.C. Clinical Experiences**  
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- 160 IV.C.1. Rotations must be of sufficient length to provide a quality educational experience,  
161 defined by continuity of patient care, ongoing supervision, longitudinal  
162 relationships with faculty members, and meaningful assessment and feedback.  
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- 164 IV.C.3. Rotations must be structured to allow fellows to function as a part of an effective  
165 interprofessional team that works together toward the shared goals of patient  
166 safety and quality improvement.  
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- 168 IV.C.3.a) The program must ensure that appropriate professional interaction is  
169 initiated and maintained between fellows and other physicians involved  
170 in the care of a patient, including participation in interdisciplinary  
171 conferences (e.g., tumor board) and reporting unexpected or critical  
172 findings and information to the physician responsible for the clinical care  
173 of a particular patient.  
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- 175 IV.C.4. All fellows must review and diagnose dermatopathology specimens throughout  
176 the 12 or 24 months of accredited education, and specimens must be equivalent  
177 in quantity and quality for all fellows.  
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- 179 IV.C.5. In a 12-month program, at least four months, and in a 24-month program, eight  
180 months must be devoted exclusively to the study of dermatopathology.  
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- 182 IV.C.5.a) During each 12-month period, each fellow must examine at least 5,000  
183 dermatopathology specimens, including in-house or referred specimens  
184 in the institution's accessions file for which reports are generated.  
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- 186 IV.C.6. Fellows who are pathologists must devote 50 percent of the remaining months of  
187 the program to education in clinical dermatology provided by the dermatology  
188 teaching faculty.  
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- 190 IV.C.6.a) Fellows who are pathologists must each examine at least 500  
191 dermatology patients during each 12-month period, including children  
192 and adults.  
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- 194 IV.C.7. Fellows who are dermatologists must devote 50 percent of the remaining  
195 months of the program to education in anatomic pathology provided by the  
196 pathology teaching faculty.  
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- 198 IV.C.7.a) Fellows who are dermatologists must each examine at least 500  
199 surgical pathology specimens during each 12-month period,  
200 representing the breadth of dermatopathology.  
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- 202 IV.C.8. Fellows must be exposed to laboratory management.  
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- 204 IV.C.9. Fellows must be exposed to molecular techniques.  
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- 206 IV.C.10. All fellows must have clearly defined assignments and increasing responsibility

207		appropriate to their demonstrated competence in dermatopathology.
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209	IV.C.11.	All fellows must participate in teaching dermatopathology to dermatology residents and/or pathology residents.
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212	<b>IV.C.</b>	<b>Scholarly Activity</b>
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214	IV.D.1.	Fellows' Scholarly Activity
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216	IV.D.1.a)	Each fellow must participate in scholarly activity by publishing or preparing one or more manuscripts suitable for submission to a peer-reviewed publication and/or giving at least one presentation at a regional or national professional society meeting on topics relevant to dermatopathology.
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222	IV.D.2.	Faculty Scholarly Activity
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224	IV.D.2.a)	The members of the faculty must actively participate in scholarly activity, such as conducting basic or clinical research, publishing in peer-reviewed journals, and/or speaking at regional or national continuing education meetings.
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229	IV.D.2.b)	The program must demonstrate dissemination of scholarly activity within and external to the program through peer-reviewed publication, or faculty members' participation in grand rounds, posters, workshops, quality improvement presentations, podium presentations, grant leadership, non-peer-reviewed print/electronic resources, articles or publications, book chapters, textbooks, webinars, service on professional committees, or service as a journal reviewer, journal editorial board member, or editor.
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238	<b>V.</b>	<b>Evaluation</b>
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240		See International Foundational Requirements, Section V.
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242	<b>VI.</b>	<b>The Learning and Working Environment</b>
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244		See International Foundational Requirements, Section VI.