

Graduate Medical Education Residency Expansion Board
Regular Meeting
March 14, 2025

Minutes of Meeting

The regular March meeting was rescheduled to Friday, March 14th, 2025, and the meeting of the Graduate Medical Education Residency Expansion Board (GMERE Board) was held virtually via zoom.

Board members present: Amanda Deel, Phillip Gilmore, Sharmila Makhija, Kevan Meadors, and Sherry Turner

Board members absent: Andy Davis, Evan Branscum, and Gregory Smart

Guests present: Lozanne Calhoun, ADHE; Mary Perry, and Alisha Price, ADHE; ADE

Dr. Sherry Turner called the meeting to order at 1:59 p.m. with a quorum present.

- HB1384 passed and is now Act 196. Alisha Price is working on updating the rules accordingly.
- The Board discussed how Act 196 changes the application process and requirements.
 - There is an emergency clause that allows the Board to open the application process now and make an award this year in the last quarter of the fiscal year.
 - Per legislation, the grant awarded cannot be in effect longer than the number of years of the program plus two (2) years for implementation and accreditation before enrolling a resident or fellow.
 - Clarify when funds are distributed. Recipients must provide a progress report.
 - Discussion of accountability concerning locations and program specialty specified by the applicant. Will the residents practice in Arkansas in that specified program (scope of practice) after completion of their residency program? What is the specialty board pass rate? Where are the residents from...are residents being recruited from Arkansas or surrounding states?
 - Need specific language in the rules about funding programs that may be in jeopardy of losing their accreditation. Dr. Deel volunteered to draft a statement about accountability and accreditation.
- Website content was discussed.
 - Dr. Meadors asked for clarification on who (the hospital/entity or the resident) would be applying for the implementation grant. Dr. Turner clarified that the hospital with the residency program would be the applicant.
 - The Board was asked to provide a brief biography and photo to be placed on the GMERE page.
 - A motion was made by Dr. Deel and seconded by Dr. Meadors to set the application release date as April 1, 2025. The motion was approved by all.
 - A motion was made by Dr. Deel and seconded by Dr. Meadors to set the application deadline as continuous or on a rolling basis. The motion was approved by all.
 - Checking if legislation will allow the Board to specify that funds will be released when the residents begin or is there a particular timeframe that funds must be released.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Gilmore and seconded by Dr. Deel. The meeting was adjourned at 2:37 p.m.