

MEDICAL SCHOOL EXPANSION: AN LCME PERSPECTIVE

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GOALS OF PRESENTATION

- Summarize options for expansion of medical education programs
- Discuss LCME policies and accreditation standards in the context of various approaches to expansion

OPTIONS FOR EXPANSION

- Increase class size at the central campus
- Develop new or expand existing branch campus(es)
- Create a new medical school

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO EXPANSION

- Need to identify appropriate resources
- Need a plan to mobilize resources and deliver education/evaluation
 - Specificity is required
- Need a financial base to allow access to resources and permit implementation of the plan

EXPANSION AT THE “HOME CAMPUS”

- Prior notification of the LCME is required by January 1st if the increase in class size in 1 year will be 10% or 15 students, or the increase in 3 years will be 20%.
- Schools must complete the *Template for Reporting Class Size Increases*; site visit may occur
- Specific issues (typically related to resources):
 - Educational space (ER-4)
 - Faculty (FA-2)
 - Patients (ER-6)
 - Finances (ER-2)

ADDITION/EXPANSION OF A BRANCH CAMPUS

- Prior notification of the LCME is required by January 1st of the year preceding the new/expanded branch campus.
- Schools must complete the *Template for Reporting New/Expanded Branch Campuses*; survey visit likely
- Specific issues
 - Resources (as in any expansion)
 - Curriculum comparability (ED-8)
 - Access to student services (ED-42,44)
 - Governance (ED-39, 40, 41)

CREATION OF A NEW MEDICAL SCHOOL

- Can be a 2-3 year or longer process to attain preliminary accreditation; details in LCME *Rules of Procedure*
- Schools must meet the requirements in *Guidelines for New and Developing Medical Schools*
- Schools must, over time, demonstrate compliance with all accreditation standards