

GREAT Group Rules and Regulations

I. Name

The name of the organization shall be the "Group on Graduate Research, Education, and Training of the Association of American Medical Colleges," herein after referred to as the GREAT Group.

II. Purpose

The purpose of the organization is to provide a forum for the leadership of biomedical science research training units to promote quality in the graduate programs of the accredited medical schools of the United States and Canada. The organization will address institutional, local, and national factors in an effort to improve both the educational and research missions of these programs in order to achieve their goal of educating successful biomedical scientists.

III. Membership

1. The membership of the GREAT Group shall consist of persons appointed by the deans of medical school members, including affiliate and provisional members, of the AAMC who are faculty members or administrators who serve in an academic leadership role in a graduate program involving medical school faculty. Where appropriate, the medical dean may delegate this appointing authority or share it with the graduate dean or equivalent. The appointed member shall serve at the pleasure of the respective dean. Each school shall be entitled to one vote on GREAT Group matters requiring such votes, irrespective of the number of persons appointed to the Group.
2. The membership of the GREAT Group MD-PhD Section, herein after referred to as the MD-PhD Section, shall consist of persons appointed by the deans of medical school members, including affiliate and provisional members, of the AAMC who are faculty members or administrators who serve as the institutional leader of an MD-PhD program. Where appropriate, the medical dean may delegate this appointing authority or share it with the graduate dean or equivalent. The appointed member shall serve at the pleasure of the respective dean. Each school shall be entitled to one vote on MD-PhD Section matters requiring such votes, irrespective of the number of persons appointed to the MD-PhD Section.
3. The membership of the GREAT Group Postdoctorate Leaders Section, herein after referred to as the Postdoctorate Leaders Section, shall consist of persons appointed by the deans of medical school members, including affiliate and provisional members, of the AAMC who are faculty members or administrators serving as the institutional leader of a postdoctoral training program. Where appropriate, the medical dean may delegate this appointing authority or share it with the graduate dean or equivalent. The appointed member(s) shall serve at the pleasure of the respective dean(s). Each school shall be

entitled to one vote on Postdoctorate Leaders Section matters requiring such votes, irrespective of the number of persons appointed to the Postdoctorate Leaders Section.

4. The GREAT Group Steering Committee, herein after referred to as the Steering Committee, may appoint voting members to the GREAT Group from non-medical school affiliated institutions when the Steering Committee determines that those individuals represent biomedical research training programs that are important for their quality, contributions to a diverse workforce, or other key characteristics. The number of Steering Committee-appointed representatives shall not exceed 10 percent of all GREAT Group representatives. These representatives shall have all privileges of the floor and shall be entitled to one vote per institution. Their term of appointment is one year, which may be renewed by the Steering Committee.

5. The Steering Committee may appoint other interested individuals without voting rights. In this manner, appropriate officials from the AAMC staff, allied organizations, or federal agencies may become ex-officio members of the GREAT Group.

IV. Officers

1. The Officers of the GREAT Group shall include a Chairperson, a Chairperson-Elect, an Immediate Past Chairperson, and an Executive Secretary.

2. To be eligible for the position of Chairperson-Elect, candidates must (a) be members of the Steering Committee, or have served on it in within the preceding two years, and (b) be representatives formally appointed to membership in the GREAT Group by a medical school dean or other appointing authority, not the steering committee.

3. The Chairperson-Elect shall succeed to the office of Chairperson at the end of a one year term and shall serve in that office for one year commencing at the end of the GREAT Group annual meeting. The Chairperson succeeds to the office of Immediate Past-Chairperson at the end of a one year term and may not serve consecutive terms as Chairperson.

4. The Executive Secretary shall be an AAMC staff member appointed by the AAMC President. The Executive Secretary shall coordinate the provision of appropriate staff support and assist in the general direction of the GREAT Group. Contact with major related organizations outside the Group shall be coordinated with the Group Executive Secretary.

V. Committees and Sections

1. The steering committee. The GREAT Group Steering Committee shall be composed of:

The Chairperson, the Chairperson-Elect, and the Immediate Past Chairperson and such additional members as described below.

Additional members shall be:

- a. Six other elected members who shall each serve appropriately staggered three year terms. Any appointed member of the GREAT Group is eligible to serve.
- b. Six additional seats on the Steering Committee shall be reserved for the MD-PhD Section and Postdoctorate Section officers: Chairperson, Chairperson-Elect, and Immediate Past Chairperson.
- c. In addition to the 15 members described above, the Steering Committee shall also include:
 1. A medical school dean, appointed by the chair of the AAMC Council of Deans, who shall serve as a liaison member of the Steering Committee with full voting privileges;
 2. A member of the AAMC Council of Academic Societies, appointed by the chair of that Council, who shall serve as a liaison member of the Steering Committee with full voting privileges; and
 3. Non voting ex officio members, as appointed by the Steering Committee for the purpose of either (i) creating liaison with organizations that hold a strong interest in biomedical research training, or (ii) providing expertise or points of view not available from the regular membership.

The Steering Committee shall manage the affairs of the GREAT Group.

A Steering Committee member who is no longer employed by the appointing medical school may complete an elected term on the Steering Committee only if the he or she continues employment with an AAMC member medical school.

2. A Nominating Committee, appointed each year by the Steering Committee, shall be chaired by the Immediate Past Chairperson. It shall make nominations for the Chairperson-Elect and other open positions, and such nominations shall be publicized in advance to the membership. Members, providing the consent of the nominee has been received, may make additional nominations from the floor, unless the election is by electronic ballot, in which case, additional nominations must be made at least 30 days before the election is held.

The Nominating Committee shall recommend to the Steering Committee any replacement Officer or Officer-Elect, if the previously elected person is unable to serve. The Steering Committee will then make such replacement appointment and these will remain effective until the next Group election.

3. Other Standing or Ad Hoc GREAT Group committees may be authorized by vote of the Steering Committee of the Group.

Appointment to Committees shall be made by the GREAT Group Chairperson with the approval of the Steering Committee.

Committee Chairpersons shall be appointed by the GREAT Group Chairperson.

At least one member, usually the chair, of the committee shall be a member of the Steering Committee.

The Standing Committees and their functions shall be reviewed periodically by the Steering Committee. Those committees no longer needed may be dissolved upon recommendation of the Steering Committee.

Descriptions of the purpose and functions of each Group committee shall be appended to the Rules and Regulations. The committee description shall not be considered an official part of the Rules and Regulations. Major changes in the committee descriptions shall be made only by or with the approval of the GREAT Group Steering Committee.

4. The GREAT Group MD-PhD and Postdoctorate Leaders Sections recommended by the Steering Committee and established by the AAMC Board of Directors shall operate under Rules and Regulations that are in conformity with these Rules and Regulations and have been approved by the Steering Committee.

VI. Meetings and Quorums

1. Meetings may be designated as open or closed. Attendance at closed meetings is limited to members and persons specifically invited.

2. A business meeting of the GREAT Group membership shall be held at least annually.

3. The Steering Committee shall periodically meet in person or by conference call. Conference calls or electronic communication may be used to conduct business of the Steering Committee and may be used, when practical, in place of the regular meetings. Fifty percent of the Steering Committee will constitute a quorum.

4. Fifty percent of the voting members attending a regularly scheduled meeting or conference that includes a business meeting shall constitute a quorum at the Group's business meeting.

5. Formal actions may be taken and elections held at meetings of the GREAT Group membership or the Steering Committee at which a quorum is present. At such meetings, decisions shall be made by a majority of those qualified to vote, or in the case of the Steering Committee by majority vote or by consensus.

6. Actions and elections may be held by electronic ballot using tools suitable for this purpose provided by AAMC. In each such case, the forwarding communication shall specify the date and time when the balloting shall close. Where actions or elections are taken by electronic ballot, the decision will be determined by a majority of votes cast within the specified timeframe.

7. In the conduct of meetings, the order of business shall be under the direction of the Chairperson who shall make all parliamentary decisions. Such decisions may be reversed by two-thirds majority of the Steering Committee or institutional voting members present and voting.

VII. Amendments

Subject to the approval of the AAMC Board of Directors, these Rules and Regulations may be amended or repealed and new Rules and Regulations may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present at any regular meeting of the Group for which prior written notice of the proposed changes has been given. New Rules and Regulations must first be approved by a majority vote of the Steering Committee. Appendices
A. Rules and Regulations for the GREAT Group MD-PhD Section

I. Purpose

The purpose of the MD-PhD Section of the Group on Graduate Research, Education, and Training (GREAT Group) is to promote the education, training, and career development of physician scientists in LCME accredited medical schools. Specifically, the Section will provide 1) a forum for the regular exchange of ideas, 2) a structure for the development and evaluation of innovative approaches, 3) a voice for physician-scientists in shaping the policies and programs of the GREAT Group, and 4) a platform for educating the public and policy makers regarding the contribution of physician-scientists in the discovery and translation of biomedical research into human disease prevention, diagnosis and treatment.

II. Membership

1. The membership of the MD-PhD Section shall consist of persons appointed by the deans of medical school members, including affiliate and provisional members, of the AAMC who are faculty members or administrators who serve as the institutional leadership of an MD-PhD program. Where appropriate, the medical dean may delegate this appointing authority or share it with the graduate dean or equivalent. The appointed member shall serve at the pleasure of the respective dean. Each school shall be entitled to one vote on MD-PhD Section matters requiring such votes, irrespective of the number of persons appointed to the Group. The dean will designate one voting faculty member.

2. The Steering Committee of the MD-PhD Section, hereinafter referred to as the Steering Committee, may appoint as Section members other interested individuals without voting rights. In this manner, appropriate officials from the AAMC staff, allied organizations, or federal agencies may become ex-officio members of the MD-PhD Section.

III. Officers

1. The Officers of the MD-PhD Section shall include a Chairperson, Chairperson-Elect, Immediate Past-Chairperson, and the GREAT Group Executive Secretary.
2. To be eligible for the position of Chairperson- candidates must (a) be members of the Steering Committee, or have served on it within the preceding two years, and (b) be representatives formally appointed to membership in the MD-PhD Section by a medical school dean or other appointing authority, not the steering committee.
3. The Chairperson-Elect shall succeed to the office of Chairperson at the end of a one year term and shall serve in that office for one year commencing at the end of the GREAT Group annual meeting. The Chairperson succeeds to the office of Immediate Past-Chairperson at the end of a one year term and may not serve consecutive terms as Chairperson.
4. The Executive Secretary shall be an AAMC staff member appointed by the AAMC President. The Executive Secretary shall coordinate the provision of appropriate staff support and assist in the general direction of the MD-PhD Section. Contact with major related organizations outside the Group shall be coordinated with the Group Executive Secretary.

IV. Committees

1. The steering committee. The MD-PhD Section Steering Committee shall be composed of:

The Chairperson, Chairperson-Elect, and Immediate Past-Chairperson and such additional members as described below.

Additional Members shall be:

- a. Five other elected members shall each serve three-year terms, with two new members (or three when the Chair-Elect is a sitting member of the Steering Committee) to be elected each year so as to provide an appropriately staggered membership. Any appointed member of the Section may be elected to serve.
- b. In addition to the eight members described above, the Steering Committee may also include non-voting ex officio members, as appointed by the Steering Committee, for the purpose of either (i) creating liaison with organizations that hold a strong interest in MD-PhD training, or (ii) bringing in expertise or points of view not available within the Steering Committee membership.

The Steering Committee shall manage the affairs of the MD-PhD Section.

A Steering Committee member who is no longer employed by the appointing medical school may complete an elected term on the Steering Committee only if the he or she continues employment with an AAMC member medical school.

Three Steering Committee members shall serve on the GREAT Group Steering Committee. The three seats shall be reserved for the MD-PhD Section Chairperson, Chairperson-Elect, and the Immediate Past-Chairperson.

2. A Nominating Committee, appointed each year by the Steering Committee, shall be chaired by the MD-PhD Section Immediate Past-Chairperson. It shall make nominations for the Chairperson-elect and other open positions, and such nominations shall be publicized in advance to the membership. Members, providing the consent that the nominee has been received, may make additional nominations from the floor, unless the election is by electronic ballot, in which case, additional nominations must be made at least 30 days before the election is held.

The Nominating Committee shall recommend to the Steering Committee any replacement Officer or Officer-Elect, if the previously elected person is unable to serve. The Steering Committee will then make such replacement appointment and these will remain effective until the next MD-PhD Section election.

3. Other Standing or Ad Hoc MD-PhD Section committees may be authorized by vote of the Steering Committee of the MD-PhD Section.

Appointment to Committees shall be made by the MD-PhD Section Chairperson with the approval of the Steering Committee.

Committee Chairpersons shall be appointed by the MD-PhD Section Chairperson.

At least one member, usually the chair, of the committee shall be a member of the Steering Committee.

The Standing Committees and their functions shall be reviewed periodically by the Steering Committee. Those committees no longer needed may be dissolved upon recommendation of the Steering Committee.

Descriptions of the purpose and functions of each Section committee shall be appended to the GREAT Group Rules and Regulations. The committee description shall not be considered an official part of the Rules and Regulations. Major changes in the committee descriptions shall be made only by or with the approval of the MD-PhD Section Steering Committee.

V. Meetings and Quorums

1. Meetings may be designated as open or closed. Attendance at closed meetings is limited to members and persons specifically invited.
2. A business meeting of the MD-PhD Section membership shall be held at least annually.
3. The Steering Committee shall meet periodically in person or by conference call. Conference calls or electronic communication may be used to conduct business of the Steering Committee and may be used, when practical, in place of the regular meetings. Fifty percent of the Steering Committee will constitute a quorum.
4. Fifty percent of the voting members attending a regularly scheduled meeting or conference that includes a business meeting shall constitute a quorum at the Section's business meeting.
5. Formal actions may be taken and elections held at meetings of the MD-PhD Section membership or the Steering Committee at which a quorum is present. At such sessions or meetings, decisions shall be made by majority vote of those qualified to vote, or in the case of the Steering Committee, by majority vote of attendees or by consensus.
6. In the conduct of meetings, the order of business shall be under the direction of the MD-PhD Section Chairperson who shall make all parliamentary decisions. Such decisions may be reversed by two-thirds majority of the institutional voting members present and voting.

VI. Amendments

Subject to the approval of the AAMC Board of Directors, these Rules and Regulations may be amended or repealed and new Rules and Regulations may be adopted by a two thirds vote of the voting members present at any regular meeting of the Section for which prior written notice of the proposed changes has been given. New Rules and Regulations must first be approved by a majority vote of the MD-PhD Section and GREAT Group Steering Committees.

B. Rules and Regulations for the GREAT Group Postdoctorate Leaders Section

I. Purpose

The purpose of the Postdoctorate Leaders Section of the Group on Graduate Research, Education, and Training (GREAT Group) is to support and enhance the quality of postdoctoral research training and professional development by providing a forum for the faculty members and senior administrative officials responsible for postdoctoral education and training policy matters at LCME accredited medical schools and teaching hospitals.

II. Membership

1. The membership of the Postdoctorate Leaders Section shall consist of persons appointed by the deans of medical school members, including affiliate and provisional members, of the AAMC who are faculty members or administrators who serve as the institutional leadership of a postdoctoral training program. Where appropriate, the medical dean may delegate this appointing authority or share it with the graduate dean or equivalent. The appointed member shall serve at the pleasure of the respective dean. Each school shall be entitled to one vote on Postdoctorate Leaders Section matters requiring such votes, irrespective of the number of persons appointed to the Group. The dean will designate one voting faculty member.
2. The Steering Committee of the Postdoctorate Leaders Section, herein after referred to as the Steering Committee, may appoint voting members to the Postdoctorate Leaders Section from non-medical school affiliated institutions when the Steering Committee determines that those individuals represent postdoctorate training programs that are important for their quality, contributions to a diverse workforce, or other key characteristics. The number of Steering Committee-appointed representatives shall not exceed 10 percent of all Postdoctorate Leaders Section representatives. These representatives shall have all privileges of the floor and shall be entitled to one vote per institution. Their term of appointment is one year, which may be renewed by the Steering Committee.
3. The Steering Committee may appoint as Section members other interested individuals without voting rights. In this manner, appropriate officials from the AAMC staff, allied organizations, or federal agencies may become ex-officio members of the Postdoctorate Leaders Section.

III. Officers

1. The Officers of the Postdoctorate Leaders Section shall include a Chairperson, Chairperson-Elect, Immediate Past-Chairperson, and the GREAT Group Executive Secretary.

2. To be eligible for the position of Chairperson candidates must (a) be members of the Steering Committee, or have served on it within the preceding two years, and (b) be representatives formally appointed to membership in the Postdoctorate Leaders Section by a medical school dean or other appointing authority, not the steering committee.

3. The Chairperson-Elect shall succeed to the office of Chairperson at the end of a one year term and shall serve in that office for one year commencing at the end of the GREAT Group annual meeting. The Chairperson succeeds to the office of Immediate Past-Chairperson at the end of a one year term and may not serve consecutive terms as Chairperson.

4. The GREAT Group Executive Secretary shall be an AAMC staff member appointed by the AAMC. The Executive Secretary shall coordinate the provision of appropriate staff support and assist in the general direction of the Postdoctorate Leaders Section. Contact with major related organizations outside the Group shall be coordinated with the Group Executive Secretary.

IV. Committees

1. The steering committee. The Postdoctorate Leaders Section Steering Committee shall be composed of:

The Chairperson, the Chairperson-Elect, and the Immediate Past-Chairperson and such additional members as described below.

Additional Members shall be:

- a. Five other elected members shall each serve appropriately staggered three-year terms. Any appointed member of the Section may be elected to serve.
- b. In addition to the eight members described above, the Steering Committee may also include non-voting ex officio members, as appointed by the Steering Committee, for the purpose of either (i) creating liaison with organizations that hold a strong interest in postdoctoral training, or (ii) bringing in expertise or points of view not available within the Steering Committee membership.

The Steering Committee shall manage the affairs of the Postdoctorate Leaders Section.

A Steering Committee member who is no longer employed by the appointing medical school may complete an elected term on the Steering Committee only if the he or she continues employment with an AAMC member medical school.

Three Steering Committee members shall serve on the GREAT Group Steering Committee. The three seats shall be reserved for the Postdoctorate Leaders Section Officers: Chairperson, Chairperson-Elect, and Immediate Past-Chairperson.

2. A Nominating Committee, appointed each year by the Steering Committee, shall be chaired by the Postdoctorate Leaders Section Immediate Past-Chairperson. It shall make nominations for the Chairperson-Elect and other open positions, and such nominations shall be publicized in advance to the membership. Members, providing the consent that the nominee has been received, may make additional nominations from the floor, unless the election is by electronic ballot, in which case, additional nominations must be made at least 30 days before the election is held.

The Nominating Committee will recommend to the Steering Committee any replacement Officer or Officer-Elect, if the previously elected person is unable to serve. The Steering Committee will then make such replacement appointment and these will remain effective until the next Postdoctorate Leaders Section election.

3. Other Standing or Ad Hoc Postdoctorate Leaders Section committees may be authorized by vote of the Steering Committee of the Postdoctorate Leaders Section.

Appointment to Committees shall be made by the Postdoctorate Leaders Section Chairperson with the approval of the Steering Committee.

Committee Chairpersons shall be appointed by the Postdoctorate Leaders Section Chairperson.

At least one member, usually the chair, of the committee shall be a member of the Steering Committee.

The Standing Committees and their functions shall be reviewed periodically by the Steering Committee. Those committees no longer needed may be dissolved upon recommendation of the Steering Committee.

Descriptions of the purpose and functions of each Section committee shall be appended to the GREAT Group Rules and Regulations. The committee description shall not be considered an official part of the Rules and Regulations. Major changes in the committee descriptions shall be made only by or with the approval of the Postdoctorate Leaders Section Steering Committee.

V. Meetings and Quorums

1. Meetings may be designated as open or closed. Attendance at closed meetings is limited to members and persons specifically invited.

2. A business meeting of the Postdoctorate Leaders Section membership shall be held at least annually.

3. The Steering Committee shall meet periodically in person or by conference call. Conference calls or electronic communication may be used to conduct business of the Steering Committee and may be used, when practical, in place of the regular meetings. Fifty percent of the Steering Committee will constitute a quorum.
4. Fifty percent of the voting members attending a regularly scheduled meeting or conference that includes a business meeting shall constitute a quorum at the Section's business meeting.
5. Formal actions may be taken and elections held at sessions or meetings of the Postdoctorate Leaders Section membership or the Steering Committee at which a quorum is present. At such sessions or meetings, decisions shall be made by majority vote of those qualified to vote, or in the case of the Steering Committee, by majority vote of attendees or by consensus.
6. Actions and elections may be held by electronic ballot using tools suitable for this purpose provided by AAMC. In each such case, the forwarding communication shall specify the date and time when the balloting shall close. Where actions or elections are taken by electronic ballot, the decision will be determined by a majority of votes cast within the specified timeframe.
7. In the conduct of meetings, the order of business shall be under the direction of the Chairperson who shall make all parliamentary decisions. Such decisions may be reversed by two-thirds majority of the Steering Committee or institutional voting members present and voting.

VI. Amendments

Subject to the approval of the AAMC Board of Directors, these Rules and Regulations may be amended or repealed and new Rules and Regulations may be adopted by a two thirds vote of the voting members present at any regular meeting of the Group for which prior written notice of the proposed changes has been given. New Rules and Regulations must first be approved by a majority vote of the MD-PhD Section and GREAT Group Steering Committees.

C. Committees

GREAT Group Committees:

1. Program Committee

A Program Committee shall be appointed to develop the program for the GREAT Group annual meeting. The Program Committee shall be led by the GREAT Group Chairperson. For joint meetings with the Section(s), the Program Committee may be jointly led by the Chairperson(s) of the Section(s).

2. Gateway for Aspiring Biomedical Scientists Committee (GABS)

The Gateway for Aspiring Biomedical Scientists Committee is charged with developing and providing educational and career resources to students interested in biomedical science careers.

3. Joint GREAT Group and Postdoctorate Leaders Section Data Committee

The Data Committee will focus on addressing data collection issues, including the identification of measures to monitor biomedical trainee career outcomes and facilitating the development of a national data collection template.

MD-PhD Section Committees:

1. Program Committee

A Program Committee shall be appointed to develop the program for the GREAT Group MD-PhD Section annual meeting. The Program Committee shall be led by the GREAT Group MD-PhD Section Chairperson. For joint meetings with the GREAT Group or Postdoctorate Leaders Section, the Program Committee may be jointly led by the Chairperson(s) of the GREAT Group or Section.

2. Data Collection and Analysis Committee

The Data Collection and Analysis Committee is charged with developing an inventory of existing data resources, recommending new data gathering data efforts in support of the Section, and recommending to the Section Steering Committee appropriate methods and vehicles for disseminating related data and analyses in order to assist MD-PhD programs in their program management, recruitment, and advising functions.

3. Communications Committee

The Communications Committee is charged with identifying tools to assist program directors and administrators to better communicate with students and health profession advisors and recommending appropriate avenues to increase the visibility of MD-PhD programs.

Postdoctorate Leaders Section Committees:

1. Program Committee

A Program Committee shall be appointed to develop the program for the GREAT Group Postdoctorate Leaders Section annual meeting. The Program Committee shall be led by the GREAT Group Postdoctorate Leaders Section Chairperson. For joint meetings with the GREAT Group or MD-PhD Section, the Program Committee may be jointly led by the Chairperson(s) of the GREAT Group or Section.

2. Resources Committee

The Resources Committee is charged with gathering, developing and distributing relevant information and resources that promote member institutions' ability to enhance postdoctoral training.

3. Joint GREAT Group and Postdoctorate Leaders Section Data Committee

The Data Committee will focus on addressing data collection issues, including the identification of measures to monitor biomedical trainee career outcomes and facilitating the development of a national data collection template.

D. Dates of Adoption and Amendment of Rules and Regulations

GREAT Group Rules and Regulations:

Adopted September 1996

Amended September 2004 (establishment of MD-PhD Section)

Amended February 2008 (establishment of Postdoctorate Leaders Section)

GREAT Group MD-PhD Section Rules and Regulations:

Adopted February 2006

GREAT Group Postdoctorate Leaders Section Rules and Regulations:

Adopted February 2008