

AAMC Resident Readiness Survey Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. Why is the AAMC doing this? What problems will this solve?** The AAMC Resident Readiness Survey (also referred to as the PD Survey) will eliminate the need for the schools to create and administer local surveys and will reduce the number of different school-specific surveys throughout the year that are sent to Program Directors (PDs). It will assist the medical schools with their continuous quality improvement processes and the evaluation of the school's overall effectiveness in preparing students for graduate medical education. Ultimately, the AAMC Resident Readiness Survey should improve the transition from UME to GME and the feedback between leaders within and across these schools and programs.
- 2. What is timing of this project?** Each academic year, the AAMC will survey the Program Directors (PDs) from January through March during the first milestone reporting period. Reports are available each Spring.
- 3. How will the PD Survey work?** Program Directors (PDs) will log into GME Track and access a tab for the AAMC Resident Readiness Survey. Next to each resident's name, there will be a link to a PGY-1 survey for that resident. Only those residents that are eligible (meaning they have graduated from a school that is participating in the project) will be listed, and a link will be provided for each resident to a brief survey about readiness. A medical school chooses to participate by signing a participation agreement with the AAMC. The agreement describes AAMC and medical school responsibilities for the survey and includes data use limitations and a limitation on the school conducting its own PGY-1 survey.
- 4. If a learner does not want their program director to complete a PD survey about them, what is the process for the learner to make sure their program director knows this and does not complete the survey?** Student/residents may opt-out of the process. Those who complete ERAS applications, starting with the 2020 ERAS Cycle, are informed that their assessment data for PGY-1 may be collected by the AAMC and provided to their medical school of graduation, subject to certain conditions. If an ERAS applicant does not want to participate in the PD survey, they may email privacy@aamc.org and request to opt-out. PDs will only receive requests for surveys of those residents who: 1) completed at least one ERAS application (and hence, were notified of the process); 2) are NOT on the opt-out list; and 3) graduated from a participating school (i.e., has signed an agreement with the AAMC). A resident may make a request to their program director to not complete the survey. It is entirely up to the PD to decide whether to abide by the request. The AAMC is not involved in this decision.
- 5. Will the PD be required to participate?** No, participation is voluntary. Further, it is the responsibility of the PD to determine whether the PD may share the information per institutional policy. This is the current state with all school-generated surveys sent to program directors about resident readiness.

6. **What were the response rates of the pilot cycles in academic years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022?** In 2020-2021, 2,859 Program Directors were surveyed about 10,743 PGY1 residents' readiness for GME. Final response rates included **63%** of eligible program directors, who provided readiness data on **52%** of eligible residents. In 2021-2022, 3,406 Program Directors were surveyed about 18,372 PGY1 residents' readiness for GME. Final response rates included **62%** of eligible program directors, who provided readiness data on **53%** of eligible residents.
7. **What will the AAMC do with the data?** The AAMC will provide the data to the medical school of graduation for each resident by creating a school specific report, including identified (by resident name) data. For MD-granting medical schools, the reports will be available to a specified medical school contact via a secure portal – the Medical School Profile System (MSPS). For DO-granting medical schools, the reports will be delivered to a specified medical school contact via a secure file transfer system. The AAMC may also use the data for its own presentations, publications, and analysis, subject to the AAMC Privacy Statement and the participation agreement.
8. **Will the national data be published in aggregate or somehow placed in the public domain?** The AAMC may publish information on residents, interns, fellows, and applicants to residency, internship, and fellowship programs in the form of aggregate statistics in various AAMC reports. Such information may include PD Survey data. The AAMC will not share individual, program, or school identified data with the public or with accrediting bodies.
9. **How long will the survey take to complete?** The survey took, on average, under 3 minutes to complete one survey per PGY-1 resident.
10. **How long will the data be stored?** The AAMC will store the data indefinitely or as long as the data are useful.
11. **Is our UME or GME training program going to be compared to other programs on the basis of these data?** These data will be used only for continuous quality improvement of the curriculum and will not be used for “ranking” UME or GME programs based on the program-director assessed readiness of the residents in the program.
12. **Is there a fee to participate?** No.
13. **My school prefers to use our own survey. How does our school opt out of having the AAMC collect data about our graduates in this national PD survey?** A school must forego sending its own PGY-1 survey if it agrees to participate. If a school does not participate, the AAMC will not collect data on its graduates. The participant agreement does not preclude schools from sending program director surveys about their graduates beyond the PGY-1 year of training.

14. **As a program director, I will want to get consent from my residents first before I complete any surveys about them. Will the AAMC please provide a form for me to do so?** See #4 above for related information. The AAMC is not providing a standardized form. Please consult with your legal and human resources advisors about what permission is appropriate.
15. **Who will the PD survey data be sent to at my school?** Each school will identify a data contact who will access the data via MSPS. For those schools without access to MSPS (AACOM member schools), a report will be shared directly via secure email.
16. **We share our own school's PD survey results with numerous individuals at our school. Will there be any limitations placed on how we can use and share the PD survey data from the AAMC?** Yes, there are restrictions on use of the data. Please refer to the participation agreement for the specific terms.
17. **What is the plan for following up with non-respondent PDs? Our school sends three reminders. Will the AAMC do this? If we don't get information via the AAMC survey for particular graduates, can the school then follow up directly with the program directors?** The AAMC will send multiple reminders to increase responses. We ask that schools participating in the project not survey or follow up with PDs.
18. **We use our PD survey data for research purposes. What steps will we have to take to get permission from the AAMC to use the PD Survey data for our research studies?** The pilot participation agreements from 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 do not permit the use of data for research purposes. However, starting with the recurring agreement in 2022-2023, data from the survey may be used for research purposes if: (i) the research is conducted in an ethical manner consistent with an institution's own research policies, requirements or guidance of any applicable institutional review board, and general principles for the ethical conduct of research, and (ii) any resulting publications or presentations do not identify, either explicitly or passively, any individual graduates or programs.
19. **How will the school receive the data?** The secure report will be individual level, identified data for the graduates from that specific school. A national summary report is also provided and broken out by specialty.
20. **How will the AAMC assure medical schools that these PD survey data will not be used for comparative or ranking purposes?** The AAMC will not provide resident, school, or program identified data to accrediting bodies, and it will not publish any resident, school, or program identified data.
21. **Can I request specific items be included on the PD survey?** The PD Survey does not allow for customization by school. Survey items have been designed and reviewed by hundreds of stakeholders. The survey instrument will be shared with the schools (in concert with the participant agreement process).

22. **Who should I contact if I have additional questions?** Additional questions about the project should be directed to ResidentReadiness@aamc.org.

23. **Which medical schools participated in the pilot in 2020-2021?**

Baylor College of Medicine
Boston University School of Medicine
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons
Cooper Medical School of Rowan University
Creighton University School of Medicine
CUNY School of Medicine
Drexel University College of Medicine
Duke University School of Medicine
East Tennessee State University James H. Quillen College of Medicine
Florida International University Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine
Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine at Quinnipiac University
Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth
Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine
George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences
Harvard Medical School
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the University at Buffalo
Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California
Louisiana State University School of Medicine in New Orleans
Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine
Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine
Medical College of Wisconsin
New York Medical College
Northwestern University The Feinberg School of Medicine
Ohio State University College of Medicine
Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine
Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine
Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania
Robert Larner, M.D., College of Medicine at the University of Vermont
Rush Medical College of Rush University Medical Center
Rutgers New Jersey Medical School
Saint Louis University School of Medicine
Southern Illinois University School of Medicine
Stanford University School of Medicine
State University of New York Upstate Medical University
Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Paul L. Foster School of Medicine
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine
The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University

Tufts University School of Medicine
Tulane University School of Medicine
University of Alabama School of Medicine
University of Arizona College of Medicine - Phoenix
University of California, Davis, School of Medicine
University of Central Florida College of Medicine
University of Chicago Division of the Biological Sciences The Pritzker School of Medicine
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
University of Colorado School of Medicine
University of Florida College of Medicine
University of Kansas School of Medicine
University of Kentucky College of Medicine
University of Massachusetts Medical School
University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine
University of Minnesota Medical School
University of Mississippi School of Medicine
University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine
University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
University of Texas Rio Grande Valley School of Medicine
University of Texas Southwestern Medical School
University of Washington School of Medicine
USF Health Morsani College of Medicine
Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine
Wayne State University School of Medicine
Weill Cornell Medicine
Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine
Yale School of Medicine
University of Pikeville – Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine
A.T. Still University - Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine
New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine
University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine
Western University of Health Sciences – College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific
West Virginia University School of Osteopathic Medicine
Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine
Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine
Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine
Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine

24. Which medical schools participated in the pilot in 2021-2022?

University of Alabama School of Medicine
Albany Medical College
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Medicine

Baylor College of Medicine
Boston University School of Medicine
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the University at Buffalo
University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine
University of California, Los Angeles David Geffen School of Medicine
Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine & Science
University of Chicago Division of the Biological Sciences The Pritzker School of Medicine
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
University of Colorado School of Medicine
Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons
Weill Cornell Medicine
Creighton University School of Medicine
University of Florida College of Medicine
Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth
Duke University School of Medicine
George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences
Harvard Medical School
University of Illinois College of Medicine
Indiana University School of Medicine
University of California, Irvine, School of Medicine
Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
University of Kansas School of Medicine
University of Kentucky College of Medicine
Louisiana State University School of Medicine in New Orleans
University of Louisville School of Medicine
Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine
University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine
University of Maryland School of Medicine
Loma Linda University School of Medicine
Meharry Medical College
University of Michigan Medical School
University of Minnesota Medical School
University of Mississippi School of Medicine
University of Missouri-Columbia School of Medicine
University of Nebraska College of Medicine
University of New Mexico School of Medicine
New York Medical College
New York University Grossman School of Medicine
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine
University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences
Northwestern University The Feinberg School of Medicine
Ohio State University College of Medicine
University of Oklahoma College of Medicine

Oregon Health & Science University School of Medicine
Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania
The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio Joe R. and Teresa Lozano
Long School of Medicine
University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry
Saint Louis University School of Medicine
Medical University of South Carolina College of Medicine
University of South Dakota, Sanford School of Medicine
Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California
University of Texas Southwestern Medical School
Rutgers New Jersey Medical School
State University of New York Upstate Medical University
Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University
University of Texas Medical Branch School of Medicine
Tufts University School of Medicine
Tulane University School of Medicine
University of Utah School of Medicine
Robert Larner, M.D., College of Medicine at the University of Vermont
Rutgers, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
University of Virginia School of Medicine
Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine
University of Washington School of Medicine
Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine
Wayne State University School of Medicine
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
West Virginia University School of Medicine
Yale School of Medicine
The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University
University of Massachusetts Medical School
Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
A. T. Still University Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine
Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine
Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine
NYIT College of Osteopathic Medicine
Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine
Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine
Nova Southeastern University Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine
University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine
West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
University of California, Davis, School of Medicine
The University of Toledo College of Medicine and Life Sciences
Renaissance School of Medicine at Stony Brook University

USF Health Morsani College of Medicine
University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine
University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine
McGovern Medical School at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
Southern Illinois University School of Medicine
Florida State University College of Medicine
Rush Medical College of Rush University Medical Center
Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine
University of South Alabama College of Medicine
Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine
Eastern Virginia Medical School
Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine
University of South Carolina School of Medicine Columbia
Northeast Ohio Medical University
East Tennessee State University James H. Quillen College of Medicine
Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine
Drexel University College of Medicine
CUNY School of Medicine
University of Central Florida College of Medicine
Florida International University Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Paul L. Foster School of Medicine
Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine
Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine
Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine
Central Michigan University College of Medicine
Cooper Medical School of Rowan University
University of California, Riverside School of Medicine
University of South Carolina School of Medicine Greenville
University of Arizona College of Medicine - Phoenix
Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine
Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine at Florida Atlantic University
Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine at Quinnipiac University
California Northstate University College of Medicine
University of Texas at Austin Dell Medical School
University of Texas Rio Grande Valley School of Medicine
University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Medicine
University of Pikeville Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine
Touro University California College of Osteopathic Medicine
Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine-Harlem
Georgia Campus-Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine