RESIDENCY PROGRAM CLOSURE/POSITION REDUCTION POLICY

This policy is intended to protect residents and fellows enrolled in training programs at Children’s Hospital Boston in the unlikely event that any accredited graduate medical education program sponsored by Children’s Hospital Boston is closed or the number of positions is reduced for any reason. In such situations, Children’s Hospital Boston will seek to ensure, to its fullest capabilities, that all residents and fellows with appointments to a Children’s Hospital Boston-sponsored, accredited Graduate Medical Education program have the opportunity to complete their graduate medical education requirements for specialty or subspecialty board eligibility. The Graduate Medical Education Committee will have oversight of all processes related to reductions and/or closures of individual programs, major participating institutions and the sponsoring institution as required by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

REDUCTION

Any reduction in the number of positions in an accredited residency or fellowship programs will be accomplished, whenever feasible, by reducing the number of new first-year positions to be offered. If any reduction must be made among the currently filled positions, the reductions will begin at the first-year level. All efforts will be made to transfer any resident or fellow impacted by the position reduction to another accredited program, preferably in an area of the resident or fellow’s choice.

CLOSURE

Any closure of an accredited residency program will, if circumstances allow, be phased in over time. No new residents or fellows will be appointed while current residents and fellows complete their training toward specialty board eligibility. If a phased-in closure is not feasible, the institution and the program will use good faith and diligent efforts to facilitate a transfer of appointed residents and fellows impacted by the closure to another accredited specialty program, preferably in an area of the resident or fellow’s choice.

NOTIFICATIONS

The Graduate Medical Education Committee, the Designated Institutional Official and the residents enrolled in the program must be notified as soon as possible when the decision has been made to reduce the size of a program, close a program or close the sponsoring institution.