

March 17, 2020

The American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM) wishes to express our concern and support for residents who must be quarantined due to COVID-19.

Current ABEM policy allows residents to be eligible for certification if they complete 46 weeks of training at each level. Considering most programs provide 3-4 weeks of vacation annually, current policy should allow residents to be quarantined for a short period of time without extension of training. Program directors may wish to consider providing remote educational opportunities that can help count toward the 46-week requirement, for example, a research elective.

However, we understand that situations could arise in which a resident's quarantine due to COVID-19 would prevent completion of training on time. In such cases, ABEM will consider requests for exceptions on a case-by-case basis. We ask that your program director* notify abem@abem.org as soon as possible and not wait until the end of the academic year to discuss.

Please consult the [ACGME website](#) for their guidance regarding COVID-19.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

March 19, 2020

ABEM President Jill M. Baren, M.D., M.S., M.B.A., issued an [open letter](#) to EM residents about COVID-19, quarantine, and ABEM eligibility.