**Continued Accreditation Application: Thoracic Surgery**

401 North Michigan Avenue · Chicago, Illinois 60611 · United States · +1.312.755.7042 www.acgme-i.org

**Submission for Continued Accreditation:** This Advanced Specialty Application is for programs applying for **Continued Accreditation ONLY** and is used in conjunction with the Accreditation Data System (ADS).

All sections of the form applicable to the program must be completed for it to be accepted for review. The information provided should describe the existing program. For items that do not apply, indicate “N/A” in the space provided. Where patient numbers are requested, provide exact numbers as requested and indicate the exact dates for the data entered. If any requested information is unavailable, an explanation must be given, and it should also be indicated as unavailable in the appropriate place on the form. Once the form is complete, number the pages sequentially in the bottom center.

The program director is responsible for the accuracy of the information supplied in this form and must sign it. It must also be signed by the designated institutional official (DIO) of the Sponsoring Institution, who will submit the application electronically in ADS.

Review the International Foundational Program Requirements for Graduate Medical Education and Advanced Specialty Program Requirements for Graduate Medical Education in Thoracic Surgery. The International Foundational, Advanced Specialty, and Institutional Requirements may be downloaded from the ACGME International website: [www.acgme-i.org](http://www.acgme-i.org/).

Email questions regarding the form’s content to [acgme-i@acgme-i.org](mailto:acgme-i@acgme-i.org).

Email questions regarding ADS to [ADS@acgme.org](mailto:ADS@acgme.org) (type the program number in the subject line).

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| Program Name:Click here to enter text. |

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**Introduction**

**Duration and Scope of Education**

1. What is the length, in months, of the educational program?

Choose an item.

**Institutions**

**Sponsoring Institution**

1. Does the Sponsoring Institution have an administrative and academic structure that provides the following dedicated to the needs of the program?
2. Alleviation of resident fatigue YES NO
3. Appointment of residents YES NO
4. Appointment of teaching faculty members YES NO
5. Educational resources YES NO
6. Financial resources YES NO
7. Provision for patient safety YES NO
8. Sufficient ancillary personnel YES NO
9. Support for program evaluation YES NO
10. Support for program planning YES NO

Explain any ‘NO’ responses. (Limit 250 words)

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1. Does the Sponsoring Institution provide the following support?
2. At least 25 percent salary support for the program director YES NO
3. Faculty development in education and teaching for the program director YES NO
4. Faculty development in education and teaching for the members of the faculty YES NO
5. Residents’ attendance at local and international professional meetings YES NO

Explain any ‘NO’ responses. (Limit 250 words)

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**Program Personnel and Resources**

**Program Director**

1. Does the program director document formal faculty development activities in education and teaching, such as the following?
2. Engagement in the education of thoracic surgery residents YES NO
3. Engagement in the scholarly productivity of thoracic surgery residents YES NO
4. Participation at local and international program director workshops and other educational activities (e.g., development activities to improve faculty members’ teaching and evaluation skills, continuing education activities related to education, development of new skills in their specialty to improve patient care, and scholarly activities) YES NO
5. Participation in medical student education YES NO

Explain any ‘NO’ responses. (Limit 250 words)

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1. How does the program director develop and implement policies and procedures governing pre-hospital and post-hospital involvement of residents? (Limit 300 words)

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1. How does the program director ensure the content of residents’ evaluations of faculty members does not adversely affect resident progression? (Limit 300 words)

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**Faculty**

1. List the designated cardiothoracic faculty member(s) who are responsible for coordinating multidisciplinary clinical conferences.

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1. Do the faculty member(s) listed above organize the following?
   1. Instruction in general thoracic surgery YES NO
   2. Research in general thoracic surgery YES NO

Explain any ‘NO’ responses. (Limit 250 words)

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1. Complete the table below for the faculty members who routinely direct conferences.

Add rows as needed.

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| --- | --- |
| Name of Faculty Member | Specialty |
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**Resources**

1. Do residents have access to information services that include the following?
2. A comprehensive data base for adult cardiac disease YES NO
3. A comprehensive data base for congenital cardiac disease YES NO
4. A comprehensive data base for thoracic disease YES NO
5. An on-site library or electronic access to appropriate texts and journals YES NO
6. Electronic retrieval of patient information YES NO

Explain any ‘NO’ responses. (Limit 250 words)

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1. How does the program ensure there is access to and active participation in clinical databases used to assess and improve patient outcomes? (Limit 300 words)

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**Resident Appointment**

**Number of Residents**

1. Is a minimum of one thoracic surgery resident always appointed to each year of the educational program? YES NO

Explain if ‘NO.’ (Limit 250 words)

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**Specialty-Specific Educational Program**

**ACGME-I Competencies**

**Professionalism**

1. How do graduating residents demonstrate a commitment to fulfilling their professional responsibilities and adhering to ethical principles?

Describe how these skills are evaluated. (Limit 300 words)

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1. How do graduating residents demonstrate the following?
2. Compassion, integrity, and respect for others
3. Responsiveness to patient needs that supersedes self-interest
4. Respect for patient privacy and autonomy
5. Accountability to patients, society, and the profession
6. Sensitivity and responsiveness to a diverse patient population, including to diversity in gender, age, culture, race, religion, disabilities, and sexual orientation
7. High standards of ethical behavior, continuity of care (pre-operative, operative, and post-operative)
8. Honesty, dependability, and commitment

Provide examples of how skill is evaluated in four of the six areas listed. (Limit 400 words)

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**Patient Care and Procedural Skills**

1. How do graduating residents demonstrate the ability to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health?

Describe how this will be evaluated. (Limit 300 words)

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* + - 1. How do graduating residents demonstrate competence in the following?

1. Developing and executing patient care plans, using information technology, and evaluating diagnostic studies
2. Providing pre-operative management, including the selection and timing of operative intervention and the selection of appropriate operative procedures
3. Providing post-operative management of thoracic and cardiovascular patients
4. Providing critical care of patients with thoracic and cardiovascular surgical disorders, including trauma patients, whether or not operative intervention is required

Provide examples of how competence is evaluated in two of the four areas listed. (Limit 250 words)

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1. How do graduating residents demonstrate competence in correlating the pathologic and diagnostic aspects of cardiothoracic disorders, including the following?
2. Demonstrating skill in diagnostic procedures (e.g., bronchoscopy and esophagoscopy)
3. Interpreting appropriate imaging studies (e.g., ultrasound, computed tomography, roentgenographic, radionuclide, cardiac catheterization, pulmonary function, and esophageal function studies)

Provide examples of how competence is evaluated in both areas listed. (Limit 250 words)

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1. How do graduating residents demonstrate competence in executing core procedures, including for the following?
2. Congenital heart anomalies
3. Endovascular stents
4. Esophagus, mediastinum, and diaphragm
5. Lungs, pleura, and chest wall
6. Myocardial revascularization
7. Thoracic aorta and great vessels
8. Valvular heart diseases

Provide examples of how competence is evaluated in four of the seven areas listed. (Limit 400 words)

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1. How do graduating residents demonstrate competence in providing outpatient care, including the following?
2. Examining patients pre-operatively, consulting with the attending surgeon regarding operative care, and participating in the surgery and post-operative care
3. Seeing patients personally in an outpatient setting and consulting with the attending surgeon regarding the follow-up care rendered in the doctor's office

Provide examples of how competence is evaluated in both areas listed. (Limit 250 words)

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**Medical Knowledge**

* + - 1. How do graduating residents demonstrate knowledge of established and evolving biomedical, clinical, epidemiological, and social-behavioral sciences, as well as the application of this knowledge to patient care?

Describe how knowledge is evaluated. (Limit 300 words)

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1. How do graduating residents demonstrate knowledge of current medical information and their ability to critically evaluate scientific information?

Describe how knowledge is evaluated. (Limit 300 words)

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1. How do graduating residents demonstrate knowledge of the following?
   1. Abnormalities of the great vessels
   2. Abnormalities of the heart valves
   3. Congenital anomalies of the chest
   4. Congenital anomalies of the heart
   5. Coronary artery disease
   6. Diseases of the chest wall
   7. Diseases of the diaphragm
   8. Diseases of the esophagus
   9. Diseases of the lungs
   10. Diseases of the trachea
   11. Management of chest injuries
   12. Tumors of the mediastinum
   13. Use of cardiac support devices
   14. Use of respiratory support devices

Provide examples of how knowledge is evaluated in seven of the 14 areas listed. (Limit 700 words)

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**Practice-based Learning and Improvement**

1. How do graduating residents demonstrate their ability to investigate and evaluate their care of patients, to appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and to continuously improve patient care based on constant self-evaluation and lifelong learning?

Describe how this will be evaluated. (Limit 300 words)

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1. How do graduating residents demonstrate they have developed skills and habits to be able to meet the following goals?
2. Identify strengths, deficiencies, and limits in one’s knowledge and expertise
3. Identify and perform appropriate learning activities
4. Incorporate formative evaluation feedback into daily practice
5. Locate, appraise, and assimilate evidence from scientific studies related to their patients’ health problems
6. Participate in the education of patients, patients’ families, students, other residents, and other health professionals
7. Practice lifelong learning, analyze personal practice outcomes, and use information technology to optimize patient care
8. Set learning and improvement goals
9. Systematically analyze clinical practice using quality improvement methods, and implement changes with the goal of practice improvement
10. Use information technology to optimize learning

Provide examples of how skills are evaluated in four of the nine areas listed. (Limit 400 words)

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**Interpersonal and Communication Skills**

1. How do graduating residents demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in the effective exchange of information and collaboration with patients, their families, and other health professionals?

Describe how these skills are evaluated. (Limit 300 words)

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* + - 1. How do graduating residents demonstrate their ability to:

1. communicate effectively with patients, patients’ families, and the public, as appropriate, across a broad range of socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds;
2. communicate effectively with physicians, other health professionals, and health-related agencies;
3. work effectively as a member or leader of a health care team or other professional group;
4. act in a consultative role to other physicians and health professionals; and,
5. maintain comprehensive, timely, and legible medical records, if applicable?

Provide examples of how skill is evaluated in three of the five areas listed. (Limit 300 words)

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**Systems-based Practice**

1. How do graduating residents demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care, as well as the ability to call effectively on other resources in the system to provide optimal health care?

Describe how these skills are evaluated. (Limit 300 words)

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1. How do graduating residents demonstrate their ability to:
2. work effectively in various health care delivery settings and systems relevant to their clinical specialty;
3. coordinate patient care within the health care system relevant to their clinical specialty;
4. incorporate considerations of cost awareness and risk-benefit analysis in patient and/or population-based care as appropriate;
5. advocate for quality patient care and optimal patient care systems;
6. work in inter-professional teams to enhance patient safety and improve patient care quality;
7. participate in identifying system errors and implementing potential systems solutions; and,
8. practice cost-effective care without compromising quality, promote disease prevention, demonstrate risk-benefit analysis, and know how different practice systems operate to deliver care?

Provide examples of how skill is evaluated in four of the seven areas listed. (Limit 400 words)

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**Regularly Scheduled Educational Activities**

1. Complete Appendix A., Formal Didactic Sessions by Academic Year, and attach to submission.
2. Does the didactic curriculum include the following?
   1. Abnormalities of the great vessels YES NO
   2. Abnormalities of the heart vessels YES NO
   3. Congenital anomalies of the chest YES NO
   4. Congenital anomalies of the heart YES NO
   5. Diseases of the chest wall YES NO
   6. Diseases of the diaphragm YES NO
   7. Diseases of the esophagus YES NO
   8. Diseases of the lungs YES NO
   9. Diseases of the trachea YES NO
   10. Management of chest injuries YES NO
   11. Surgical care of coronary artery disease YES NO
   12. Tumors of the mediastinum YES NO

Explain any ‘NO’ responses. (Limit 250 words)

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**Clinical Experiences**

1. Do residents have documented experiences that are supervised by responsible faculty/teaching staff members, including the following?
   1. Participation in diagnosis YES NO
   2. Pre-operative planning YES NO
   3. Selection of appropriate operative procedures YES NO
   4. Performing those technical manipulations that constitute the essential parts of the patient’s operation YES NO
   5. Substantial involvement in post-operative care of patients YES NO

Explain any ‘NO’ responses. (Limit 250 words)

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1. Do the planned educational experiences include at least 24 months in core surgical education?

YES NO

Explain if ‘NO.’ (Limit 250 words)

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1. If the program is 72 months in length, is there a maximum of 36 months of core surgical education?

YES NO NA

1. If the program is 84 months in length, is there a maximum of 42 months of core surgical education?

YES NO NA

Explain any ‘NO’ responses. (Limit 250 words)

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1. How is the sequencing of the thoracic surgery educational components determined so that there is a cohesive, progressive, and longitudinal educational experience? (Limit 400 words)

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1. Do resident experiences in thoracic surgery include the following?
   1. Critical care of patients YES NO
   2. Management of chest injuries YES NO
   3. Operative care of patients YES NO
   4. Peri-operative care of patients YES NO
   5. Surgical care of abnormalities of the great vessels and heart valves YES NO
   6. Surgical care of congenital anomalies of the chest and heart YES NO
   7. Surgical care of coronary artery disease YES NO
   8. Surgical care of diseases of the chest wall YES NO
   9. Surgical care of diseases of the diaphragm YES NO
   10. Surgical care of diseases of the esophagus YES NO
   11. Surgical care of diseases of the lungs YES NO
   12. Surgical care of diseases of the trachea YES NO
   13. Surgical care of tumors of the mediastinum YES NO

Explain any ‘NO’ responses. (Limit 250 words)

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1. How does the program ensure that residents will provide pre-operative management, including the selection and timing of operative intervention and selection of appropriate operative procedures? (Limit 400 words)

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1. How does the program ensure that residents will provide post-operative management of thoracic and cardiovascular patients? (Limit 400 words)

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1. How does the program ensure that residents provide critical care to patients with thoracic and cardiovascular surgical disorders, including trauma patients, whether or not surgical intervention is needed? (Limit 400 words)

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1. Do residents have opportunities to demonstrate skill in diagnostic procedures, such as bronchoscopy and esophagoscopy? YES NO

Explain if ‘NO.’ (Limit 250 words)

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1. Do residents have opportunities to demonstrate skill in imaging studies, including the following?
2. Cardiac catheterization YES NO
3. Computed tomography YES NO
4. Esophageal function YES NO
5. Pulmonary function YES NO
6. Radionuclide YES NO
7. Roentgenographic YES NO
8. Ultrasound YES NO

Explain any ‘NO’ responses. (Limit 250 words)

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1. How does the program ensure that each resident will have a minimum of 125 major cases annually? (Limit 400 words)

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1. Do residents have operative experience in the following categories of procedures?
   1. Chest wall YES NO
   2. Congenital heart anomalies YES NO
   3. Diaphragm YES NO
   4. Esophagus YES NO
   5. Lungs YES NO
   6. Mediastinum YES NO
   7. Myocardial revascularization YES NO
   8. Pleura YES NO
   9. Thoracic aorta and great vessels YES NO
   10. Valvular heart diseases YES NO

Explain any ‘NO’ responses. (Limit 250 words)

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1. Do residents have the following additional educational experiences?
2. Cardiac pacemaker implantation YES NO
3. Endoscopic approaches to esophageal diseases YES NO
4. Endoscopic approaches to thoracic diseases YES NO
5. Endoscopic ultrasound YES NO
6. Endovascular stents YES NO
7. Flexible bronchoscopy YES NO
8. Flexible esophagoscopy YES NO
9. Mediastinoscopy YES NO
10. Multidisciplinary approaches to the treatment of thoracic malignancy YES NO
11. Pleuroscopy YES NO
12. Rigid bronchoscopy YES NO
13. Rigid esophagoscopy YES NO

Explain any ‘NO’ responses. (Limit 250 words)

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1. How does the program ensure residents obtain an adequate volume of operative experience and an appropriate distribution of categories and complexities of procedures so that each resident has a balanced and equivalent clinical education? (Limit 300 words)

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1. Do residents have outpatient responsibilities? YES NO

Explain if ‘NO.’ (Limit 250 words)

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1. If the answer to Question 16 is ‘YES,’ do residents have the following opportunities?
2. Consult with the attending surgeon pre-operatively regarding operative care of the assigned patients Consult with the attending surgeon regarding follow-up care of assigned patients in the doctor’s office YES NO
3. Examine assigned patients pre-operatively YES NO
4. Participate in their assigned patients’ post-operative care YES NO
5. Participate in their assigned patients’ surgery YES NO

Explain any ‘NO’ responses. (Limit 250 words)

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1. Does the curriculum include education in the following?
2. Adult cardiac surgery YES NO
3. Advanced laparoscopic surgery YES NO
4. Basic laparoscopic surgery YES NO
5. Congenital cardiac surgery YES NO
6. Oncology YES NO
7. Surgical critical care YES NO
8. Thoracic surgery YES NO
9. Transplantation YES NO
10. Trauma management YES NO

Explain any ‘NO’ responses. (Limit 300 words)

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| Click here to enter text. |

1. Do residents have assignments in non-surgical areas? YES NO
   1. List the most common non-surgical areas to which residents will be assigned.

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| Click here to enter text. |

* 1. If the program is 72 months in length, does the experience in non-surgical areas exceed three months? YES NO
  2. If the program is 84 months in length, does the experience in non-surgical areas exceed four months? YES NO

Explain any ‘NO’ responses. (Limit 250 words)

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1. When do experiences in non-surgical areas occur? (Limit 250 words).

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1. Does the last year of the educational program include chief resident responsibility on the thoracic surgery service at the primary clinical site? YES NO

Explain if ‘NO.’ (Limit 250 words)

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1. If ‘YES’ to Question 20, does the resident assume senior responsibility for the pre-, intra-, and post-operative care of patients with thoracic and cardiovascular disease during this chief resident year? YES NO

Explain if ‘NO.’ (Limit 250 words)

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1. How does the program ensure the chief thoracic surgery resident and a fellow (advanced learner) will not have primary responsibility for the same patients? (Limit 250 words)

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**Appendix A. Formal Didactic Sessions by Academic Year**

For each year of the residency, attach (Label: Appendix A.) a list of all scheduled didactic courses (including discussion groups, seminars and conferences, grand rounds, basic science, skills labs, and journal club) at all participating sites to which residents rotate, using the format below. If attended by residents from multiple years, list in each year but provide a full description *only the first time a site is listed*.

Number sessions **consecutively** from the first year through the final year so that the scheduled didactic sessions can be easily referenced throughout the application. **Be brief and use the outline that follows**.

Year in the Program:

Number:                Title:

a) Type of Format (e.g., seminar, conference, discussion groups)

b) Required or elective

c) Brief description (three or four sentences)

d) Frequency, length of session, and total number of sessions

**Example:**

|  |
| --- |
| Y-1  01. Introduction to Thoracic Surgery  a) Seminar  b) Required Y-1  c) Survey of contemporary methods and styles of thoracic surgery, including approaches to clinical work with minority populations.  d) Weekly, for 8 sessions.  02. Departmental Grand Rounds  a) Discussion groups  b) Required, Y-1, Y-2, Y-3; Elective Y-4  c) Clinical case presentations, sponsored by each departmental division, followed by discussion and review of contemporary state of knowledge. Format includes resident presentations and discussions with additional faculty discussant.  d) Twice monthly, 24 sessions |

If resident attendance is monitored, explain how this is accomplished and how feedback is given regarding non-attendance. (Limit 250 words)

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