In This Issue

For this e-bulletin, we highlight the work of the Association for Surgical Education (ASE).

The Association from Surgical Education was formed in 1980 and its members represent medical schools and institutions throughout the United States and Canada. The mission of the Association for Surgical Education is to promote, recognize, and reward excellence, innovation and scholarship in surgical education.

Take some time to read new initiatives ASE is working on now.

ASE Academy of Clerkship Directors

The ASE Academy of Clerkship Directors has been developed to enhance career and professional development for all surgical Clerkship Directors and Associate/Assistant Directors, provide resources for management of a surgical clerkship and to facilitate the mission of the ASE. Academy certification recognizes expertise in, and ongoing commitment towards, medical student surgical education.

To obtain certification an applicant must have five or more years of experience as a Clerkship Director OR accumulate twelve teaching "credits". Areas of teaching scholarship that are awarded credit include podium presentations at national meetings on education, published educational research articles in a peer-reviewed journal, attendance at ACS "Surgeons as Educators" course, presentation at a ASE CD Committee "Troubleshooting" course and completion of a mentored project related to medical student education. Additional credit is given for academic leadership, such as being elected to the position of Chair/Vice Chair of an ASE Committee, and receiving teaching scholarship awards/honors.

Verification of credentials for Academy membership will be determined by an Oversight Committee (OC) under the direction of the ASE Board of Directors (BOD). Upon submission of the initial application,
"Candidate" status is given to the applicant. Once verification by the OC that all criteria are met, "Fellow" status is conveyed to the member. Recognition and certificates documenting Fellowship in the Academy of Clerkship Directors will be awarded biannually at the annual spring ASE meeting and at the Clerkship Directors’ committee meeting held in conjunction with the annual American College of Surgeons fall Clinical Congress.

"Master" status is achieved after two successful 5-year recertification cycles and/or at the discretion of the OC. Designated "Master" educators must be willing to mentor more junior Clerkship Directors.

Additional information and access to the application for certification can be found at: [http://www.surgicaleducation.com/ase-academy-of-clerkship-directors](http://www.surgicaleducation.com/ase-academy-of-clerkship-directors)

**Simulation-based Skills Curriculum**

Another exciting project from ASE is the Simulation-based Skills Curriculum for Medical Students. The ASE Annual Meeting showcased all 25 modules in the Learning Center.

Each module has specific learner goals, objectives, and metrics for performance. Most of the modules require preparation with direct links, videos or articles. We have moved away from "see one; do one; teach one" to a new era of training to proficiency.

The curriculum is available because of the association of the ASE with the American College of Surgeons. Educators can download the modules by visiting the Division of Education program page of the ACS website ([https://www.facs.org/education/roles/med-students](https://www.facs.org/education/roles/med-students)).

**ORDER NOW: ACE Handbook on Medical Student Evaluation and Assessment**

This comprehensive book derives from some chapters in the indispensable fourth edition of the Guidebook for Clerkship Directors, but expands upon those chapters and contains critical new information about milestones, professionalism, and program evaluation.

It is useful not only for clerkship directors, but also for preclinical educators, teachers of electives and subinternships, the dean’s office, the student affairs office, residency and fellowship program directors, and anyone who teaches, advises, or mentors medical students. It discusses all aspects of assessing learners, with well-referenced presentations starting from basic definitions, progressing through various assessment methods, and including reviews of the legal aspects of assessments.


**About the Alliance for Clinical Education**
The Alliance for Clinical Education (ACE) is a multidisciplinary group formed in 1992 to enhance clinical instruction of medical students. This brochure is an update on our activities. ACE's mission is to foster collaboration across specialties in order to promote excellence in clinical education of medical students. Its members include representatives of the groups which direct the core clinical clerkships in our medical schools, such as the following national organizations of clerkship directors:

- Association for Surgical Education (ASE)
- Association of Directors of Medical Student Education in Psychiatry (ADMSEP)
- Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics (APGO)
- Clerkship Directors in Emergency Medicine (CDEM)
- Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine (CDIM)
- Consortium of Neurology Clerkship Directors/American Academy of Neurology (CNCD)
- Council on Medical Student Education in Pediatrics (COMSEP)
- Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM)

ACE plays a key role in issues related to multi- and interdisciplinary undergraduate clinical medical education. It has worked cooperatively, within its membership and in conjunction with other public and private organizations, to develop policies, projects and publications that directly impact medical student education.