

Frequently Asked Questions – Residency & Fellowship Applicants

1. When does the residency/fellowship program start?

The academic year begins in mid-June.

2. How can I apply to multiple programs in the application?

Applicants may apply to two residency training programs but must rank them by preference. The ranking is used in the matching process, and the first-choice program will take priority. If an applicant is accepted to both programs, they will automatically be placed in their first-choice program and removed from the second-choice list.

3. Can I change my selected program choices after submitting the application?

No. Once the online application is submitted, the GME Office cannot make any changes to the selected program choices.

4. Are there any tuition fees?

There are no tuition fees. Residents and fellows receive a monthly stipend. For details about financial support and benefits, please [click here](#).

5. What are the application and exam fees?

- Application Fee: USD 100
- IFOM Clinical Science Examination (CSE): USD 120 (Residency applicants)
- IFOM Basic Science Examination (BSE): USD 100 (Residency applicants)

- IFOM Clinical Specialty Exam: USD 80 (Fellowship applicants)

6. How do I pay the application and examination fees?

- The application fee (USD 100) is paid by credit card at the end of the online application.
- After submitting the application and paying the application fee, applicants will be able to register for the IFOM exam(s), which will be held at AUB in December.

7. Can applicants register for the IFOM exams without submitting an application?

No. Our institution is not a testing center. The IFOM examinations are administered exclusively for applicants to our residency training programs. Applicants must first complete and submit the online application and pay the application fee of USD 100. After submission, eligible applicants will receive a link to register for the IFOM exam(s), if they wish to do so.

8. Can applicants retake the IFOM CSE exam?

- Applicants who pass the IFOM CSE exam cannot retake it except after a 3-month waiting period.
- Applicants who fail the exam may retake it, provided they submit their score by the deadline set by the GME Office.

9. Can I retake the IFOM BSE exam?

The IFOM BSE score is reported to the department as Pass/Fail:

- Applicants who pass the exam will have their score reported as Pass.
- Applicants who fail the exam will be considered ineligible, and their application will not be forwarded to the program.
- Applicants who have already passed may not retake the exam.

10. Which exams should applicants to fellowship programs take?

- Applicants to fellowship programs who already have Board Certification are exempt from the NBME IFOM Specialty Exam.
- Applicants who are not Board Certified must sit for the IFOM Specialty Exam.

11. Are elective rotations at AUBMC mandatory?

Elective rotations at AUB Medical Center (AUBMC) are not mandatory; however, it is strongly recommended that applicants rotate in the department/division to which they are applying.

Exceptions:

Applicants to the following fellowship programs must complete an elective rotation at AUBMC:

- Neonatology
- Gastroenterology
- Osteoporosis & Metabolic Bone Diseases

12. Who is exempted from the English Language Proficiency Exam?

All applicants are required to have a passing score in one of the approved English proficiency exams, except for the following exempted applicants:

- AUB graduates
- Current or former AUB residents
- Graduates who completed both their Bachelor's and MD degrees at:
 - University of Balamand
 - Lebanese American University
- Graduates of recognized institutions in North America, Great Britain, Australia, and New Zealand

13. Is the English Proficiency Exam required before acceptance, or can I submit the score later?

Applicants must submit the required English Proficiency Exam score (or any pending admission document) by the deadline set by the GME Office. Failure to meet the deadline will result in the application being considered incomplete and not eligible for review.

14. My application is complete, but I was not invited for an interview. Why?

Not all applicants with complete applications are invited for an interview. The GME Office forwards eligible applications to programs, which then review and select competitive candidates based on their internal criteria.

15. Can I request an online interview if I am outside Lebanon?

Yes. Interviews for applicants residing outside Lebanon may be conducted via teleconference or videoconference. Local applicants are typically invited for in-person interviews.

16. Are AUB residents/fellows eligible to work in their specialty after graduation?

Yes. Graduates are fully trained specialists. However, the license to practice medicine is subject to the regulations of the local or regional medical authorities.