



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE**  
**HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER**  
**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH TEXAS**

21 Jun 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR: Civilian Graduate Medical Education Program Directors

FROM: HQ AFPC/DPMNP (Air Force Physician Education)

SUBJECT: Status of United States Air Force Officers Selected for Graduate Medical Education

1. Thank you for your interest in this United States Air Force (USAF) officer for a potential position in your training program. The USAF does not have the capacity to train all of the necessary physicians to meet our operational mission within military training programs. Each academic year, more than 400 USAF physicians are training in civilian programs of various lengths. I am writing this letter to inform you about the USAF match process, time lines, and the categories of officers that will train in civilian residencies and fellowships in an attempt to provide more understanding of how we partner with civilian training programs.

2. Our match process, the Joint Graduate Medical Education Selection Board (JGMESB), is a Tri-Service GME match that occurs yearly in November with results for all three services posted in December. Members who are selected for GME training will be approved to pursue one of the following types of training positions: PGY-1 training position, Categorical Residency training position, or Fellowship training position. The approved training positions fall into three different categories of sponsorship:

- a) ***Active Duty status.*** The member will train as an active duty member of the USAF in a military or affiliated training program designated by the JGMESB.
- b) ***Civilian Sponsored status.*** The member will train in an accredited civilian residency or fellowship, in the career field designated by the JGMESB. Once authorized, it is up to the member to gain acceptance to a civilian program of his or her choice. During training, the member will remain on active duty status to include salary commensurate with rank and time in service, full benefits, and incidental expenses. In this status, the member cannot receive any salary support from the civilian institution.
- c) ***Civilian Deferred status.*** The member will train in an accredited civilian residency or fellowship, in the career field designated by the JGMESB. Once authorized, it is up to the member to gain acceptance to a civilian program of his or her choice. Just prior to training, the member will separate from the military and be in civilian status in the non-participating Individual Ready Reserves. The member will receive no salary or benefits from the USAF while in training status. Salary support must come from the civilian training program. At the completion of training, the member will re-enter the military on active duty status.

3. Once again, thank you for your consideration of this USAF member for a position in your training program. If you have any questions about our selection process and or the potential status of USAF members who train in civilian programs, please contact me at 210-565-0655 or by email at AFPC.DPMNP.PhysicianEducation@us.af.mil.

Sincerely,

DAVID T. HSIEH, Col, USAF, MC, FS  
Chief, Air Force Physician Education