

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT RULES
THE GEORGIA BOARD FOR PHYSICIAN WORKFORCE

Rule Chapter 195

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce (hereinafter "Board") proposes amendments to the following Georgia Board for Physician Workforce Rules (hereinafter "proposed amendments."):

New Rule Chapter 195-24 "Mastery of General Surgery Program"

This notice, together with an exact copy of the rules including the proposed amendments and a synopsis of the proposed amendments, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on an interested parties list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the rules including the proposed amendments, and a synopsis of the proposed amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce 2 Peachtree Street NW, Atlanta, GA, 30303. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce's web page at www.gbpw.georgia.gov.

SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

New Rule Chapter 195-24 "Mastery of General Surgery Program"

Purpose of Amendments:

The purpose of this rule is to establish rules for the mastery of general surgery program.

Main Feature: The main feature of the Rule is the establish criteria for the mastery of general surgery program and funding.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

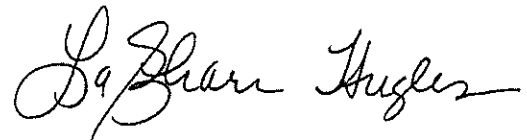
A public hearing is scheduled to begin at **9:00 a.m. on October 25, 2018** at **Mercer University, Penfield Hall, 1501 Mercer University Drive, Macon, GA 30127** to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed amendments. At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to five minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received prior to October 15, 2018. Written comments should be addressed to Executive Director of the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce 2 Peachtree Street NW, 6th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. FAX: 404-656-2596. You may email your comments to yspeight@dch.ga.gov.

At the end of the Public Hearing the proposed rule amendments will be considered by the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce at its meeting scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. on October 25, 2018 at **Mercer University, Penfield Hall, 1501 Mercer University Drive, Macon, GA 30127**. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce has the authority to adopt the proposed rule amendments pursuant to authority contained in Authority O.C.G.A § 31-34-5.

For further information, contact the Board office at 404-232-7972. This notice is given in compliance to with O.C.G.A § 50-13-4

Posted:

This 30th day of July 2018.



LaSharn Hughes M.B.A
Executive Director
Georgia Board for Physician Workforce

Chapter 195-24 MASTERY IN GENERAL SURGERY PROGRAM

Rule 195-24-.01 General Definitions

- (1) "Mastery in General Surgery (MGS) Program" is a one year program designed by the American College of Surgeons Division of Education to support the transition to independent practice in general surgery through: building autonomy, decision-making, and clinical skills; developing experience in practice management, leadership, and quality improvement; learning the business of medicine; and launching the career of general surgery.
- (2) "American College of Surgeons (ACS)" is a scientific and educational association of surgeons that was founded in 1913 to improve the quality of care for the surgical patient by setting high standards for surgical education and practice.
- (3) "ACS Division of Education" is a division of the American College of Surgeons that is at the forefront of national and international innovative education and training to promote excellence and expertise in surgery.
- (4) "Standards and Guiding Statements" are the statements that describe elements common for all institutions participating in the ACS Mastery in General Surgery Program and should guide the development of new Mastery in General Surgery programs.
- (5) "MGS Associate" means a graduate from a US-accredited ACGME general surgery residency program that functions as a junior associate with "back-up" senior associate at all times.
- (7) "Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)" is the body established to accredit residency programs.
- (8) "Underserved Areas" are those geographic areas of the state in which the Board determines there is a shortage of general surgery physicians.
- (9) "General Surgery" means a surgical specialty that focuses on abdominal contents including esophagus, stomach, small bowel, colon, liver, pancreas, gallbladder and bile ducts, and often the thyroid gland.
- (10) "Board Programs" means those medical education activities supported by the Board and/or funded by the General Assembly to address Georgia's physician workforce needs.

Rule 195-24-.02 Mastery in General Surgery Program Funding

- (1) For the annual provision of funds to designated Mastery in General Surgery Programs, the Board requires the following conditions be met:
 - (a) Notification of the total number of junior associates to be trained during an academic year;
 - (b) Maintenance of approval of the Program by the American College of Surgeons Division of Education;
 - (c) Compliance with all Board guidelines, rules, and regulations;

- (d) Submission of all reports including, but not limited to, a participant practice location report, and such other documents as may be reasonably required by the Board and/or outlined in the GBPW's Report Guidelines;
 - 1. Practice Location of Program Participants. The MGS Program shall annually submit a report to the Board indicating the practice location of each participant to assist the Board in evaluating the effectiveness of the Program in meeting the need for physicians in Georgia.
 - (i) MGS program participant practice location reports shall be due no later than September 1st of each year and include the practice location (city/state), additional training being pursued (e.g., fellowship), military service obligation, other state or federal service obligation (e.g., Georgia Board for Physician Workforce, National Health Services Corp., etc.), or other activity of those program participants completing the MGS program.
 - (ii) MGS Programs shall be expected to monitor, update, and report to the Board, any changes in the practice status of program participants for a period of five years after completion of the program.
 - (e) Development and maintenance of procedures to encourage MGS program participants to establish practices in areas of Georgia where unmet need exists for General Surgery physicians; and collaboration to maximize state resources, where appropriate, to carry out said activities.
- (2) Payment Process. Based on the receipt of documentation verifying payment of expenditures by the Hospital, the Board shall authorize disbursement of MGS program funding.
- (a) The Program shall submit appropriate documentation verifying payment of MGS program expenditures, including but not limited to, invoices related to MGS program expenses and proof of payment of said invoices and salary documentation for Junior Associates and program related staff.
 - (b) Payment will not be made for any Junior Associate on an unpaid leave of absence.
- (3) State Audit. The Hospital and/or MGS Program shall be subject to an audit of the financial records relating to the MGS Program Funding upon request of the Board or other duly authorized officer or employee of the State of Georgia upon reasonable request. For this purpose, the Hospital and/or MGS Program shall:
- (a) Maintain for three (3) years after receipt of MGS Funding, all directly pertinent books, documents, papers, and records involving related transactions;
 - (b) To account for the State funds received through the Mastery in General Surgery Agreement in the next "Certified Independent Auditors Report" or in "Audited Financial Statements" of the Hospital.
 - (c) Retain sufficient records for the conduct of an audit for any year for which payments are in dispute until such dispute is resolved;

- (d) Be subject to reduction in payment of MGS Funding based on the findings of a state audit disallowing any previous such payment; and
 - (e) Maintain a permanent personnel file on each resident who graduates from the Program which shall include a record of the resident's experience during the training period and evaluations of their performance by faculty and other supervisors.
- (4) Retention of Graduates. The practice location of MGS Program graduates will be monitored by the Board for five (5) years from date of graduation. In the event retention of graduates practicing in Georgia should fall below an acceptable number, over any five (5) consecutive year period, the Board shall have the authority to adjust the rate of capitation paid to said Program. The acceptable rate of *retention* will be determined by the Board from time to time and set forth in the Agreement between the Board and the Hospital and/or MGS Program.