



**TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY**  
**HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™**  
School of Medicine

*Policy and Procedure*

**Resident Required Certifications/Recertification (ACLS, DPS, DEA)**

**ADVANCED CARDIOVASCULAR LIFE SUPPORT (ACLS) CERTIFICATION OR  
RE-CERTIFICATION; DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY (DPS); DRUG  
ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION (DEA) PERMITS**

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this School of Medicine (SOM) Graduate Medical Education (GME) Policy and Procedure is to establish requirements regarding ACLS, DPS, and DEA Certification/Recertification for current and incoming Residents/Fellows.

**REVIEW:** This SOM Policy and Procedure will be reviewed on [September 1](#) of each even-numbered year by the Lubbock GME Office, with recommendations for revision forwarded to the GME Coordinating Council by [September 30](#).

**POLICY/PROCEDURE:**

**ACLS Certification**

**1. Incoming Residents/Fellows**

This policy requires any Resident/Fellow accepted into any residency or fellowship program to have or to obtain ACLS certification prior to the beginning of the training program.

Failure to provide evidence of ACLS certification prior to the beginning of the training program will result in a postponement of the residents start date, until such proof can be provided to the GME Office.

**2. Current Residents/Fellows**

It is the responsibility of the resident to maintain current ACLS certification throughout the entire residency or fellowship program.

Failure to maintain current ACLS certification will result in removal from clinical service and vacation days will be deducted until proof of renewed certification has been received by the GME office.

## **DPS/DEA Certification**

3. Residents/Fellows that are in the process of obtaining a Texas Medical License must obtain their own DPS certificate and DEA certificate upon receipt of medical licensure. The approximate time frame is three weeks to obtain a DPS, followed by three weeks to obtain a DEA. If a resident/fellow has not obtained and notified the GME office within eight weeks from the date the medical license was obtained, the resident will be suspended from clinical activities and forced to take vacation time or put on leave without pay.
  
4. Residents/Fellows who hold a current Texas Medical License are required to maintain a current certificate with the Department of Public Safety (DPS) controlled substance division and a current certificate with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) throughout the duration of residency training. Failure to provide proof of current certification will result in suspension from clinical duties, and the resident/fellow will be obliged to take vacation time or leave without pay until such documentation is confirmed with the GME office.