



Our Mission Statement: To provide an educational and mentoring platform in the field of practice management that primarily focuses on students, residents, fellows and new practitioners that will forge a strong foundation for their podiatric careers while providing continuing support to the more established podiatrist.

IPED Graduate Management and Clinical Program (GMCP)

Frequently Asked Questions

*** *when you see GMCP this means Graduate Management and Clinical Program*

What is a Graduate Management and Clinical Program ?

Graduate Management and Clinical Program is a period of training for future medical professionals, during which a more experienced medical professional (or practitioner) provides training and observation time for the less experienced trainee. Typically this benefits students who have completed their podiatric medical education but failed to match in a residency program.

In what states is this available? What cities?

We are reaching out to podiatrists throughout the country to have a GMCP in their office. This will determine the location of the GMCPs.

How long is it? Can I only do it for a couple of months?

The program is typically an 8 to ten month curriculum. We expect you to commit to the entire program, unless there are significant extenuating circumstances.

Who is in charge of this program?

The Institute of Podiatric Excellence and Development has created this program to reach out and help graduates who do not get placed in a residency program. GMCP has a committee responsible for this program.

How do I sign up for this? What is the application process? When will I start?

The application process is simple. Email your completed **CASPR Application** (include your CASPR application, CV, and letters of reference) and simple application found on www.podiatricexcellence.org to Ruth Ann Donahue at radonahue@podiatricexcellence.org. Applications must be complete and you must indicate where you are available to locate. Upon receipt, your application will be reviewed by our GMCP committee and they will in turn suggest potential practices the student candidate. Participating practices will then be sent your application and references and the candidate will receive the practice's information. Going

forward it will then become the responsibility of the student candidate and the practice to make contact for a phone interview and eventually an in-person interview with the practice. Please note that the participating practices have enrolled in IPED's GMCP program and there may not be enough practices to accommodate all the candidates. IPED will try to encourage practices not enrolled in the program to participate if necessary. PLEASE NOTE: APPLICATION TO IPED'S PROGRAM DOES NOT GUARANTEE A PLACEMENT IN A PRACTICE. IPED WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO CONTACT INTERESTED PRACTICES THAT ARE WILLING TO TAKE ON A PRECEPT.

From time of application, how long will it be before we are notified of a match?

IPED will make every effort to research opportunities for each student in a timely manner. The application process is on a rolling basis and the availability of the participating practices. The program deadline is May 30th and all applications must be received no later than that date. **It is highly recommended that the candidate be willing to relocate.**

How will be notified of a match, if selected?

Match will be communicated by e-mail and/or phone.

Can I pick and choose a doctor or do they pick and choose me?

The graduate is matched to a practitioner based on request for which part of the country they would like to be. There is no guarantee that there will be a position available in the area you request, but best efforts will be made to get the graduate a Graduate Management and Clinical Program in one of their top three location choices. Again, if a candidate is not willing to relocate, the opportunities for placement lessen.

Do all of the practitioners run successful practices? What criteria do you use to choose practitioners?

The practitioners who participate are highly skilled and successful practitioners. They have signed up with IPED's GMCP program and agree to mentor the graduate and provide the practice management experience outlined in the curriculum. Most, if not all, of the practitioners who have come forward are known to the committee and are very qualified to host a graduate in their practice.

What is the curriculum like? What will it cover?

The curriculum is based on different elements of practice management. Graduates will have exposure to front office, billing and coding, back office, inventory, systems and protocols, marketing, and more. There will be conference calls, reading, and webinars as well to help provide further mentoring and education.

Will I get any formal certification for doing this?

The GMCP is not recognized by any licensure or certification boards.

Will I have time to visit residency programs and participate in match?

Your practitioner will be encouraged to allow you to visit residency programs and it has been made clear to them the importance of this activity. The amount of time you are allowed to do this is between you and your practitioner.

I heard that there used to be Graduate Practice Management Programs for podiatrists in the past, is this anything like that?

No. Previous Graduate Practice Management Programs were recognized training programs, which qualified the graduate to licensure to enter practice in some states. This program is clear and distinct from previous programs of this type.

How will this help me get prepared for residency next year?

Many residency directors will look favorably upon you as a candidate for their program with the real-life podiatry experience you gain in your GMCP and the knowledge you learned that other graduates in the graduating class of that year do not have. In many cases, doing the GMCP will put you at a competitive advantage and will likely be looked upon as favorable by residency selection committees. The majority of those who have done this program in the past placed in a residency program the following year.

Is the Graduate Management and Clinical Program paid?

Yes, but the stipend is at the full discretion of the practitioner. IPED does not have a set stipend for this program. Though the amount of the stipend may seem low to you, please remember that you are being hired at a cost to the practitioner, who has volunteered to open their practice to you while you are pursuing a residency program. Since you will not have a license to practice podiatry, your ability to produce any significant income for the practice will be limited.

Is health insurance or other benefits available?

Health insurance and other benefits are at the discretion of the practitioner.

Is there any formal curriculum?

This will be determined by the practitioner but IPED will provide mentoring and educational opportunities throughout the program.

Is it required to pass NBPME Part II (Boards)?

No

Is there any OR time?

There is a significant amount of clinical shadowing and other office work that you will be doing. If your practitioner takes you to the OR, this is between you and them. Because of liability issues, it is very unlikely that you will be in any role other than an un-scrubbed observer.

What happens if we are not happy with the practitioner and want to no longer maintain the relations?

If the relationship between the student and the practitioner is not a good match, the two parties need to enter into dialog to discuss the issues. If it ultimately is decided that it is not a good match, then it is advisable that the precept leave. In most cases, this is an "at will" position and you can leave at any time. We do recommend that at least a two week notice is given in order to facilitate a smooth transition. Please understand that IPED has no role or function in these circumstances.

Can GMCP participants become IPED members?

Yes and complimentary membership will be given to all GMCPs in IPED.

Can GMCPs get a podiatry license?

There are a handful of states that have a limited license for those performing these programs allowing the graduate to practice certain aspects of podiatry and surgery as dictated by the licensing board in that state. Also, there are some states that do not need a residency program to get a license. Yet it will be difficult for you to get a podiatry license since in most cases it takes several months for the process. This is a decision by the practitioner as to whether this makes sense for their GMCP.

If the GMCP's do not have a podiatry license, what role will they play in the office?

In most states a podiatric medical assistant can perform most of what is necessary in the patient experience while they are in the office. The GMCP will serve to assist the doctor in the office and like podiatric medical assistants; they can serve to provide much of what is needed in patient care and presentations. In addition, there will be specific practice management goals for each month of the Graduate Management and Clinical Program that will complement the clinical experience. Check with your state licensing board for what services assistants can perform in your office.

Will I be able to be called "Doctor" in the office?

This is state specific and will ask the practitioner to check with their state licensing board. If business cards are provided for the graduate also need to check guidelines of state licensing board regarding use of DPM and doctor with their name. This is same for any written and printed materials that their name is written.

Does the GMCP need their own malpractice insurance?

No, if they are not licensed. If the graduate does obtain a podiatry license malpractice insurance should be obtained and is at the discretion of the practitioner who pays for this. Again, in the great majority of the GMCPs the graduates will not have a podiatry license. If the graduate is practicing with a license in states that grant such, malpractice will be needed and likely at reduced rate.

*** In any case suggest the practice should contact their malpractice company to let them know a graduate is with the practice no matter what their level.

What role will the GMCP serve in the practice?

Each practice will define the role the practice management practitioner will serve in the practice. What the graduate will be able to do in the practice will greatly depend on the state's practice act and licensure rules. There must, however, be focus on the pertinent practice management principles as defined by the curriculum.

Will housing be provided?

Practitioners are not responsible for housing the graduate, but any support in helping them find housing would be greatly appreciated.

How will I be paired with a practitioner

The pairing will be done by the IPED committee and will be largely based on geography in order to accommodate the request of the GMCP candidate. The practitioner will be given the opportunity to review information about the graduate and speak to a candidate by phone, however unless there is a glaring reason why the pairing will not work, requests cannot be accommodated.

Is there a chance that the graduate will leave the GMCP for a program mid-year?

While unlikely, there are occasions where residency programs open midyear. We would hope that the practitioner would release the graduate from the commitment of the program to pursue the residency position.

Disclaimer: Participating in the IPED Graduate Management and Clinical Program does not guarantee the student candidate a residency position. The program was merely designed to help further the education in podiatric medicine and practice management in those graduates of podiatric medical schools who were unable, for whatever reason, to match due to the current podiatric residency shortage. IPED participated in developing the curriculum and recruiting doctors to participate in the program. There is no guarantee however that matches for the Graduate Management and Clinical Program will be made for all applicants. IPED will make every effort to match applicants with suitable podiatric offices. Upon successful placement, IPED will not have a direct influence on each individual postgraduate's Graduate Management and Clinical Program experience, which will, of course, ultimately depend upon the podiatric practice with which the applicant is matched. IPED's goal is to connect postgraduates with experienced doctors who can mentor them through a practice management Graduate Management and Clinical Program by sharing their own unique style, approach, and experience.