

MS-24

MS-24. A medical education program should have mechanisms in place to minimize the impact of direct educational expenses on medical student indebtedness.

As key indicators of the medical education program's compliance with this standard, the LCME and the CACMS consider average medical student debt, including the debt of current students and graduates and trends over the past several years; the total number of medical students with scholarship support and average scholarship support per student; the percentage of total financial need supported by institutional and external grants and scholarships; and the presence of activities at the programmatic or institutional levels to enhance scholarship support for medical students. In addition, the LCME and the CACMS will consider the entire range of other activities in which the program could engage (e.g., limiting tuition increases, supporting students in acquiring external financial aid).

DATABASE QUESTIONS

- a. Provide a copy of the medical school's most recent LCME Part I-B Financial Aid Questionnaire.
- b. Describe current activities at the medical school or the university level to increase the amount and availability of scholarship and grant support for medical students. For example, is there a current fund-raising campaign devoted to increasing scholarship resources? If so, what is the goal of the campaign, its level of success to date, and the timeframe for completion?

See also information for standard [MS-23](#) and Part A, items (g.) and (h.) in this section of the database.

SELF-STUDY QUESTIONS

Evaluate the level of tuition and fees in relation to the amount of graduates' accumulated debt and to the level of financial aid needed and available. Provide an analysis of the trends in tuition and debt levels. Describe the efforts in place to minimize medical student indebtedness and comment on the effectiveness of these efforts.

SURVEY REPORT GUIDE

Describe recent trends in tuition and fees and in the overall cost of attending the medical school.

Indicate whether the loans and scholarships that are available to students meet their needs. Note any trends in the amount of institutional funding for grants and scholarships, and describe any institutional initiatives for enhancing funding for student scholarship support. Cite the average debt of indebted students in comparison with national norms, and comment on trends in debt levels in the context of institutional initiatives to limit educational debt.

Note: The survey team report will have, as an appendix, a copy of the most recent LCME Part I-B Financial Aid Questionnaire (from the Standard-MS-24) provided by the school.