

Frequently Asked Questions

Where does FREIDA data come from?

Program data on FREIDA come directly from ACGME-accredited programs themselves via the GME Track/National GME Census, an annual online survey jointly conducted by the American Medical Association and the Association of American Medical Colleges. Data are loaded onto FREIDA in mid-August for those programs that complete the National GME Census by the mid-July due date, again in October (for data received by the end of September), and a final upload in February. New programs are added to FREIDA as they become accredited, and existing programs update their information throughout the year. Clinical information on GME participating institutions is provided by Health Forum, LLC, an affiliate of the American Hospital Association.

What is the ACGME?

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education accredits most graduate medical education programs – including all residency training programs and most fellowship programs. These programs can accept qualified MDs and DOs.

Can anyone search for residency/fellowship programs on FREIDA?

Yes, anyone can use FREIDA.

Do AMA members have additional FREIDA benefits?

AMA members have additional FREIDA benefits that they can access by logging in, such as saving searches into a Comparison List and creating a Dashboard to help organize their search, save programs of interest, and store personal observations. In addition, AMA members can download limited program data into a .csv file. The number of different programs that can be downloaded is 100 per year. You can learn more about AMA membership [here](#).

I'm an osteopathic medical student. Can I use FREIDA to look for programs?

Of course! ACGME-accredited programs accept qualified MDs and DOs. To find programs that have an osteopathic focus, meaning, they either have Osteopathic Recognition, or were accredited as part of the Single Accreditation System, use the Osteopathic Recognition/Focus checkbox under the Program Type filter.

How do I save results of a program search on FREIDA?

AMA members can save results of a search into the Comparison List or into the Dashboard. Select the program you're interested in, either from the Search results or from a program's page on FREIDA, and select Add to Comparison or Add to Dashboard. You can also add programs to the Dashboard from the Comparison table. In addition, AMA members can download limited program data into a .csv file. The number of different programs that can be downloaded is 100 per year.

If you are not an AMA member, you can add programs to the Comparison List only during the current browser session.

How do I use the filters?

Use the filter checkboxes or sliders to narrow your search. Keep in mind that not all programs answer every question – a program that does not appear in your search results could be one that did not answer the filter question.

Why is there more information for some programs than others?

The Overview is provided for all ACGME-accredited programs. In addition, most programs choose to provide even more information about their programs by "leasing" supplemental space on FREIDA. Some programs do not choose to have an Expanded listing.

Can I bookmark FREIDA for future use?

The bookmark for FREIDA can be found [here](#). You can also bookmark a program's listing, but keep in mind that changes are made often to FREIDA, and you may want to refresh a bookmarked page to make sure that the information is current.

Why can't I find listings for a particular specialty?

FREIDA contains listings for 2 types of programs: (1) programs in specialties that have ACGME program requirements, and (2) combined programs that are jointly approved by two or more applicable certification boards (e.g., internal medicine/psychiatry).

If you cannot find listings for a particular specialty or combined program (for example, cutaneous oncology), check with the relevant specialty society for more information about these non-ACGME accredited specialties.

Can I search for vacant residency and fellowship positions?

Yes! Click on the Browse Vacant Positions link on the left navigation bar. Program directors can post positions that have become vacant during the year, or are left unfilled after the Match. Users can search by specialty, state and program year level. You may also want to check with

the specialty society of the area in which you are seeking a position.

How can programs change their data after information has been uploaded from the annual survey?

Program personnel can make changes to the Overview program information by clicking on [Program Director Access](#). (Logging in is required. Please contact FREIDA for program login information). If changes need to be made to Expanded program information, they can be e-mailed to freida@ama-assn.org. Please include your 10-digit program ID number.

How can I find out about the accreditation status of a program?

All programs on FREIDA are currently ACGME-accredited, or are combined programs that are approved by their respective specialty boards. The most recent information on the accreditation status of ACGME-accredited programs, including program review dates by residency review committees, is located on the [ACGME's Web site](#).

Our ACGME-accredited residency program is not listed in FREIDA. Why not?

If your program was newly accredited within the past several months, it is possible we may not yet have received the information about your program. Notify FREIDA by e-mail (freida@ama-assn.org) with your 10-digit program ID number and basic information, and we will look into the issue.

Is FREIDA information available for data licensing?

Some limited GME information can be licensed to non-profit medical organizations and researchers. Please contact gme@ama-assn.org or freida@ama-assn.org for more information.

How can I find out if a program is part of a medical school?

Medical schools can have affiliation agreements with teaching institutions that sponsor GME programs. Select a medical school through the Medical School Affiliations Search. Teaching institutions that have agreements with that school will display. Selecting an institution from the list will provide information about the institution, as well as a list of programs that the institution is affiliated with.

Is there information on the various training sites that are part of a program?

Yes, the names and locations of all the training sites that have required rotations are included in the program's Overview. Select a site from the program's Overview to learn more. Or, search for all institutions by selecting Search Institutions. Information about a hospital's clinical environment and special resources is provided by Health Forum, LLC, an affiliate of the

American Hospital Association.

USMLE or COMLEX... which do I need?

If you are graduating, or have graduated, with an MD degree, you will be taking the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE), created by the National Board of Medical Examiners. If you are graduating, or have graduated, with a DO degree, then you can take the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination (COMLEX), created by the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners. Some programs in FREIDA, however, expect ALL applicants to have taken the USMLE.

How can I found out what the typical pediatrics (or any specialty) program is like?

Select Specialty Training Stats to find averaged or aggregate information about programs, by specialty.

What's next for graduates of residency or fellowship programs?

Program directors indicate the plans of their graduates. You can find that aggregated information by specialty by selecting Graduates Career Plans.