



**Anish Mahajan, M.D., MS, MPH**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Chief Medical Officer

**Griselda Gutierrez, M.D.**  
Associate Chief Medical Officer

**Jason Black, MBA, DNP, RN**  
Chief Nursing Officer

## Graduate Medical Education

**Darrell W. Harrington, M.D., MACP**  
Director and Designated  
Institutional Official  
[dharrington@dhs.lacounty.gov](mailto:dharrington@dhs.lacounty.gov)  
(424) 306-6355

**Emily Tuivaiti, MBA**  
Administrative Director  
[eutuivaiti@dhs.lacounty.gov](mailto:eutuivaiti@dhs.lacounty.gov)  
(424) 306-6355

[www.Harbor-UCLA.org](http://www.Harbor-UCLA.org)  
1000 West Carson Street, Box 36  
Torrance, CA 90509  
Tel: (424) 306-6355  
Fax: (310) 222-2911



Health Services  
[www.dhs.lacounty.org](http://www.dhs.lacounty.org)

## OFFICE OF GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

**Subject: Los Angeles County – Harbor-UCLA Medical Center  
ACGME Institutional Accreditation Status**

Dear Harbor-UCLA Housestaff and Prospective Applicants:

On June 21, 2023, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Institutional Review Committee (IRC) placed Harbor-UCLA Medical Center on "Probationary Status," citing specific areas where the Institution was not in "substantial compliance." DHS and Harbor-UCLA leadership understand the Council's concerns and are already working to resolve the issues. We expect to be able to do so in a very timely manner.

We would like to be very clear: Harbor-UCLA remains a premier institution, committed to excellence in both learning and care. Our change in status will have no impact on our residents, our patients, or our ability to recruit new trainees.

Moving forward, Harbor-UCLA will integrate input from important stakeholders, Institutional and DHS leadership as well as our Graduate Medical Education Committee to devise a strategy and pathway forward to address the concerns raised by ACGME. We will meet with the ACGME at the end of this month to discuss a timeline and pathway back to "continued accreditation status," at which point we will provide another update.

In the meantime, additional information is provided below in the form of Q&A:

**What does "Probationary Accreditation status" mean?**

Probationary accreditation status is a label conferred by the ACGME - our national graduate medical education regulatory body that provides accreditation to sponsoring residency and fellowship programs. Probation is a term used for programs and/or sponsoring institutions (SI) that do not demonstrate "substantial compliance" with the ACGME's published requirements.

SIs on probationary status remain accredited to sponsor all currently accredited residency and fellowship programs, but they may not apply for accreditation of new programs. SIs on probationary accreditation status must share the probationary status information with current residents, fellows, and applicants following receipt of the letter of notification from ACGME.

***What impact does institutional accreditation status have on recruitment?***

As an applicant or interviewee, this accreditation status will have no impact on their ability to match to Harbor-UCLA Medical Center's accredited programs. The ACGME is very clear that this accreditation status will have no effect on our recruitment efforts and all interested candidates are urged to apply. An approved formal statement for all applicants will be communicated in compliance with the ACGME's requirements.

***If I am a resident or fellow, will SI probationary status affect my license or my ability to graduate from a residency or fellowship program?***

No. Our ACGME Sponsoring Institution and all of its residency and fellowship programs remain accredited with no impact on graduation or ability to recruit. Again, the probationary status impacts only the accreditation of new programs.

***When will ACGME-accreditation status be restored?***

The formal detailed report from the ACGME outlining any areas of concern and necessary action was received on July 7th, 2023. In the coming weeks, GME Leadership will meet with ACGME to discuss a timeline and strategy for an additional institutional site

visit as well as planned meetings of the Institutional Review Committee to consider removal of "probationary status."

Some of you may remember that LAC+USC Medical Center was placed Probation a few years ago and successfully remediated. Accordingly, although Probationary Status is considered a serious disciplinary decision by ACGME, DHS and hospital leadership are confident full accreditation will be restored.

The GME Leadership will provide follow up to all stakeholders as more details develop. In addition, I will schedule a number of virtual town halls in the near future to answer questions.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darrell W. Harrington". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "D".

Darrell W. Harrington, M.D., MACP (he/him/his)  
Professor of Medicine  
Designated Institutional Official  
Associate Medical Director for Education  
Harbor-UCLA Medical Center  
Chief Academic Officer  
Los Angeles County, Department of Health Services  
[dharrington@dhs.lacounty.gov](mailto:dharrington@dhs.lacounty.gov)

For scheduling please contact:  
Alice Alves (Administrative Assistant)  
[AAIves@dhs.lacounty.gov](mailto:AAIves@dhs.lacounty.gov)

OFFICE (424) 306-6353 or ext. 66353  
FAX (310) 222-2911