



The Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons

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Training Center Requirements

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the PAACS is to train and disciple Christian African surgeons at qualified Christian hospitals in Africa, in a five year program approved by the College of Surgery of East, Central and Southern Africa general surgery training program. We do this in cooperation with:

- Loma Linda University, which validates our training programs through scheduled site visits and provides a “Certificate of Competency in General Surgery” at graduation;
- The Christian Medical and Dental Associations of America, which is our parent organization, whose name is also on the certificate provided at graduation;
- Visiting, short-term and board-certified surgeons approved by PAACS;
- Participating Christian hospitals in Africa under the close supervision of an on-site Program Director, a Regional PAACS Director, the PAACS Director for Africa, and the CEO. These three officers are under the authority of the PAACS Commission.

BASIC TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

There are TWO ways in which a Christian hospital can participate with PAACS: (1) as an “Integrated Hospital”, which is a PAACS Training Center, or (2) as an “Affiliated Hospital,” which accepts PAACS residents from Training Centers for specific surgical rotations of one to six months.

To qualify to become either a PAACS Training Center or an Affiliated Hospital, you must meet the following qualifications:

- An excellent surgical facility that includes at least 2 modern operating rooms and 30 surgical beds.
- The necessary equipment and trained nurse anesthetists to safely and competently perform general, inhalational anesthesia, in addition to other methods of anesthesia.
- A full-time general surgeon at your hospital willing to serve as the Program Director. He or she must have worked for at least three years as a surgeon, be board certified in general surgery by an internationally recognized board or college of surgery, have proven teaching skills, be an exemplary Christian who can disciple others and teach evangelism, and be willing to direct the training program under the rules and leadership of the PAACS.
- A full-time general surgeon or surgical subspecialist to serve as the Assistant Program Director. He or she must be board certified or board-eligible, licensed, have proven teaching skills, be actively performing surgery in his specialty area, be an exemplary Christian who can disciple others and teach personal evangelism, and be willing to assist the Program Director in every way possible. He or she must also be willing to serve as the Interim or Acting Program Director when the Program Director is absent for any length of time.
- A surgical service that performs at least 600 major operations a year.
- A hospital policy that does not exclude the poor.

- An active chaplaincy service that encourages its entire staff to share the good news of Jesus Christ with patients, including future PAACS residents.
- Have, or be willing to have, a policy to invite only surgeons approved by PAACS to work with the residents.
- Staff surgeons who are willing to participate in the surgical training program.
- Appropriate, furnished housing for PAACS residents, including utilities
- Health coverage for each resident during his rotation

In order to become a PAACS TRAINING PROGRAM, the hospital must meet the following additional qualifications routinely included in a signed MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with PAACS:

- Health coverage for each resident, his or her spouse, and the couple's dependent children.
- Provide adequate space for a surgical library, resident teaching conferences, and study area.
- Provide adequate space and appropriate staffing for regularly scheduled surgery clinics.
- Appoint the PAACS Program Director as the hospital's Chief of Surgery, unless a different arrangement is approved in discussions with the PAACS leadership.
- Accept for training at your hospital the residents that the PAACS approves for admission (according to the terms of a signed Memorandum of Understanding which is mutually agreed upon).
- Pay the costs of renewing the residents' visas, until they complete their training.
- Facilitate the in-country lodging, travel to your hospital, and guest housing at or near your hospital for the short-term, visiting surgeons.
- Accept that it is up to the sponsoring organization to decide where a graduate serves after his or her graduation.
- Provide assurances that your government will not immediately oppose the PAACS training program or short-term visiting surgeons.
- Accept that if a resident breaks the hospital's rules the PAACS Program Director will be responsible to provide discipline.
- Accept that the PAACS Program Director will be the one to determine if a resident should be sent away for academic failure, repeated misconduct, or insubordination.
- Accept that it is the responsibility of the PAACS Program Director to insure that a resident meets the spiritual and behavioral standards required by the hospital.

If your hospital desires to become a PAACS training program or an Affiliated Hospital, please e-mail info@paacs.net to receive an application.