

2026 Graduating Resident Checklist

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SEPTEMBER - JANUARY

- ☐ **START THE JOB SEARCH**
Make career decisions based on what matters most to you
acep.org/careers

- ☐ **RESEARCH DISABILITY INSURANCE**
Rates go up after graduation | acep.org/insurance

FEBRUARY - MARCH

- ☐ **FOUND THE PERFECT JOB?**
Before signing the contract, ensure you're protected
acep.org/contract-toolkit
Find help with contract negotiations | acep.org/resolve
- ☐ **APPLY FOR YOUR STATE MEDICAL LICENSE***
- ☐ **START THE CREDENTIALING PROCESS***

*These can take up to 6 months

APRIL

- ☐ **FILE YOUR LAST TAXES AS A RESIDENT**
- ☐ **BUILD YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE**
Get financial coaching with The White Coat Investor | acep.org/wci
Refinance your student loans with Laurel Road | acep.org/laurelroad
More resources | acep.org/finances
- ☐ **FIND A PLACE TO LIVE**
- ☐ **SECURE INSURANCE**
Medical Malpractice | Life | Health | Disability
Make sure you're covered! | acep.org/insurance
- ☐ **APPLY FOR BOARD CERTIFICATION**
Registration is April – September | abem.org or aobem.org

MAY

- ☐ **REGISTER FOR YOUR EXAMS**
Qualifying Exam Registration: May - October 2026
Qualifying Exam: November 2026
Certifying Exam Registration: TBD
Certifying Exam: March - November 2027
Get help with certification & travel costs from Panacea Financial
acep.org/panacea
Learn more at abem.org

- ☐ **OBTAIN A DEA NUMBER**
Apply once you have your state license

JUNE

- ☐ **RENEW YOUR ACEP MEMBERSHIP**
New Attending Membership Bundle is only \$25/month for 3 years
acep.org/gradres
- ☐ **UPDATE YOUR MEMBER PROFILES**
ACEP
ABEM/AOBEM
AMA
- ☐ **PREPARE FOR YOUR BOARD EXAMS**
Get PEERprep for Physicians free with the New Attending Membership Bundle
acep.org/peerprep
- ☐ **LEARN THE BUSINESS OF EM**
acep.org/practice-essentials

