



DAGMEC Training Manual for Residency Management Suite (RMS) by New Innovations

TOPIC: **ECFMG Required Data**
LOCATED: Personnel Data > Tools > Demographic Editor > ECFMG Certifications
IMPORTANCE: Required demographic data; Drives IRIS reporting mechanism

The screenshot shows the DAGMEC Personnel web application in Microsoft Internet Explorer. The page title is "DAGMEC PERSONNEL". The user is logged in as "WSU Internal Medicine". The "Available People" dropdown is set to "XXXX". The "Additional Filters" section includes "Add a New Person", "Search for People", and "Extract Personnel Data". The "Current Status" is "PGY 1 in WSU Internal Medicine" and "Credentials" are "M.D.". The "ECFMG Certifications" section displays a table with the following data:

Edit	Delete	Number	Certified On	English Expires	CSA Expires	USMLE Passed	Valid?
		0-597-882-0	1/24/2003	---	---	1/24/2003	•

Arrows point to the "Number", "Certified On", "USMLE Passed", and "Valid?" columns. The "Valid?" column contains a checkmark (•). The page footer includes "New Innovations Residency Management Suite ©1995-2004 New Innovations, Inc." and the Windows taskbar shows the time as 11:53 AM.

This data is only available/necessary for residents that completed medical school in a non-US medical school.

When adding the fields in this area, four pieces of data needs to be added or the IRIS system will not recognize that the data is complete. Those data points are: ECFMG certificate number, certification date, USMLE Step II date – see note below, and a checkmark in the “valid” box.

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Important Information: When adding the ECFMG data, there is an error in the logic used by Medicare (not RMS or DAGMEC). They ask for the pass date of the USMLE Step II exam. However, the IRIS/Medicare software won't accept that date if it is prior to the residents medical school graduation date. Most residents now pass Step II before they graduate – so if you try to put in accurate data, the system produces an error message. We have talked to the Medicare Intermediaries (and the KMC Network and Premier Health Partners finance/IRIS personnel) and this is how we are going to work around this bug for now: **In both the “USMLE Pass Date” and the “Certification Date” fields, you should place the ECFMG Certification Date.**

When Medicare changes their software, we will be able to capture the correct information, but we have no anticipated date for that software change. If you would like to log the actual/real “USMLE Step II Pass Date”, we have created a field for that in the Demographic Editor > Custom Fields.

For all residents in 2004-2005, a scanned copy of the ECFMG certificate should be placed in the “Attached Files” section of Demographic Editor. This will allow other Medical Education departments to have access to the documentation. You should NOT have to mail it to them if you have attached it in RMS. If you do not have a scanner, please let us know. There are several scanners that can be made available to you or DAGMEC can help.

Other Miscellaneous Notes about ECFMG Certificates

Another IRIS bug: If a dental resident graduates from a foreign medical school, the IRIS software demands the ECFMG data described above. But, dental residents don't take the USMLE or have an ECFMG certificate. So, Bev Townsend (PHP Reimbursement) spoke to the Intermediaries about this situation. In a case like this, **“use the day after the medical school graduation date in the IRIS software for both fields.”**

The same case will apply for residents that go to a foreign medical school and then complete a “Fifth Pathway” program in the US.

DAGMEC Disclaimer: Do we feel comfortable about the “fixes” that are necessary to make the IRIS software work? No! However, our area hospitals have been accommodating these types of issues for years. We are attempting to obtain good advise from reliable sources before we ask you to log data. Also, we think it will benefit all of us if we are following the same guidelines in logging this data.