What Are the Requirements to Be a Residency Director or Mentor?

Director / Mentor Frequently Asked Questions · https://ncope.org/index.php/docs/what-are-the-requirements-to-be-a-residency-director-or-mentor/

The flowcharts below summarize director and mentor qualifications in Standard 4 of the 2025 NCOPE Residency Standards. Review Director and Mentor Eligibility, Roles and Responsibilities for complete guidance.

Complete one accepted training option within the past three years: the Online Residency Program Development Course (all three sections), the Approved Clinical Mentor (ACM) course, or an online residency refresher course.

Select a flowchart or its full-size link to enlarge it.

Director Requirements for Education, Experience, and NCOPE Training

Open Director Flowchart at Full Size

Residency Director Eligibility

2025 NCOPE Residency Standards • Standard 4.1

Follow every step. A Yes answer moves to the next requirement.

1 Do you meet an education pathway?

- NCOPE/CAAHEP-accredited O&P program: bachelor's, postbaccalaureate certificate, or master's.
- ISPO-accredited orthotist-prosthetist program at one of those levels, based on WES evaluation.
- Actively serving as a residency director on July 1, 2025.

NO → Education requirement not yet met. Contact NCOPE for guidance.

YES ↓

2 Do you hold a qualifying credential?

ABC or BOC certification as an orthotist and/or prosthetist, or O&P licensure where the state has an O&P license act.

NO → Obtain a qualifying credential.

YES ↓

3 Have you held certification or licensure for at least 4 years?

Orthotist and/or prosthetist certification or licensure.

NO → Complete the required credentialed experience.

YES ↓

4 Is your NCOPE training current?

Completed within the past 3 years: ACM training, the online residency development course, or an online residency refresher course.

NO → Complete an accepted training course.

YES ↓

You meet the Standard 4.1a–d DIRECTOR qualifications.

Program appointment and responsibilities still apply.

Mentor Requirements for Education, Experience, and NCOPE Training

Open Mentor Flowchart at Full Size

Residency Mentor Eligibility

2025 NCOPE Residency Standards • Standard 4.3

Follow every step. A Yes answer moves to the next requirement.

1 Do you meet an education pathway?

- NCOPE/CAAHEP-accredited O&P program: bachelor's, postbaccalaureate certificate, or master's.
- ISPO-accredited orthotist-prosthetist program at one of those levels, based on WES evaluation.
- Actively serving as a residency mentor on July 1, 2025.

NO → Education requirement not yet met. Contact NCOPE for guidance.

YES

2 Do you hold a qualifying credential?

ABC or BOC certification as an orthotist and/or prosthetist, or O&P licensure where the state has an O&P license act.

NO → Obtain a qualifying credential.

YES

3 Have you held certification or licensure for at least 2 years?

Orthotist and/or prosthetist certification or licensure.

NO → Complete the required credentialed experience.

YES

4 Is your NCOPE training current?

Completed within the past 3 years: ACM training, the online residency development course, or an online residency refresher course.

NO → Complete an accepted training course.

YES

You meet the Standard 4.3a–d MENTOR qualifications.

Program appointment and responsibilities still apply.