

Succeeding in residency and fellowship begins with the AMA.

1. Read your residency contract closely to **understand your benefits** and know your rights.
2. **Learn about the residency basics** of duty hours, accreditation and funding, and how they can affect you and your program.
3. Research the state medical licensure process to **obtain your medical license** without delay.
4. If you choose to get board certified, **know the certification requirements** for your specialty.
5. **Get control of your finances:** create a personal budget, develop a “saving” lifestyle and plan for retirement.
6. Take advantage of AMA member publications, updates and networking opportunities to **stay up to date** on important issues.
7. Don't put it off: **protect yourself and your profession** and begin researching medical liability insurance and disability insurance now.
8. Be prepared to **negotiate a physician employment contract** that meets your needs.
9. Learn how to code and bill for medical procedures, and understand how the government and private payors reimburse physicians to **ensure accurate and timely reimbursements**.
10. If you're **interested in opening your own practice**, learn how to write a proper business plan, raise capital, hire and retain quality staff, and market your practice to patients.

For valuable information on these and other topics vital to succeeding in residency, check out “**Succeeding from medical school to practice**,” an online guide exclusively for AMA members. www.ama-assn.org/go/succeeding

Activate your AMA membership:
www.ama-assn.org

