

GME Institutional Coordinator Excellence Award



The GME Institutional Coordinator Excellence Award was created to honor and recognize the pivotal position that the institutional coordinator has within the institution. The ACGME congratulates the 2018 recipient of the GME Institutional Coordinator Excellence Award.



Michelle Valdez, MA

Naval Medicine Center San Diego
San Diego, California

Nominators had this to say:

“As DIO, I have been blessed to have had this passionate, intelligent, and dedicated Institutional Coordinator for over seven years as my right hand partner, and Head of a centralized GME Team that serves twenty programs and over 315 residents and fellows. Although Michelle has all the qualities of, and excels in, the various roles of administrator, counselor, enforcer, coordinator, and mentor, the term that best describes her is servant-leader.”

“Her engagement with residency program administrators and program directors allows her to be proactive in problem solving and to find innovative ways to ensure first-rate graduate medical education. For example, she single-handedly developed an online service to streamline command public affairs approval for scholarly activities such as presentations and publications. This dramatically decreased the time of approval from 30 days to 3-5 days! This has been widely adopted by all programs.”

“A strong promotor of continuing education and self-improvement, she enabled her employees to establish education meetings in which various residency program administrators volunteer to present on graduate medical education subject matter and demonstrate their best practices. She stays abreast of training opportunities within the Sponsoring Institution such as Franklin Covey courses, and encourages her employees to attend.”