

STEP (Surgeons Training Endoscopic Proficiency) Application:

Flexible endoscopy is increasingly central to the practice of general surgery. As many as 50% of practicing surgeons depend on colonoscopy and upper endoscopy for a substantial portion of their practice; conversely, many communities in the US and Canada rely on their general surgeon to provide access to essential endoscopic procedures. Finally, there is a natural evolution of surgical disease treatments towards less invasive alternatives which increasingly includes interventional flexible endoscopic alternatives to surgical approaches. Procedures such as common bile duct exploration, pancreatic pseudocyst drainage, colectomy for benign neoplasm, esophagectomy for Barretts disease and many others are no longer approached in a traditional surgical manner. As this list grows, surgeons will find themselves increasingly cut out of the treatment of these diseases unless they adopt interventional endoscopic approaches. Recognizing this, the American Board of Surgery has recently increased the residency training requirements for flexible endoscopy. This creates a burden for residency program directors who often lack both the equipment and curricula to train residents in the fundamentals of flexible endoscopy. In an effort to promote surgeon's involvement in flexible endoscopy and to help program directors to train their residents, SAGES and Olympus have developed the STEP program.

Through their generosity and desire to contribute to the endoscopic training of General Surgeons, Olympus has agreed to donate a complete flexible endoscopy setup (tower, monitor, light source, colonoscope, Upper scope and instruments) to residency training programs who meet certain requirements. SAGES will contribute a complete curriculum as well as conduct training programs for the site educators in flexible endoscopy.

Participation criteria:

The STEP project is intended for ACGME approved general surgery residency programs in the US and Canada. Programs may be either University based or at a community teaching hospital. The program must have the following:

- Adequate and accessible space to house the endoscopic equipment
- A program director or designee who:
 - Is a SAGES member
 - Will be responsible for administering the curricula
 - Will be responsible for ensuring the equipment remains operative

- Agrees to attend a “train the trainer” seminar supported by SAGES and Olympus

***** Please note the “train-the-trainers” workshop will be scheduled for March of 2011. It will be important that you, or a representative from your institution, can attend. Please make sure to RSVP below for this workshop. Details regarding the workshop will be forthcoming shortly.*****

- Is responsible for completing and submitting quarterly report forms detailing use of the equipment and curricula
- Will participate in a program participant’s meeting at the SAGES annual meeting

It will be a requirement that the Institution sign a contractual agreement to maintain the donated equipment, administer a structured curriculum, provide access to surgeons in training to the donated equipment, complete and submit the required documentation in a timely and conscientious manner. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in the revocation of the agreement and withdrawal of the endoscopic equipment.

If you feel that this program would contribute to the education of your residents and that you can comply with the above requirements, we encourage you to complete the attached application and submit it to the SAGES office.

SAGES/Olympus Surgeons Training Endoscopic Proficiency (STEP) Application

Institution Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Program Director F. Name: _____ MI: _____ L.Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Fax Number: _____

Please ensure the Program Director can meet the following requirements:

	Y	N
Agree to attend a "train the trainer" seminar supported by SAGES and Olympus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you a SAGES Member?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Will you be responsible for administering the curricula?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Will be responsible for ensuring the equipment remains operative?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Will be responsible for completing and submitting quarterly report forms detailing use of the equipment and curricula	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Will participate in a program participant's meeting at the SAGES annual meeting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please list additional contact information, if any, for those whom will help the Program Director meet all of the above requirements:

Contact #1: Name:

Contact #2 Name:

Email Address:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Phone Number:

Position:

Position:

Additional Comments:

Please mail all completed forms to:

SAGES

Attn: Maribeth Balon

11300 W. Olympic Boulevard, Ste 600 /Los Angeles, CA 90064

You may also email completed forms to maribeth@sages.org.

For further information please call 310-437-0544 ext 125