Dear Program Directors, Program Administrators, and Chief Proctors,

The recent upsurge of COVID-19 cases is truly disheartening, and we recognize that physicians, including residents, are being pulled back into the front lines once again, and that this may create difficulties in seating residents for this year’s IM-ITE. The ACP appreciates the pressures that many programs are facing, and as COVID-19 cases have continued to rise, we have been actively exploring the feasibility of extending the IM-ITE testing window to give programs additional flexibility to schedule residents for the exam.

In consultation with the NBME, we have determined that we can safely provide a one-time window extension of 7 days for this year’s examination. Thus, we have increased the testing window from 20 to 27 days, with test administration beginning on Thursday, August 19, and ending on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 (excluding Labor Day, Monday, September 6). Note that the testing schedule remains flexible; programs can test their residents on any date during the testing window. There is no need to contact the NBME or ACP to change your scheduled testing dates.

Please note that any examinees testing outside of the normal testing window (i.e., after September 8) will not be included in the preliminary score rosters that will be provided in September, following the end of the normal test window. All examinees will be included in the final score reports provided in October.

Additionally, here are some aspects of testing this year that may prove helpful:

- Your residents may test any time within the testing window (August 19-September 15 with the extension, with the exception of September 6), as long as you have proctoring available. You do not need to test on the date that you list on your registration form and you do not need to inform ACP or the NBME of any changes.
- Remote testing and proctoring are available and may provide additional flexibility.

We hope that this additional week will provide needed flexibility at this time.

Best wishes,

Becky Krumm
Director, Assessment and Education Programs
American College of Physicians