

GME Institutional Coordinator Excellence Award



While institutional coordinators' titles may vary, this generally refers to the role that supports the designated institutional official, manages the day-to-day operations of the Graduate Medical Education (GME) Office, and is actively involved in the ACGME-related functions of the institution. This award recognizes an individual who demonstrates in-depth knowledge of GME and skillfully manages the multiple roles of administrator, counselor, enforcer, coordinator, organizer, and scheduler.



Essie Silva

San Mateo County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services
San Mateo, California

Nominators had this to say:

"I literally don't know what we would do without Essie. Essie has been the heart and soul of our residency for the 16 years that I have known her. She has been the keeper of knowledge and the first person most of us in the institution and residency turn to for answers. She has been the consistent, calming presence through four residency directors and three program director transitions in 30 years of service."

"While at a recent conference, I was approached by someone who has been a program director for 19 years at a nearby hospital. When we were discussing the difficulties of the first year in this position, he empathized greatly, but out of the blue emphasized that I also had no real right to complain, since, "You have Essie, and I have been trying to recruit her for almost 20 years. She knows how to do nearly everything and will work hard to make sure it gets done well. You have a treasure." And he is right. We have a treasure in Essie."

"Essie set the tone of this program's culture from the moment we began to apply for residencies. In the sea of stuffy and formal interactions throughout the interview season, her warmth, friendliness, and approachability stood out and made us feel instantly welcome and at ease. At the same time, her organization, responsiveness, and deep familiarity with the program inspired confidence that we would be in very capable hands, and we are happy to report now that she has more than lived up to those first impressions."