

**Guidelines for Awarding Titles  
Specialty Instructor  
Colleges of Medicine Phoenix and Tucson**

The Specialty Instructor title has been developed to recognize non-physician healthcare providers who contribute to the training of University of Arizona medical students, residents, and/or fellows. Individuals on this track add value to the tripartite mission of the University of Arizona Colleges of Medicine by enhancing the academic learning environment and adding to the COM educational programs through their specific specialty. Individuals of this title are expected provide outstanding instruction and have regular and direct contact with UA College of Medicine – Tucson or Phoenix medical students, residents, and/or fellows. Examples of regular and direct contact include ward or clinic precepting, preceptorship in other clinical venues, or didactic teaching.

Individuals who hold the Specialty Instructor title may receive certain non-compensation amenities from the University as defined by the [applicable policy](#).

The following guidelines will apply when awarding the Specialty Instructor title at all UA COM campuses:

- Department chairs or their designees recommend non-physician healthcare provides (e.g. Nurse Practitioners, Midwives, Pharmacists, Physician Assistants, CRNAs, Social Workers, Simulation Instructors, etc.) to the Dean for award of the Specialty Instructor title. The recommendation will include the candidate's specialty, reasons why their contribution of training students/residents/fellows is needed, and how the individual will provide the training. A letter of reference, addressing the individual's excellence in their specialty and instruction ability is required.
- Determination of whether an individual continues to hold a Specialty Instructor title will be at the discretion of the department head or Dean.
- This is a stand-alone, non-ranked faculty title.
- Specialty Instructors not employed by the University of Arizona are considered associate Designated Campus Colleagues (DCC). Individuals holding this title are non-voting members of the volunteer faculty at the College of Medicine-Phoenix and the College of Medicine-Tucson. The Arizona Board of Regents and University policies regarding volunteer faculty will be applicable to individuals holding Specialty Instructor titles.

The Dean will make final decisions regarding award of the Specialty Instructor title and will notify the candidate of such decisions.

Specific qualifications for individuals being considered for or holding the Specialty Instructor title are as follows:

1. Must hold the specific specialty degree, certification or possess equivalent professional experience which allows the individual to practice in their field. Sponsoring Departments and/or designated units will work with the Dean's office to define equivalent professional experience.
2. If a license is required to provide healthcare services, the individual must maintain such license in good standing and notify the College of Medicine of any changes.