

# WEO Centers of Excellence Membership Criteria

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## 1. Endoscopy Center Requirements

The center must have a dedicated state-of-the-art endoscopy center, which is either free-standing or within a clinic or hospital with appropriate video endoscope and accessory equipment.

The center must adhere to commonly accepted disinfection/sterilization processes and continuous quality improvement measures (e.g. ASGE/ESGE guidelines on endoscope/accessory high level disinfection).

## 2. Education and Training Program

The center must have an active endoscopic training program, accredited in their country (if applicable), providing residency or fellowship training in both standard endoscopic procedures (e.g., EGD, colonoscopy, flexible sigmoidoscopy) and advanced endoscopy (e.g., ERCP, EUS, resection, stents etc).

The center should also have a defined endoscopic training curriculum and faculty and indicate its current training models (didactic, hands-on synthetic or animal models, simulators etc). The center must state the quality indicators and outcome measurement strategies that they follow and whether there is a formal morbidity/mortality conference.

## 3. Patient Volume and Procedural Exposure

The center must have an adequate patient volume and complexity to assure broad exposure and adequate hands-on experience for various advanced endoscopic techniques such as endoscopic resection, hemostasis, luminal interventions and ERCP and EUS.

## 4. Faculty Qualifications

The chief endoscopist of the center, and ideally, other faculty should be board certified, or its equivalent, in gastroenterology or surgery, have received formal endoscopic training, and be recognized within their own community and beyond for their technical expertise.

## 5. Leadership Requirements

The chief endoscopist must be in a leadership role in that center for a period of 3 years prior to consideration of the unit as a Center of Excellence.

## 6. International Reputation and Teaching Activity

The center and faculty are required to have an international reputation for endoscopic proficiency and for expertise in teaching as demonstrated through annual or semiannual courses, as well as participation as faculty in international conferences.