



ACCREDITATION 2019

POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

Who Is Being Accredited?

- Residency programs
- Accredited Areas of Focused Competence (AFC) programs
- Postgraduate Medical Education Office

Who Does Accreditation Impact?

- Residents/Trainees
- Faculty
- Programs – Directors & Administrators
- Postgraduate Medical Education Office
- Department of Education
- Hospital Administration
- Departmental Chairs

Canada has one of the best systems for residency training in the world. A critical part of its success is its embrace of a continuous quality improvement strategy, and accreditation is a big piece of that strategy.

In November 2019, all of Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry's residency and area-of-focused-competence programs will participate in an accreditation site visit.

The accreditation will be conducted by volunteer faculty representing the College of Family Physicians of Canada and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. Each program, and the institution as a whole, will be reviewed for compliance with the national standards governing postgraduate medical education.

Accreditation is an opportunity to highlight the School's strengths and to receive feedback on areas for improvement and growth. Although the November site visit looms large at the moment, accreditation really isn't just about single, high-stakes, point-in-term program reviews. Rather, Canada's postgraduate medical accreditation system is shifting its focus toward continuous quality improvement. Site visits are thus only part of an ongoing commitment to grow our curricula, to enhance our assessment strategies, and to build nurturing and supportive learning environments.

Accreditation is one way of ensuring that we are continually raising the bar on residency education, ensuring that Canadian training remains the gold standard.

Dr. Chris Watling
Associate Dean, Postgraduate Medical Education

ACCREDITATION TIMELINE 2015 - 2019

SEPTEMBER 2015 - NOVEMBER 2018

Residency and Areas of
Focused Competence
Internal Reviews

FEBRUARY 2018

Post Graduate Medical
Education Mock
Accreditation Review

JUNE 2018

First Pre-Survey Visit
(RCPSC & CFPC)

APRIL 1, 2019

Accreditation Management
System (AMS) program
instruments due to PGME
for review

APRIL 10, 2019

Second Pre-Survey Visit
(RCPSC & CFPC)

- PGME Office
- Department/Division Chairs
 - Program Directors and other faculty
- Program Administrators
- Resident Representatives & AFC Trainees
- AFC Programs Faculty & Staff

SEPTEMBER 2, 2019

Final AMS instruments due
to RCPSC and CFPC

NOVEMBER 2019

On-site accreditation review of
all RCPSC & CFPC residency
training programs, AFC
programs, and Institution

Why is Accreditation important to you?

Accreditation is an ongoing quality assurance process in which the services and operations of an institution are examined by a third-party accrediting agency to ensure that applicable standards are being met.

The accreditation process has four major objectives:

- to improve the quality of postgraduate medical education;
- to provide a means for objective assessment of residency programs;
- to provide guidance to universities in the development of new residency programs; and
- to assist Program Directors in reviewing the conduct and educational quality of their programs.

The new standards reflect the shift toward competency-based medical education as seen through the College of Family Physicians of Canada's (CFPC) Triple "C" curriculum and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada's (RCPSC) Competency by Design program, with greater emphasis on measuring outcomes versus structure and process.

There are two types of accreditation standards:

- "Institution" standards or general standards applicable to the university as a whole and affiliated hospitals.
- "Residency" program standards or general standards applicable to each of the residency programs.

What's new since 2012?

- New accreditation standards applicable to RCPSC and the CFPC residency training programs;
- New accreditation standards for Institutions with residency programs;
- New online accreditation management system (AMS) for programs and institutions to help facilitate the process for standards tracking and document sharing between programs, institutions, colleges, and review teams;
- The Areas of Focused Competence (AFC) Diploma Programs are a new category of program accredited by the RCPSC;
- New accreditation status terminology;
- Two surveyors instead of one during program on-site reviews;
- Eight-year review cycle with regular follow-up reports.

