

Registration

ACCREDITATION STANDARDS

Associate Physician
Program - Initial
Accreditation

Introduction

The purpose of this standard is to articulate the accreditation requirements for the associate physician program. Health authorities that employ physicians in the associate class of registration and licensure must be accredited in accordance with this standard. Each unique program area within a health authority requires separate accreditation.

Objectives of the accreditation process

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia (the College) evaluates and accredits all associate physician programs in British Columbia and has the following major objectives:

- a. to ensure the quality of associate physician programs is consistent with the College requirements for such programs;
- b. to provide a means for objective assessment of associate physician programs; and
- c. to provide guidance to institutions in the development and implementation of associate physician programs.

College responsibilities

The College is responsible for oversight of the process of the accreditation of associate physician programs. In this regard the College

- a. determines the requirements and process relating to the accreditation of associate physician programs;
- b. determines the accreditation status of each associate physician program;
- c. arranges periodic reviews of associate physician programs through required documentation and on-site surveys;
- d. reviews the findings of documentation and surveys;
- e. reports at least annually to the College Board on its accreditation activities and brings forward, as necessary, any recommendations for changes to accreditation policies and procedures; and
- f. will maintain a current list of all accredited associate physician programs.

The accreditation process

The College must approve a program area before the initial accreditation assessment can commence. A health authority (or equivalent organization) can submit a request to registration-assessments@cpsbc.ca.

The accreditation process is based upon the provision of required documentation to provide the College with the information necessary to inform its decision about the accreditation status of an associate physician program.

Upon completion of a satisfactory initial accreditation assessment, the College will provide formal accreditation via written communication.

Where outstanding requirements are identified in a completed initial accreditation assessment, the health authority must address the outstanding requirements and receive accreditation from the College before it can hire an associate physician for that program.

Upon receiving accreditation, the health authority may employ associate physicians.

Standard format

The accreditation standard consists of three components:

1. Standard – A statement of the overall goal or purpose of the program, such as 1.0, 2.0, etc.
2. Criterion – Activities or components of the standard that once implemented lead to the overall attainment of the standard. A criterion is identified by the first level number indicating the standard to which it is associated, and a second level number such as X.1, X.2, X.3, etc.
3. Criterion descriptors – Specific actions for each criterion. Criterion descriptors are identified by the first level standard number, the second level criterion number and a third level number such as X.Y.1, X.Y.2, X.Y.3, etc. An M indicates that the criterion descriptor is mandatory and therefore must be met. In addition, some criterion descriptors include guidance for how to meet the criterion.

No.	Description
APP1.0	LEADERSHIP AND OVERSIGHT
APP1.1	

