

POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION ACCREDITATION 2027

Accreditation Newsletter Issue 2

The new [PGME Handbook for Program Directors and Program Administrators](#) is designed as a one-stop resource for programs, program directors, competence committees and administrators. It is a pdf format with internal links and links to Standards, as well as PGME resources. It includes information about – well, everything we could think of that might be helpful:

- Contact Lists for programs
- Information and links for accessing CanAMS, Elentra, and CanERA
- Standards of Accreditation – with resources and information about meeting each of the standards
- Competence by Design information and resources
- Learner in Difficulty
- Important dates – about CaRMS, rotation schedules, examination deadlines, program scheduling
- PARO
- A Year in the Life – scheduling for programs

The [PGME Resources and Links](#) page has the posted handbook, as well as PGME resources and links available in a drop-down menu format.

Any feedback – please let [us know](#)! The document and resources will be updated all the time to provide programs with the most information and support possible.

ACCREDITATION PRESENTATION SLIDES

Thank you to Dr. Dalilah Fortin and Dr. Hari Iyer for presenting a survey team member and reviewer perspective on accreditation standards and how to meet them. The slides are available on our [website](#).

A REMINDER

Residents working with a Postgraduate Certificate of Registration provides them the ability to practice medicine ‘only as required by the postgraduate program.’ It does not allow them to provide care outside of the program (as in ‘moonlighting’ or providing care outside of the program for remuneration). For ‘moonlighting’ residents **require an independent license or restricted registration**. If your program is providing opportunities for ‘moonlighting’ you must ensure that the resident has the appropriate license.

[Resident Moonlighting Policy](#)

ISSUE 2 – April 2024

IN THIS ISSUE

[Program Handbook and Resources](#)

[Accreditation Presentation Slides](#)

[Reminder: Moonlighting](#)

[Meeting Standard 2.1.1: Policies and Processes](#)

[Accreditation Timeline](#)

POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION ACCREDITATION 2027

Each of our newsletters will provide some specific information and resources for each of the standards and requirements. We will focus on Policies and Procedures in this newsletter.

Standard 2: ‘All aspects of the residency program are collaboratively overseen by the program director and the residency program committee.’

Requirement 2.1.1: ‘The residency program committee has well-defined, transparent and functional policies and processes to manage residency education.’

Important: 2.1.1.1 ‘The program committee must have an effective mechanism to review and adopt applicable PGME and learning site policies and procedures.’

- Ensure that your RPC agenda has a standing item ‘PGME update’ and if there is any news or a new PGME policy – provide that information to the RPC.
- As well, the program needs to ensure that actions, decisions, policies, processes etc. are communicated to the program residents, faculty, and administrative personnel. (1.2.3.4) This means that any policies etc. should be circulated to the RPC with the agenda and/or minutes and posted on a shared site where information is available to the residents and faculty. The [PGME Program Communications](#) document provides a list of information to consider including on a shared drive.

Program specific policies:

- Programs should have a program-specific safety policy and a template is [available](#). If your program needs some help with the program specific policy just let us know – we have a variety of specific policies for things like radiation safety, etc. that we can provide you with.
- PGME has a [PGME Safety Policy](#) and [Fatigue Risk Management Guidelines](#). Residents and faculty must be aware of these policies.

Policies and terms of reference for committees must ‘be reviewed on a regular basis and refined as appropriate.’ (1.2.2.2 and 2.1.1)

- Ensure that all committee and subcommittee terms of reference and all of the program policies and processes are dated and have a ‘date of next review’ incorporated.
- At minimum terms of reference and policies should be reviewed and updated every 3 years, but may need to be reviewed and revised when there are program changes or CanERA changes in standards etc.

POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION ACCREDITATION 2027

ACCREDITATION TIMELINE

Spring	2023	DONE!
Summer		Internal Reviews of 18 Royal College program and Family Medicine
Fall		For 2024: Internal Reviews for 14 Royal College Programs
Winter	2024	NEW: PGME Handbook for Program Directors and Program Administrators
Spring		July 2024: New Standards of Accreditation for Programs
Summer		Competence by Design Royal College Update and Implementation
Fall		
Winter	2025	More Internal Reviews scheduled for 2025
Spring		Fall 2025: External Reviews - Ob/Gyn, Psychiatry, Interventional Radiology
Summer		Add-on Internal Reviews: Internal Medicine, Nuclear Medicine
Fall		Follow-up on Progress Reports
Winter	2026	CanMEDS Project Update
Spring		Add-on Internal Reviews or Mini-Reviews scheduled
Summer		
Fall		
Winter	2027	Winter 2027 Begin CanAMS entries and documents
Spring		PGME Review of CanAMS begins Spring 2027
Summer		Final Versions due Summer 2027
Fall		On-site Review!

POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION ACCREDITATION 2027

ACCREDITATION STANDARDS

Why Accreditation?

- Accreditation helps to ensure the quality of residency and AFC education across Canada.
- It provides an external evaluation of the required standards.
- Accreditation contributes to the continuous quality improvement of residency programs and institutions (PGME).

What are the Standards?

The General Standards of Accreditation for Residency Programs, and the Standards of Accreditation for Area of Focused Competence programs focus on outcomes (programs must prove that it is happening), with an emphasis on learning environment and program continuous improvement.

There are 5 domains, and for RC and CFPC programs there are 9 standards (RC AFC programs have 7 standards). Elements are a subcategory of the standards, and each element has requirements and specific indicators. Indicators are mandatory – if a single indicator is not met then the requirement is not met.

The Standards for Royal College and CFPC:

DOMAIN	STANDARD
Program Organization	1 There is an appropriate organizational structure, with leadership and administrative personnel to support the residency program, teachers, and residents effectively.
	2 All aspects of the residency program are collaboratively overseen by the program director and the residency program committee.
Education Program	3 Residents are prepared for independent practice.
Resources	4 The delivery and administration of the residency program are supported by appropriate resources.
Learners, Teachers, Administration	5 Safety and wellness are promoted throughout the learning environment.
	6 Residents are treated fairly and supported adequately throughout their progression through the residency program.
	7 Teachers deliver and support all aspects of the residency program effectively.
	8 Administrative personnel are valued and supported in the delivery of the residency program.
Continuous Improvement	9 the residency program committee systematically reviews and improves the quality of the residency program.

POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION ACCREDITATION 2027

ACRONYMS 101

AFMC Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada. If you were wondering who makes the rules about whether interviews are virtual, or if asynchronous interviews are allowed, or how many electives in a single specialty students may have, or the CaRMS timelines: it is the AFMC. [AFMC News](#) is a good resource for updates.

CanAMS is Canadian Accreditation Management System – if you are a program director of program administrator you will be provided access to CanAMS – it is where all the narrative and documents go for surveys and reviews.

CanERA Canadian Excellence in Residency Accreditation is the integration of the CFPC and Royal College Standards of Accreditation, as well as the supporting management system – CanAMS.

CanRAC Canadian Residency Accreditation Consortium – and is comprised of the three accrediting colleges in Canada – College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC), the Royal College (RC or RCPSC) and the College des medecins du Quebec (CMQ).

CBME Competence Based Medical Education

CBD Competence by Design – the Royal College initiative for CBME.

COFM Council of Ontario Faculties of Medicine – facilitates coordination and communication between the faculties of medicine of the Ontario Universities. COFM postgraduate deans meet monthly.

COU Council of Ontario Universities – the voice of all Ontario Universities.