

POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL COUNCIL OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA POLICY

ACCREDITATION STANDARDS

SCOPE:

This policy applies to all persons selected by the Postgraduate Medical Council (PMCWA) to survey health service facilities within Western Australia for the purpose of accreditation for the education and training of pre-vocational medical practitioners.

POLICY STATEMENT:

The PMCWA is committed to supporting the education and training of doctors in Western Australia. One of the Council's key objectives is to ensure an open and transparent accreditation system that is supported by efficient and effective processes.

DEFINITIONS:

Accreditation: A status that is conferred on an organisation/unit/department when they have been assessed as having met particular standards.

Term: A defined period of employment on a unit/department.

PRINCIPLES:

1. Pre-vocational training positions will be assessed for accreditation by judging their performance against PMCWA standards.
2. Three-year Accreditation (Full) is granted when the organisation/unit/department demonstrates compliance with all of the accreditation criteria.
3. Three-year Accreditation (Provisional) indicates substantial compliance with the majority of the accreditation criteria. PMCWA will require verification by the date determined by the lead surveyor that the organisation/unit/department has addressed recommendations raised by the survey team. Full accreditation will then be granted following receipt of confirmation.
4. One-year Accreditation is granted when the organisation/unit/department meets many of the standards but there are deficiencies warranting attention. One year accreditation requires written confirmation by the Director of Postgraduate Medical Education (DPGME) of attention to the deficiencies and will require a survey in twelve months.
5. Six-month Conditional Accreditation is granted when the

organisation/unit/department requires immediate action to correct deficiencies. The organisation/unit/department will be re-assessed for continuing accreditation before the expiry of the accreditation period so granted.

6. The Accreditation Committee is responsible for awarding accreditation status to the organisation/unit/department based on the recommendations of the surveyors.
7. An organisation/unit/department may appeal against a decision on accreditation.
8. Appeals will be considered by the PMCWA if lodged within 30 days of the accreditation status being awarded.
9. Terms which fail to achieve accreditation status after appropriate review will not be considered suitable for employment of pre-vocational trainees until corrective action is taken.
10. The PMCWA must be notified of any changes that significantly impact upon the education and training of pre-vocational doctors. Failure to do so may affect the accreditation status .
11. Any term that is not accredited by the PMCWA but has a junior doctor will notify the PMCWA as soon as possible and an assessment of the term will occur within 8 weeks.
12. Accreditation Standards will be reviewed every 2 years or as required to reflect best practice and changes in medical and training standards.
13. It is a requirement of the Medical Board that all placements for interns be accredited by the PMCWA.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Standard for Credentialling and Defining the Scope of Clinical Practice (2004).
Australian Council for Safety and Quality in Health Care

Guide to Accreditation Standards (2006). Postgraduate Medical Council of WA

VERSION CONTROL

This document has been developed by adopting WA Health's Human Resources Policy Development Framework.

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