

How the ACCME Makes Decisions

Your organization's compliance findings and the outcome of the accreditation review are determined by the ACCME based on the three sources of data and information collected in the initial accreditation process. The data and information are analyzed and synthesized by the Accreditation Review Committee (ARC). The ARC makes recommendations on findings and status which are forwarded for action by the ACCME's Decision Committee. All accreditation decisions are ratified by the full Board of Directors of the ACCME which meets three times each year (generally, in March, July, and November).

This multi-tiered system of review provides the checks and balances necessary to ensure fair and accurate decisions. The fairness and accuracy of ACCME decisions are also enhanced by the ACCME's use of a criterion-referenced decision-making system. Accreditation decision letters are sent to providers via mail following the ACCME Board of Directors' meeting.

The ACCME's review and initial accreditation decision will be based on your organization's demonstration of compliance with Criteria 1-3 and 7-12. Compliance with these Criteria will lead to an accreditation outcome of Provisional Accreditation with a two-year accreditation term. However, if any of the Criteria 1-3 or 7-12 are found to be in Noncompliance, the accreditation outcome will be Nonaccreditation.

At the end of the two year term of Provisional Accreditation, your organization would be eligible for reaccreditation. If successful in reaccreditation, your organization would be eligible for a status of either Accreditation (with a four year term) or Accreditation with Commendation (with a six year term).

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