

# ROLE OF STUDENTS IN MD PROGRAM ACCREDITATION

## ACCREDITATION

- Evaluation of the quality of an educational program
- Method of ensuring programs/institutions "meet or exceed nationally accepted standards regarding the educational process and student performance"<sup>1(p2)</sup>
- Accrediting body is the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME)

## ABOUT LCME

- Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME); supported by the AMA and AAMC since founding in 1942
- Accrediting organization for the medical education programs in the US and Canada
- Sets standards for programs and assesses compliance with those standards
- Although voluntary, LCME accreditation is necessary for:
  - Access to licensure exams (USMLE)
  - Admission to ACGME residency programs
  - Eligibility for state medical licensure for graduates
  - Federal grants and loans for students and schools
- Assesses each program every 8 years via a full survey site visit
- Assures high quality medical education and a high quality physician workforce for the public
- Conducts approximately 20-30 site visits per year.

## ACCREDITATION PROCESS

- Institutional self-study – self-analysis by the medical school of its performance based on the 12 standards and 93 elements
- Survey visit – on-site evaluation by a team of external peer reviewers that extends over four days
- LCME review of the survey team findings from site visit
- LCME determination of accreditation status

## STUDENT-BASED INFORMATION IN THE ACCREDITATION PROCESS

- Independent Student Analysis (ISA) - review of topic areas relevant to students (completed by all four years of students)
- AAMC Medical School Graduation Questionnaire (GQ) (completed by fourth year students)
- Formal and informal meetings with the survey team during the site visit

## STUDENTS' ROLE IN THE ACCREDITATION PROCESS

- Notification and possible meeting with the Dean about the upcoming survey team visit
- Participation (via appointment) to the institutional self-study task force and committees
- Completion of the Independent Student Analysis (review of topic areas relevant to students)
- Participation in lunch meetings with survey team
- Service as a guide during site visit (e.g., tours of campus learning facilities, ambulatory care sites, affiliated hospitals, lounge areas)

## GENERAL AREAS ADDRESSED IN THE ISA

- Student-Faculty-Administration Relationships
- Learning Environment and Facilities
- Library and Information Resources
- Student Services
- Medical Education Program

This document is a summary of the *LCME The Role of Students in the Accreditation of Medical Education Programs in the U.S.*

1. Liaison Committee on Medical Education. *LCME the role of students in the accreditation of medical education programs in the U.S.* [http://lcme.org/publications/2018-19-Role-of-Students\\_Full\\_2017-08-22.docx](http://lcme.org/publications/2018-19-Role-of-Students_Full_2017-08-22.docx). Accessed October 30, 2017.