

Important notes on Accreditation for students and Teachers :

Accreditation is a step in the process of quality development that determines whether a program meets established standards for function, structure and performance.

The accreditation process enhances institutional and program improvement and provides assurance to patients, employers, students and faculty that a program meets national and community needs, complies with relevant Iraqi Guidelines, and has comparability to international standards.

It allows the identification of areas of good practice that may be shared and also areas that need to be modified in order to meet the required standards.

The process of accreditation encourages and supports continuous quality improvement and will allow the development of a culture in medical colleges that will sustain improvement. It also determines whether the quality of medical education meets the standards completely, partially, or does not.

Accreditation of medical colleges is normally carried out by national governments, or by national agencies receiving their authority from government.

The National Council for Accreditation of Medical Colleges (NCAMC) was established in February - 2015 as an expansion of The National Committee for Accreditation of Medical Colleges in Iraq.

It receives its authority from the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research to become the formal reference to academic accreditation in Iraq based on the standards stated in the Iraqi National Guideline on Standards for Establishing and Accrediting Medical Colleges (INGSEAMC).

The standards listed in NSAMC were reviewed several times and it was updated lastly according to WFME 2015.

It addresses all aspects of the college including the : mission, educational program, student assessment, students and staff, program evaluation , educational resources , governance and administration , continuous renewal.

The first step in the accreditation process is the self-assessment study (SAS) during which a medical college undertakes a self-evaluation in relation to compliance with the required standards and gathers the supporting documentation.

'From this process' The College will identify its strengths and areas where more development needs to be carried out and produce an action plan for further work.

The college can request a peer review visit at any stage during the process of SAS.

This is an optional advisory visit, to assist the college and also to collect information that will be of assistance to other colleges as they undertake their own self evaluations and prepare for an accreditation visit.

The last step is to conduct site visit for evaluation and, thereafter, the final decision for accreditation.

General regulations

1. Accreditation is a continuous and mandatory process
2. The accreditation license for a medical college is valid for Six years.
3. Medical colleges must follow the national guideline for accreditation issued by the National Council for Accreditation of Medical Colleges (NCAMC).
4. This must be done to fulfill the National Standards for Accreditation of Medical Colleges (NSAMC). These are adopted from the standards of the World Federation for Medical Education (WFME). It is essential for the college to consider both the basic standards (must) and the quality improvement standards (should) within the NSAMC.
5. The process of accreditation starts when the NCAMC approves the time schedule for accreditation and by nomination of the site visiting teams (SVT) for the colleges.
6. The college must have conducted Self Assessment Study (SAS) and provides the SVT with the Self Study Report (SSR) and required documents.
7. The college has to fulfill accreditation requirements and related obligations and the SVT must follow the code of conduct.

*General information:

If a school loses accreditation, there are dire consequences for students in its program. Without accreditation, the students completing their studies would not be allowed to take national board exams or apply for residencies. ... However, the school is no longer listed as on probation.

* Important ; The Vision, Mission and Objectives (VMO) of college of medicine/ university of Duhok :

Vision: Our vision is to recognize the College of Medicine as an institution of excellence among the leading medical colleges in the region and the world and to be an effective partner to improve the health situation in the province of Duhok.

Mission: Our College is a governmental scientific institution utilizing advanced concepts of medical education to graduate competent physicians capable of meeting their community needs.

Objectives

A. To graduate doctors who are:

1. knowledgeable, skillful and able to address the health needs of their society.
2. concerned with the issues of equity, quality and relevance in providing health care.
3. decision makers.
4. adhered to the ethical standard in their practice.
5. able to be an active team leader.
6. effective educator within the community.
7. good health promoter and practitioner of preventive medicine.
8. able to recognize the importance of research in enhancing health standard of the population.

9. believers in continuing medical education as a tool of keeping good standard of skill and knowledge.

B. To conduct researches targeted at solving common problems in the community.

C. To provide opportunities for wide range of postgraduate studies leading to higher degrees for doctors in the region.

D. To contribute in spreading and updating medical knowledge and skills among doctors through continuous medical education.

E. To be the main source of medical expertise and service delivery for the province through active participation of the staff in hospitals and health centers.