

# The LCME Accreditation Process for New & Developing MD Programs

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# The Accreditation Process

## LCME Accreditation: Why it matters

- Access to residency and licensure
- Quality guarantee to the public
- Institutional development:
  - Comprehensive organizational analysis and review
  - Validation of faculty effort and outcomes
  - External diagnosis of defining characteristics and opportunities

# Stages of LCME Accreditation for New & Developing Programs

- Preliminary Accreditation:
  - Authorization to recruit & enroll students, begin the educational program
  - 9-18 mo. before opening doors
- Provisional accreditation:
  - Outcome of early curriculum delivery, planning for clinical training
  - Early during second year of program

# Stages of LCME Accreditation for New & Developing Programs

- Full Accreditation
  - Compliance with all accreditation standards
  - Late third year or early fourth year of program

# The New Program Assessment Process

## Stage 1: Preliminary Accreditation

- Core planning and consultation
  - Mission and goals
  - Educational philosophy
  - Organizational structure
- Initiation of LCME review
- Completion of a planning self-study and supporting documentation

# The New Program Assessment Process

## Stage 1 (continued)

- Decision Point 1: Readiness for on-site review
  - Coherence and consistency of planning
  - Credibility of timetable for resource development
  - Size and breadth of planning group
- On-site Review and Report
- Decision Point 2: Grant or deny preliminary accreditation, based on (anticipated) compliance with relevant standards

# Expectations for Preliminary Accreditation

- Soundness of planning
- Adequacy of resources
  - Administrative leadership
  - Instructional staff
  - Educational Facilities
  - Financial support
- Curriculum Design – Overall plan, details of first year
- Policies and Procedures