

POLICY & PROCEDURES

ACC-02 DISCLOSURE

PREAMBLE

The values of PEAC support practices that are transparent, consistent and fair. PEAC will demonstrate its integrity and commitment to these values by developing and using policies, procedures and operations that respect all stakeholders in accreditation processes.

1.0 POLICY

1.1 Publication by PEAC:

- 1.1.1 PEAC will disclose public information about the accreditation process, and the policies and procedures related to accreditation.
- 1.1.2 Information considered public regarding the accreditation process related to a specific education program is limited to the level of accreditation status awarded the program. (Accreditation – fully compliant, - partially compliant, - probationary; Non-accreditation), and includes the date of the accreditation award and the date of expiry, if applicable.
- 1.1.3 Clear definitions of the Levels of Accreditation (as provided by PEAC – see Appendix A) must be included when and wherever a program's accreditation status is published by PEAC.
- 1.1.4 Deliberations about a program's accreditation status will not be available in the public domain.

1.2 Publication by an education program:

- 1.2.1 Education programs must publish their accreditation status, the level of accreditation status (Accreditation – fully compliant, - partially compliant, - probationary; Non-accreditation), the date of the accreditation award, and the expiry of the accreditation award (if applicable). This information must be easily accessible for prospective and current students and other stakeholders/partners.
- 1.2.2 Clear definitions of the Levels of Accreditation (as provided by PEAC – see Appendices A and B) must be included when and wherever a program's accreditation status is published by the program.
- 1.2.3 Should a program choose to publish its accreditation reports (including the Accreditation Review and Status Report) they must be published in their entirety.

2.0 PROCEDURES

2.1 Publication by PEAC:

- 2.1.1 A list of currently accredited programs and their levels of accreditation (as at December 31) will be published in the PEAC Annual Report. (Pre-accreditation; Accreditation – fully compliant, - partially compliant, - probationary; Non-accreditation). Dates of the accreditation award and of expiry, if applicable, of the accreditation award will be included.
- 2.1.2 An ongoing list of education programs affiliated with PEAC and their level of accreditation (Pre-accreditation; Accreditation – fully compliant, - partially compliant, - probationary; Non-accreditation) will be published on the PEAC website and will include the dates of the accreditation award and of expiry of the accreditation award if applicable.
- 2.1.3 When and wherever public disclosure of accreditation status is made by PEAC, definitions of the levels of accreditation must also be included.

2.2 Publication by education programs

- 2.2.1 The education program will publish the program's current accreditation status and level of accreditation (Pre-accreditation; Accreditation – fully compliant, - partially compliant, - probationary; Non-accreditation) on its website and in all current publications. The date of the accreditation award and its expiry, if applicable, will be included wherever accreditation status is published.
- 2.2.2 The definition of the program's own level of accreditation (as provided by PEAC – see Appendix B) AND a link to PEAC's website with more details regarding Levels of Accreditation (see Appendix A) will be provided by the program when and wherever a program's accreditation status is published by the education program.
- 2.2.3 When and wherever the education program makes public disclosure of its accreditation status, it will include the full name, address and contact information for PEAC as: Physiotherapy Education Accreditation Canada, Suite 26, 509 Commissioners Road West, London, Ontario, N6J 1Y5, (226) 636-0632, www.peac-aepc.ca. A link to www.peac-aepc.ca alone is not adequate.
- 2.2.4 The required text for publishing this information is

“The (name of program) at (University) has completed the accreditation review process administered by Physiotherapy Education Accreditation Canada (PEAC). PEAC is an incorporated body under the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act and operates as the accrediting agency for physiotherapy education programs in Canada. The status of (Accreditation: fully compliant/ Accreditation: partially compliant/ Accreditation: probationary/ Non accreditation) was granted to the program on (date decision was taken) for the period until (the end of the accreditation cycle). A description of [Accreditation Status – fully, partially, probationary, non] follows [Include definition as provided by PEAC

in Appendix B]. *More details regarding the definitions of the levels of accreditation are available at [PEAC weblink].*

- 2.2.5 When choosing to make public the contents of its accreditation reports, including its Self Study Report and/or Accreditation Review and Status Report, the program will publish the reports in full.

Policy Number: ACC-02	
Date of last revision	Associated documents
<i>March 2001</i>	<i>Program Accreditation</i>
<i>Nov 2012</i>	<i>Handbook</i>
<i>January 2015</i>	<i>ACC-01 Accreditation</i>
<i>April 2017</i>	<i>Decisions</i>

Appendix A

PEAC Website

'LEVELS of ACCREDITATION - an Explanation	
<p>When making an accreditation award decision, PEAC considers the program's compliance with each criterion described in the Accreditation Standards (for example, Standard 1 in the 2012 Accreditation Standards includes six criteria [1.1 – 1.6]). The program's level of accreditation is determined by the percentage of criteria in compliance within each standard.</p>	
Compliance (or non-compliance) with each criterion is described as follows:	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Compliant</u></p> <p>a. with no concerns OR b. with an identified issue OR c. with an identified weakness</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Non-Compliant</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(has an identified deficiency)</p>
Accreditation award decisions for an education program will be one of the following:	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Accredited</u></p> <p>a. Fully compliant OR b. Partially compliant OR c. Probationary</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Non Accredited</u></p>
<p>CORE criteria are critical. The 2012 Accreditation Standards include four CORE criteria (1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.6). If an established program demonstrates non-compliance (a deficiency) in one of the four CORE criteria, it will automatically be awarded probationary accreditation status.</p>	
Accreditation – Fully Compliant	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A program is in compliance with 100% of the accreditation criteria with in the Accreditation Standards. • There are no deficiencies. • There could be identified issues and weaknesses that the program must improve upon. • Progress towards improving issues and weaknesses must be reported in regular Progress Reports to PEAC. • If progress is not made, the program's accreditation status could be changed to partially compliant or probationary. 	
Accreditation – Partially Compliant	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A program is in compliance with 80-100% of the accreditation criteria in at least four standards and 50-79% of the criteria in no more than two standards. 	

- This means there are some deficiencies for which progress towards compliance must be demonstrated in the next Progress Report
- There could also be issues and weaknesses to improve upon and report back about in Progress Reports.
- If progress is not made, the program's accreditation status could be changed to probationary
- If progress is made, the program's accreditation status could be changed to fully compliant.

* note that any newly developed program will be awarded this level of accreditation until a progress report is submitted after the graduation of two cohorts of students

Accreditation - Probationary

- A program has deficiency in a CORE criterion OR
- A program is in compliance with less than 50% of the accreditation criteria in one standard OR
- A program is in compliance with less than 80% of the accreditation criteria in more than two standards OR
- A program fails to demonstrate progress towards improving issues, weaknesses and/or deficiencies in its required Progress Report(s)

Non-Accreditation

- A program does not meet the requirements for accreditation OR
- A program with probationary, partial, or full accreditation has failed to demonstrate significant progress within the specified period in Progress Reports.

STUDENTS - IMPORTANT TO NOTE

- If a program loses its accreditation status, its students may not be considered graduates of an accredited physiotherapy education program.
- Students must be considered graduates from an accredited physiotherapy education program in Canada in order to be eligible to write the Physiotherapy Competency Exam and be licensed to practice physiotherapy in Canada.
- The program's accreditation status is important to graduating students with regards to becoming licensed to practice physiotherapy in Canada. It is recommended that students contact the Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators (alliancept.org) for information regarding the process to become licensed as a physiotherapist in Canada following graduation.

For more information about Accreditation Decisions see policy *ACC-01 Accreditation Decisions* on the Policies and Procedures webpage. .

Appendix B

Education program websites and publications

Accreditation – Fully Compliant

Accreditation – Fully Compliant
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A program is in compliance with 100% of the accreditation criteria within the Accreditation Standards.• There are no deficiencies.• There could be identified issues and weaknesses that the program must improve upon.• Progress towards improving issues and weaknesses must be reported in regular Progress Reports to PEAC.• If progress is not made, the program's accreditation status could be changed to partially compliant or probationary.

A program being awarded “Accreditation – Fully Compliant” must

- use the required text, including the above definition, when publishing its accreditation status
- provide the contact information for PEAC (as Physiotherapy Education Accreditation Canada, Suite 26, 509 Commissioners Road West, London, Ontario, N6J 1Y5, (226) 636-0632, www.peac-aepe.ca)
- provide a link to the more detailed description of Levels of Accreditation on PEAC's website

Accreditation – Partially Compliant

Accreditation – Partially Compliant
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A program is in compliance with 80-100% of the accreditation criteria in at least four standards and 50-79% of the criteria in no more than two standards.• This means there are some deficiencies for which progress towards compliance must be demonstrated in the next Progress Report• There could also be issues and weaknesses to improve upon and report back about in Progress Reports.• If progress is not made, the program's accreditation status could be changed to probationary• If progress is made, the program's accreditation status could be changed to fully compliant. <p>* note that any newly developed program will be awarded this level of accreditation until a progress report is submitted after the graduation of two cohorts of students</p>

A program being awarded “Accreditation – Partially Compliant” must

- use the required text, including the above definition, when publishing its accreditation status
- provide the contact information for PEAC (as Physiotherapy Education Accreditation Canada, Suite 26, 509 Commissioners Road West, London, Ontario, N6J 1Y5, (226) 636-0632, www.peac-aepe.ca)
- provide a link to the more detailed description of Levels of Accreditation on PEAC's website

Accreditation - Probationary

Accreditation - Probationary
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A program has deficiency in a CORE criterion OR• A program is in compliance with less than 50% of the accreditation criteria in one standard OR• A program is in compliance with less than 80% of the accreditation criteria in more than two standards OR• A program fails to demonstrate progress towards improving issues, weaknesses and/or deficiencies in its required Progress Report(s)

A program being awarded “Accreditation – Probationary” must

- use the required text, including the above definition, when publishing its accreditation status
- provide the contact information for PEAC (as Physiotherapy Education Accreditation Canada, Suite 26, 509 Commissioners Road West, London, Ontario, N6J 1Y5, (226) 636-0632, www.peac-aepec.ca)
- provide a weblink to the more detailed description of Levels of Accreditation on PEAC’s website (found under accreditation/levels of accreditation)

Within two weeks of the decision, the Program Chair and the administrator to whom the Program Chair reports are required to inform the faculty, staff, and students enrolled in the program, and students seeking enrollment in the program about the program’s probationary accreditation status, using the required text (see policy ACC-01 Accreditation Decisions).

Non-Accreditation

Non-Accreditation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A program does not meet the requirements for accreditation OR• A program with probationary, partial, or full accreditation has failed to demonstrate significant progress within the specified period in Progress Reports.

A program being awarded “Non-Accreditation” must

- use the required text, including the above definition, when publishing its accreditation status
- provide the contact information for PEAC (as Physiotherapy Education Accreditation Canada, Suite 26, 509 Commissioners Road West, London, Ontario, N6J 1Y5, 226) 636-0632, www.peac-aepec.ca)
- provide a link to the more detailed description of Levels of Accreditation on PEAC’s website

Within two weeks of the effective date of the award, the Program Chair and the administrator to whom the Program Chair reports are required to inform the faculty, instructors, staff, students enrolled in the program, and students seeking enrolment in the program, that non-accreditation status has been granted to the program, using the required text (see policy ACC-01 Accreditation Decisions).