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U.S. Department of Education

Update Report

Prepared September 2018

Background

In February 1995, the National Committee on Foreign Medical Education Accreditation (NCFMEA or the Committee) first determined that the accreditation standards and processes used by the Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools (CACMS or Canada) to evaluate medical schools in Canada were comparable to those used in the United States.

In 2001, 2009, and 2015, the NCFMEA reaffirmed its prior determination that the standards and processes used by the CACMS for the evaluation of medical schools remain comparable. At the Fall 2015 NCFMEA meeting, the Committee requested an update report, which is the subject of this analysis.

Summary of Findings

None

Staff Analysis

Current status of medical schools

Country Narrative

CACMS Accredited (full accreditation) medical schools and last accreditation date:

Memorial University of Newfoundland, Faculty of Medicine – 2013
Dalhousie University, Faculty Medicine – 2017
Université Laval, Faculté de médecine – 2014
Université de Sherbrooke, Faculté de médecine – 2011
Université de Montréal, Faculté de médecine – 2014
McGill University, Faculty of Medicine – 2015
University of Ottawa, Faculty – 2010
Queen's University, School of Medicine – 2015
University of Toronto, Faculty of Medicine – 2012
McMaster University, Michael G. DeGroote School of Medicine – 2015
University of Western Ontario, Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry – 2015
Northern Ontario School of Medicine – 2012
University of Manitoba, Faculty of Medicine – 2004
University of Saskatchewan, College of Medicine – 2017
University of Alberta, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry – 2014
University of Calgary, Faculty of Medicine – 2016
University of British Columbia, Faculty of Medicine – 2016

Analyst Remarks to Narrative

The country provided a list of all medical schools currently operating within its borders along with the date of each school's most recent accreditation review. In its narrative, the country has indicated that all of these medical schools are fully accredited.

Overview of accreditation activities

Country Narrative

January 2016 to December 2016

CACMS Committee meetings:

- January 11-12, 2016 (8:30 am – 4:00 pm) – Ottawa, ON
- May 9-10, 2016 (8:30 am – 4:00 pm) – Ottawa, ON
- September 20, 2016 (8:30 am – 4:00 pm) – Ottawa, ON

Site visits:

- University of British Columbia, Faculty of Medicine – February 8-12, 2016 (Full site visit)
- University of Calgary, Faculty of Medicine – February 28 – March 2, 2016 (Full site visit)
- Université de Montréal, Faculté de médecine – April 3-6, 2016 (Limited site visit)
- Université Laval, Faculté de médecine – September 25-28, 2016 (Limited site visit)

Status reports / Action plans :

- University of Alberta – Status report dated November 13, 2015
- Northern Ontario School of Medicine – Status report dated December 1, 2015
- University of Ottawa – Status report dated November 30, 2015
- McGill University – Action plan dated December 1, 2015
- University of Ottawa – Status report dated March 11, 2016
- University of Manitoba – Notification of new/expanded branch campus dated April 15, 2016

Training/Orientation workshops:

- Workshop for Schools Preparing for CACMS Accreditation Visits
April 16, 2016, 1:00 – 4:00 pm (Montreal, QC)
- Workshop for CACMS Accreditation Team Members
April 17, 2016, 1:00 – 4:00 pm (Montreal, QC)
- Orientation session for new members of CACMS
May 9, 2016, 4:30 – 6:00 pm (Ottawa)
- Workshop for Schools Preparing for CACMS Accreditation Visit
October 28, 2016, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm (Ottawa, ON)
- Orientation session for new members of CACMS
September 19, 2016, 6:00 – 7:30 pm (Ottawa)

Secretariat Consultation:

- Queen's University – December 14, 2015

January 2017 to December 2017

CACMS Committee meetings:

- January 24, 2017 (8:30 am – 4:00 pm) – Ottawa, ON
- May 4-5, 2017 (8:30 am – 4:00 pm) – Ottawa, ON
- September 13-14, 2017 (8:30 am – 4:00 pm) – Ottawa, ON

Site visits:

- McGill University, Faculty of Medicine – February 5-7, 2017 (Limited site visit)
- Dalhousie University, Faculty of Medicine – Faculty 26 – March 1, 2017 (full survey)
- University of Saskatchewan , College of Medicine – October 29-November 2, 2017 (Full site visit)

Status Reports / Action plans:

- Northern Ontario School of Medicine – Status report dated December 1, 2016
- Western University – Status report dated November 30, 2016
- Memorial University of Newfoundland – Status report dated November 28, 2016
- Queen's University – Status report dated March 13, 2017
- McMaster University – Status report dated March 2017
- University of Alberta – Status report dated February 17, 2017
- University of British Columbia – Action plan dated March 14, 2017
- Western University – Notification of curricular change dated March 30, 2017
- University of Manitoba – Status report dated August 1, 2017
- University of British Columbia – Status report dated August 1, 2017
- Memorial University of Newfoundland – Notification of new parallel curriculum received May 3, 2017
- University of Saskatchewan – Notification of new parallel curriculum received July 31, 2017

Training/Orientation workshops:

- Workshop for Schools Preparing for CACMS Accreditation Visits
April 28, 2017, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm (Winnipeg MB)

- Workshop for CACMS Accreditation Team Members
April 30, 2017, 1:00 – 4:00 pm (Winnipeg, MB)
- Orientation session for new members of CACMS
September 11, 2017, 10:00 am to 12:00 noon (Ottawa)
- Workshop for CACMS members on CQI
September 12, 2017, 1:00 – 4:00 (Ottawa)
- Workshop for CACMS members “completing the reviewer worksheets – tips and guidelines
September 13, 2017, 8:30 – 10:30 am (Ottawa)
- Workshop for Schools Preparing for CACMS Accreditation Visits
October 26, 2017, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm (Sherbrooke, QC)

Secretariat Consultation:

- University of British Columbia, January 10-11, 2017
January 2018 to June 2018

CACMS Committee meetings:

- January 16-17, 2018, (8:30 am – 4:00 pm) – Ottawa, ON
- May 16-17, 2018 (8:30 am – 4:00 pm) – Ottawa, ON

Site visits:

- University of Ottawa, Faculty of Medicine – April 15-18, 2018 (Full site visit)

Status Reports / Action plans:

- Memorial University of Newfoundland – Notification (new parallel curriculum) dated December 1, 2017
- University of Saskatchewan – Status Report dated November 29, 2017
- University of Calgary – Status Report dated March 15, 2018
- Northern Ontario School of Medicine – Status Report dated March 15, 2018

Training/Orientation workshops:

- Orientation session for new members of CACMS
January 16, 2018, 1:00 – 3:00 pm (Ottawa)
- Workshop for CACMS member on strategic directions for Standard 7
January 17, 2018, 1:00 – 3:00 pm (Ottawa)
- Workshop for Schools Preparing for CACMS Accreditation Visits
April 28, 2018, 1:00 – 4:00 pm (Halifax, NS)
- Orientation session for new members of CACMS
May 15, 2017, 8:00 to 9:45 am (Ottawa)

Analyst Remarks to Narrative

In its narrative, Canada has provided a summary of its key activities from the time periods of January 2016 to December 2016, January 2017 to December 2017, and January 2018 to June 2018.

The country states in its narrative that from January 2016 to December 2016 three CACMS Committee meetings were held, four site visits were conducted (two full and two limited, six status reports/action plans were completed, five workshops were held (Workshop for Schools Preparing for CACMS Accreditation Visits, Workshop for CACMS Accreditation Team Members, Workshop for CACMS members on CQI, Workshop for CACMS members “completing the reviewer worksheets – tips and guidelines, and Workshop for Schools Preparing for CACMS Accreditation Visit), and one orientation session was held (Orientation session for new members of CACMS, Orientation session for new members of CACMS). Lastly, during the January 2016 to December 2016 timeframe, a Secretariat Consultation was held at Queen’s University on December 14, 2015.

From January 2017 to December 2017, three CACMS Committee meetings: were held, three sites visits were conducted (two full and one limited), twelve status reports/action plans were completed for the following schools; Northern Ontario School of Medicine – Status report dated December 1, 2016, Western University – Status report dated November 30, 2016, Memorial University of Newfoundland – Status report dated November 28, 2016, Queen’s University – Status report dated March 13, 2017, McMaster University – Status report dated March 2017, University of Alberta – Status report dated February 17, 2017, University of British Columbia – Action plan dated March 14, 2017, Western University – Notification of curricular change dated March 30, 2017, University of Manitoba – Status report dated August 1, 2017, University of British Columbia – Status report dated August 1, 2017, Memorial University of Newfoundland – Notification of new parallel curriculum received May 3, 2017, University of Saskatchewan – Notification of new parallel curriculum received July 31, 2017.

Additionally during the January 2017 to December 2017 timeframe, five workshops and one orientation session were conducted (Workshop for Schools Preparing for CACMS Accreditation Visits, Workshop for CACMS Accreditation Team Members, Workshop for CACMS members on CQI, Workshop for CACMS members "completing the reviewer worksheets – tips and guidelines, Workshop for Schools Preparing for CACMS Accreditation Visits, and the Orientation session for new members of CACMS. Additionally, a Secretariat Consultation was held at University of British Columbia, January 10-11, 2017

In its narrative, the country states that from January 2018 to June 2018 three committee meetings were held, one full site visit was conducted as the University of Ottawa, Faculty of Medicine, four status reports were compiled (Memorial University of Newfoundland – Notification (new parallel curriculum) dated December 1, 2017, University of Saskatchewan – Status Report dated November 29, 2017, University of Calgary – Status Report dated March 15, 2018, Northern Ontario School of Medicine – Status Report dated March 15, 2018. Additionally, two orientation sessions were held (Orientation session for new members of CACMS and Orientation session for new members of CACMS), and two workshops were conducted (Workshop for CACMS member on strategic directions for Standard 7, Workshop for Schools Preparing for CACMS Accreditation Visits).

Laws and regulations

Country Narrative

Not applicable

Analyst Remarks to Narrative

Not applicable is an insufficient response as it does not address the question, therefore, the country is asked to specify if any changes have occurred to the laws or regulations that affect the accreditation of its medical schools.

Country Response

There are have no changes in Canada's laws or regulations that affect the accreditation of Canada's medical schools.

Analyst Remarks to Response

In response to the draft staff analysis, the agency has stated that there have not been any changes that have occurred to Canada's laws or regulations that affect the accreditation of its medical schools.

Staff Conclusion: Comprehensive response provided

Standards

Country Narrative

Standards remain unchanged.
Certain elements were revised - see appendix document

Analyst Remarks to Narrative

Overall, the standards remain unchanged since the country's last review by the NCFMEA.

The country submitted exhibit 2 showing in red various small changes that have been made to the verbiage and elements of its standards. Examples of minor changes include changing "socioeconomic" into "social" and "more than one" into "one or more."

In addition to the minor changes, a sentence was removed from the previous standards in section 7.3. SCIENTIFIC METHOD/CLINICAL/TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH. The prior standard read: "including hands-on or simulated exercises in which medical students collect or use data to test and/or verify hypotheses or address questions about biomedical phenomena."

Processes and procedures

Country Narrative

No changes in the processes and procedures

Analyst Remarks to Narrative

The country indicates in its narrative that there have been no changes to its processes and procedures since its last review.

Schedule of upcoming accreditation activities

Country Narrative

2018-2019 Academic year:

- 2 full site visits
- 1 limited site visit
- Meeting of CACMS - September 11-12, 2018
- School Preparation Workshop - University of Toronto (September 27, 2018)
- School Preparation Workshop - Northern Ontario School of Medicine (October 24, 2018)
- Meeting of CACMS - January 22-23, 2019
- Meeting of CACMS - May 14-15, 2019

Analyst Remarks to Narrative

In its narrative, the country has provided a list of upcoming accreditation activities for the 2018-2019 Academic year. These activities include: full and limited site visits to clinical clerkship sites, three scheduled CACMS meetings, and two preparation workshops.

Outstanding Issues

The country's collection and use of outcome performance data to improve the medical education program

Country Narrative

CQI activities of the CACMS Secretariat

- CACMS provides feedback to site visit teams re their recommendations versus final CACMS decisions
- CACMS seeks feedback from medical schools re:
 - o Site visit teams' performance
 - o Accreditation process in general
- Secretariat provides follow-up to CACMS Committee members re final decisions following LCME deliberations

Analyst Remarks to Narrative

In its narrative, the country has indicated various activities of the CACMS Secretariat involving the country's use and collection of outcome performance data as it relates to improving medical education. The country states that it provides its site visit teams with the actual recommendations that CACMS decides to take in comparisons to the site visit teams initial recommendations. The country also indicates that CACMS solicits feedback from medical schools regarding the site visit team's performance during the visit in addition to the accreditation process in general. Lastly, the country states that the secretariat provides feedback to CACMS committee members regarding what final decisions are implemented following LCME deliberations.
