



# ACCREDITATION NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 6 • NOVEMBER 2024



## LCME STATUS REPORT UPDATE

The LCME reviewed our Status Report during their October meeting, providing us with an update on the four cited elements from our 2021 site visit.

Elements 5.11 (Study/Lounge/Storage Space/Call Rooms) and 8.8 (Monitoring Student Time) have been moved from 'Satisfactory with a Need for Monitoring' to 'Satisfactory,' indicating that our efforts to address these areas have met the LCME's standards without further monitoring requirements at this time.

The LCME requires a follow-up Status Report by August 3, 2026, for Element 9.8 (Fair and Timely Summative Assessment) and Element 11.2 (Career Advising). Both elements have now been designated as 'Satisfactory with a Need for Monitoring,' indicating that while progress has been made, continued oversight is necessary to ensure sustained improvement in these areas.



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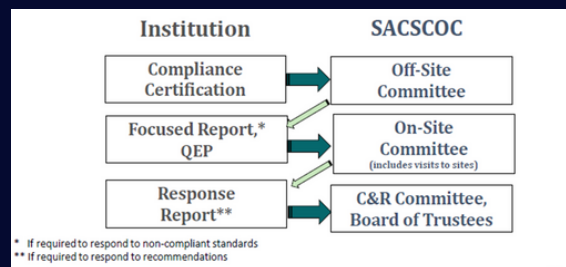
# ROAD TO SACSCOC REAFFIRMATION

## What is SACSCOC?

- SACSCOC stands for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.
- Recognized by the US Department of Education, oversees accreditation of higher education within Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and Latin American.
- Mission is to assure the educational quality and improve the effectiveness of institutions

## Why Should YOU care about SACSCOC?

- Accredits the COLLEGE
- All degree programs will be reviewed
- Other areas will be reviewed
  - Institutional mission/planning
  - Faculty
  - Board of Trustees/CEO
  - Finances and Physical Resources
- All faculty, trainees, students will need to fill out a Survey on the QEP Project
- Other surveys will go out to answer SACSCOC standards



## Important Reaffirmation Dates!!!

- September 8, 2025:
  - Compliance Certification and Updated Institutional Summary Form Due
- November 4-7, 2025:
  - Off-site Review
- Six weeks prior to visit:
  - Focused Report, QEP, and Updated Institutional Summary Form Due
- March 24-26, 2026:
  - On-Site Review
- Five months after visit:
  - Response Report
- December 3-6, 2026:
  - SACSCOC Board of Trustees Action



Does your office need a presentation about SACSCOC? We are here to help. Contact the Office of Accreditation and Education Effectiveness and let us know.

Pictured above: Ricky Mercado, Director of Accreditation and Education Effectiveness presenting at a networking event that included chairs and medical school education leaders from both the Houston and Temple campuses. OAEE discussed how SACSCOC related to Chairs' roles and about the reaffirmation process.



# SACSCOC REAFFIRMATION 2026 KICKOFF

On Oct. 4, 2024, the Office of Accreditation and Education Effectiveness proudly hosted the SACSCOC Reaffirmation 2026 Kick-Off event. This significant occasion featured insightful presentations from esteemed leaders, including Dr. Paul Klotman, President, CEO and Executive Dean, and Dr. Jennifer Christer, Senior Dean of the Schools of Medicine and Health Professions. They provided a comprehensive overview of the SACSCOC reaffirmation process to our dedicated faculty and staff, setting the stage for our journey towards reaffirmation in 2026. You can access the recording [here](#).



# Driving Excellence: Quality Enhancement Plan

## What is the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)

BCM's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) is an essential component of SACSCOC accreditation. Through the intentional alignment of the QEP with the College's mission and strategic plan, students not only receive a robust education but also develop the skills, values, and experiences necessary to thrive academically, professionally, and personally. The QEP serves as a roadmap for continuous improvement in educational quality and student success and provides a framework for identifying opportunities that impact and enhance student learning and the overall educational experience.

## WE NEED YOUR HELP CHOOSING A TOPIC!!

1. Study Strategies
2. Stress Management Programs and Activities
3. Career Advising and Professional Development
4. Wellness Programs and Activities
5. Community Engagement Programs)

**PLEASE COMPLETE THE SURVEY AND HELP US CHOOSE A TOPIC FOR OUR QEP.  
YOU CAN CLICK BELOW OR SCAN THE QR CODE**

[SURVEY LINK](#)





# Leading the Way: OAEE at SACSCOC 2024

The Office of Accreditation and Education Effectiveness (OAEE) will attend this year's annual Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACSCOC) Conference in Austin, TX, from December 7th-10th, 2024.

During the conference, OAEE will host two sessions, further positioning Baylor College of Medicine at the forefront of accreditation:

- **“Streamlining Quality Assurance: The Role of a Centralized Accreditation Office”** presented Dec. 8th from 1:30 - 2:30 PM by Ricky Mercado and Michael Rodriguez
- **“From Data to Action: Identifying Actionable insights in Student Achievement”** presented Dec. 9th from 1:30 - 2:30 PM by June Zhou and Ricky Mercado



## DEVELOPMENT DIGEST

The Office of Accreditation and Education Effectiveness consistently engages in professional development and actively participates in conferences to enhance their skills and knowledge base. Recognizing the dynamic nature of their respective fields, team members prioritize staying abreast of the latest methods and best practices. Our own staff had the opportunity to attend the following conferences:

- SAIR 2024 - Looking Back, Moving Forward
- AAMC Learn, Serve and Lead 2024

Attending conferences provides an invaluable opportunity for networking, sharing insights, and discovering innovative ideas. These experiences not only enhance the team's expertise but also cultivate a culture of continuous learning at Baylor College of Medicine. Additionally, two staff members were awarded travel grants to attend this year's SAIR Conference, further supporting our commitment to professional development.

- Ricky Mercado - 2024 SAIR Newcomers Travel Grant for First-Time Attendees
- June Zhou - 2024 SAIR Bill Fendley Travel Grant for Second-Time Attendees



APQI Meeting with other Accreditation Professionals in Atlanta, GA.



OAEE Team Members Ricky Mercado and Liz De Los Rios at the AAMC Conference in Atlanta, GA.



AAMC Conference in Atlanta, GA.

# AAMC Graduation Questionnaire 2024

The AAMC Graduation Questionnaire (GQ) is administered each spring to all graduates of U.S. allopathic medical schools. This comprehensive survey covers a wide range of topics, from curricular issues - such as content, faculty interactions, clinical experiences and even the learning environment - to student services, career planning, and financial status. For 2024, the response rate of Baylor College of Medicine graduates was approximately 87%. When asked about their overall satisfaction with the quality of their medical education, 94% BCM graduates responded that they were satisfied or very satisfied - which places BCM between the 75th and 90th percentile of US medical schools. When asked about foundational science preparation for clinical clerkship and core clerkship experiences, many areas reported greater combined Good + Excellent Results as compared to the previous year. Areas for improvement are being translated into action items by the Foundational Sciences Subcommittee through the new curriculum and Sub-Internship/Clerkship Subcommittee for specific changes.



## CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE: SAIR 2024 AWARDS



The Southern Association for Institutional Research (SAIR) is committed to advancing research that enhances the understanding, planning, and operation of post-secondary educational institutions. SAIR serves as a platform for sharing information and exchanging ideas on common challenges in institutional research. At this year's conference, the Office of Accreditation and Education Effectiveness submitted BCM's inaugural Education Fact Book for the 2023-24 academic year and won 1st place for Best Print Report.



# ANNOUNCING THE RELEASE OF THE BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE EDUCATION FACT BOOK 2024-'25

The Office of Accreditation and Education Effectiveness (OAEE) is thrilled to unveil the second edition of the Baylor College of Medicine Education Fact Book for the 2024-'25 academic year! This comprehensive publication is designed to be a valuable reference that fosters a culture of data-driven planning and decision-making across our college.

The Education Fact Book brings together a wealth of institutional data from various departments and offices, including information reported to federal and state agencies. It covers topics such as:

- Student Admissions
- Enrollment Statistics
- Demographics
- Degree Completions
- Financial Aid and Tuition
- Faculty and Staff Data

To enhance your understanding, the Fact Book includes multi-year data where applicable, offering accessible and reliable insights to address the common questions of our administrators, faculty, staff, and students.

A Heartfelt Thank you!

We would like to extend our gratitude to all the individuals and offices that contributed to this edition of the Education Fact Book. Special thanks to the Offices of Information Technology (Academic), School of Medicine Admissions, Office of the Registrar, Office of Student Financial Aid, Human Resources, Communications and Community Outreach, Office of Faculty Affairs and Faculty Development, and program management coordinators for their invaluable support.

For more details, you can access the Fact Book here: [Baylor College of Medicine Education Fact Book 2024-'25](#). Additionally, much of this information is available in a more interactive format under the Dashboards tab on our website.



SAVE THE DATE

# COMING SOON

## FROM EDUCATION EFFECTIVENESS

In collaboration with the The Center for Teaching and eLearning, the first module, **Understanding Program Assessment**, within a new **Baylor College of Medicine Assessment Certificate Program**, will be offered to BCM faculty and staff in the coming months. Participants in this initial pilot group will have the opportunity to contribute valuable feedback to improve design and delivery of future sessions, and gain credit towards the certificate.

A note of sincere appreciation for all of your work on the 2023-2024 assessment reports. I look forward to learning about the innovations and improvements made over the past year to positively impact student learning and success.

SAVE THE DATE:

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2025  
12:00 - 1:00 P.M.

REGISTRATION DETAILS TO FOLLOW



# OUR MISSION, OUR PURPOSE

**Mission:** Our mission at Baylor College of Medicine is to provide guidance, support and resources to help faculty and staff create and implement effective changes while ensuring the highest quality of education for our students.

**Purpose:** Our purpose is to promote academic excellence and innovation through accreditation and education effectiveness. We strive to foster a culture of continuous improvement and to provide resources and support for faculty and staff to develop and implement effective educational programs that prepare students for success.

## The Office of Accreditation and Education Effectiveness supports the Baylor College of Medicine education enterprise by:

- Facilitating institutional accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) and monitoring ongoing compliance with SACSCOC principles of accreditation
- Providing support for program level specialized accreditation
- Coordinating ongoing assessment of educational programs and the university's quality enhancement plan (QEP)
- Conducting and reporting the results of academic program reviews
- Conducting general institutional research and data analysis
- Reporting key academic performance metrics to federal, state, and professional organizations
- Conducting general institutional research and data analysis
- Providing process expertise in the approval of substantial changes to existing programs
- Managing educational affiliation agreements, observerships, and external learners

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