Associate of Science in Respiratory Care

Accreditation of respiratory care programs is a voluntary process that requires a comprehensive review of the program relative to the Standards. Accreditation decisions are based on the CoARC’s assessment of the information contained in the accreditation application and self-study report, the report of site visit evaluation teams, the annual Report of Current Status, as well as its review of any reports or documents submitted to the CoARC by the program during the current accreditation cycle.

The Standards are divided into five sections: (I) Program Administration and Sponsorship; (II) Institutional and Personnel Resources; (III) Program Goals, Outcomes, and Assessment; (IV) Curriculum; and (V) Fair Practices and Recordkeeping. Within each section, specific Standards elucidate the CoARC’s requirements for accreditation.

Following each Standard, there are items of evidence the program must supply to demonstrate compliance with the Standard. The evidence list is included to facilitate response to progress reports and accreditation actions by the CoARC, to help programs develop self-study reports and, prepare for on-site visits and to support review of the program by the on-site team and the Commission. These items are the minimum information necessary to determine compliance and each item must be addressed. Additional information that the program believes supports compliance may also be provided.

Highlights for Accreditation Self-study

Strengths:

- Strong curriculum
- Strong clinical course work
- Strong clinical site engagement
- Industry support
- Institutional support
- Outstanding instructional faculty
- Medical Director engagement

Evidence:

- Students success rate
- Graduate satisfaction thresholds
- Employer satisfaction thresholds
- All domains are above 90% for last couple of years.

Discussion points:

- Inter-rater reliability (PEP course)
- Physician encounter record