



ACCREDITATION

# NEWSLETTER

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## 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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# UPCOMING EVENTS

The School of Health Professions will host the COA (Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs) accreditation body this October. The site visit process allows the COA to evaluate the programs compliance with the Standards for Accreditation, as well as the program's overall quality and effectiveness. Accreditation by the COA is essential for Baylor College of Medicine's Doctor of Nursing Practice Program-Nurse Anesthesia as it aims to produce future generations of professional nurse anesthetists who are leaders in clinical practice, as well as healthcare research, education, and policy.



## Temple Site Visit Dates Announced Jan.29th to Feb. 1st

The School of Medicine will welcome its inaugural class of medical students to the Temple regional campus in summer 2023. As part of this process of "One School, Two Campuses" Baylor College of Medicine will host the SACSCOC (Southern Associate of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges) accreditation body next year in Temple, TX. The committee visit ensures the site has the personnel, facilities, and resources identified by an institution in its application or prospectus and ensures the quality of instructional and support services offered at the site.

**"ONE SCHOOL, TWO CAMPUSES"**

# Meet Our Team



**# ACCREDITATION  
TEAM**





Ricky Mercado leads the central Office of Accreditation and Education Effectiveness overseeing all education accreditation for degree granting programs at Baylor College of Medicine. He oversees accreditation processes and manages communication and expectations between school leadership regarding accrediting bodies. He helps lead the institutional accreditation process while directing the development, implementation, and evaluation of processes to ensure compliance with accreditation standards for degree granting programs. Ricky also leads key educational program compliance activities, including engagement with accreditation continuity, accreditation readiness cycle management and ongoing review of accreditation standards.

**Ricky Mercado, M.P.H., CHES**  
Director of Accreditation  
& Education Effectiveness

Dr. June Zhou leads and supports quality improvement initiatives for the College's accreditation compliance program and institutional research. Her main responsibility is to serve as a steward of data and information and to help educate information producers, users, and consumers. She works to enhance College data storage, retrieval, and accessibility. June provides analytic support and expertise in research design and methods, surveys, data processing, and data presentation to the campus for the improvement of academic and administrative processes and programs. She develops and maintains publicly accessible information on student achievement in compliance with accreditation and/or state requirements. June also ensures all state and federal reports are submitted in a timely fashion by establishing and maintaining a reports management system.



**June Zhou, Ph.D.**  
Institutional Research, Accreditation

**Caroline Young, Ed.D.**  
Institutional Effectiveness, Accreditation



Dr. Caroline Young leads and supports quality improvement initiatives for the College's accreditation compliance program and education effectiveness. Her main responsibility is to lead program-wide systems of academic and service area education effectiveness plans; provides orientation, training, and support to departments in designing education effectiveness processes. Caroline directs the process of academic program outcome monitoring and evaluation for accreditation process in collaboration with faculty, staff, and administrators. She ensures success of the assessment work with academic programs by coordinating with the academic department, programs, and other academic experiences to maintain and create appropriate and meaningful assessment plans while evaluating annual assessment reports and student learning outcomes for each department/program to promote continuous quality improvement.



Liz De Los Rios manages projects and supports quality improvement initiatives for the College's accreditation compliance program. She monitors Liaison Committee of Medical Education (LCME) standards and works with appropriate faculty and staff to ensure compliance, including ongoing quality improvement and preparation for the institutional self-study, database population, and accreditation site visits. Liz also assists with accreditation projects for the School of Health Professions. She is responsible for accreditation gap analysis and assisting leadership in developing CQI action plans for LCME.

**Liz De Los Rios, M.Ed.**  
Project Manager, Accreditation

Michael Rodriguez manages projects and supports quality improvement initiatives for the College's accreditation compliance program. He monitors The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) standards and works with appropriate faculty and staff to ensure compliance, including ongoing quality improvement and preparation for the institutional self-study, database population, and accreditation site visits. Michael also assists with accreditation projects for the School of Health Professions and substantive change processes.



**Michael Rodriguez**  
Project Manager, Accreditation

**Kaylie Johnson**  
Coordinator, Accreditation



Kaylie Johnson is the point of contact for affiliation agreements, observers, and external learners within Schools of Medicine and Health Professions. Kaylie is ultimately responsible for collecting documents and information required for affiliation agreements, observers and outside learners for administrative and legal review. She collaborates with team members, deans/program directors, and educational and administrative leaders to fulfill key responsibilities.

# CONTACT US

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