



Australasian College for Emergency Medicine Communiqué

Model Standards and Procedures for Training Site Accreditation

June 2026

The Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (ACEM, the College) is progressing work on implementation of the Australian Medical Council (AMC) model standards and procedures for training site accreditation. This communiqué is intended to keep training sites and other stakeholders informed of developments in the project. The College extends its appreciation for your ongoing commitment to supporting and delivering high-quality training for trainees.

What are the model standards and procedures?

The FACEM Training Program must be delivered at ACEM accredited training sites in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. Training site accreditation is currently completed in line with the ACEM Accreditation Requirements.

As part of national reforms to strengthen transparency, consistency and collaboration in medical education, ACEM is working with the AMC, Te Kaunihera Rata o Aotearoa (Medical Council of New Zealand), health departments and other specialist medical colleges to implement revised accreditation standards and procedures for training settings over the coming years.

Read more about model standards and procedures [here](#).

Why is this changing?

Model standards and procedures are being introduced to:

- Develop a consistent accreditation approach across all specialist medical colleges;
- Create greater transparency regarding expectations around accreditation;
- Foster collaboration between specialist medical colleges and health services; and
- Facilitate better data and reporting about accreditation.

continued

At a glance – What this means for your site

The following summary outlines key changes that are now in effect or coming soon as part of the transition to the revised accreditation approach.

When	What this means for your site
Now in effect	Stronger procedural fairness – Opportunity to respond to draft accreditation report or decision
Now in effect	Clearer accreditation decisions – Risk-based framework and common terminology
Now in effect	Updated application forms
Coming August 2026	Updated accreditation standards published
From August 2027	Full implementation

Revised implementation date

The College will now implement the model standards and procedures in August 2027 (previously February 2027) due to regulatory review delays. This ensures the College has sufficient time to support sites in their transition to the revised standards and procedures.

What has ACEM done to date?

The Accreditation Model Standards Working Group (AMS WG) continues to guide implementation within the College. Since March 2026, the following has occurred:

College-specific requirements – late consultation phase

The AMS WG has developed draft college-specific requirements (CSR), which articulate requirements unique to ACEM that are not explicitly addressed within the AMC model standards. These are currently in the late stages of consultation and review, with approval by the AMC Specialist Education Accreditation Committee (SEAC) anticipated in late June 2026. Final standards, including CSRs, will be communicated shortly after that date.

Strengthened procedural fairness principles – fully embedded

Following a successful trial in November 2025, revised procedural fairness processes have been fully rolled out. These processes afford sites an opportunity to respond to a draft accreditation decision before it is finalised and provide corrections or additional information as necessary.

Risk-based accreditation decision-making – adopted April 2026

The College has now adopted a risk-based framework for making accreditation decisions to ensure transparent, consistent and proportionate response to risk at a site. This framework addresses the relative severity of risk where standards are not met.

Common terminology – adopted April 2026

Standardised terminology for describing accreditation decisions has now been adopted, consistent with all specialist medical colleges. Accreditation decisions now outline a site's attainment of each standard as being 'met', 'substantially met' or 'not met'. This provides greater clarity and consistency in how standards are assessed and communicated.

Updated documentation including [F548 FACEM Training Program Site Accreditation Application](#) and [G550 FACEM Training Program Site Accreditation Process Guide](#) are available on the ACEM website.

What will ACEM do next?

Publication of the revised accreditation standards – August 2026

Following relevant internal and external approval processes, the College aims to finalise and publish its updated accreditation standards by August 2026.

The standards will be accompanied by an embedded set of CSRs that are specific and vital for meeting outcomes of the FACEM Training Program.

Supporting materials and communications

To support sites in transitioning to the new accreditation framework, the College is developing resources to guide the application and interpretation of the model standards and associated procedures, and providing examples that demonstrate how a site can meet each standard. It is anticipated that these supporting materials will be released progressively throughout late 2026 and into 2027 to ensure sites are able to prepare for accreditation applications and cycle renewals.

Contact

The College will continue to provide regular updates to sites and stakeholders as this project progresses. For further information, please visit the ACEM website [here](#) or contact Michael Mihatsch – Project Lead, Accreditation at michael.mihatsch@acem.org.au.



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