Australasian College
for Emergency Medicine

Communiqué

Model Standards and Procedures for Training Site Accreditation

October 2026

The Australasian College for Emergency Medicine (ACEM, the College) is progressing work on implementation of the Australian Medical Council's (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, the AMC is working with ACEM, 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.

The Accreditation Model Standards Working Group (AMS WG) continues to guide implementation within the College.

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.

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At a glance – key dates

The following summary outlines key dates for sites as the College transitions to the revised accreditation standards.

When	What this means for your site
Now available	Revised accreditation standards and supporting information for sites and trainees published
Until August 2027	Current accreditation requirements and processes continue to apply
From August 2027	Full implementation of the revised accreditation standards

Publication of the Revised Accreditation Standards

Following Board approval, the College has published its revised AC549 *ACEM Specialist Training Site Accreditation Standards* on 28 August 2026. The revised standards may change the way in which the College accredits training sites.

The standards have been published alongside *Implementation of the revised accreditation standards – Details for Training Sites and Trainees*, which outlines what is changing, what is staying the same, and how the transition affects sites and trainees. Both documents are available on the project webpage here.

Reminder of key changes

Sites are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the revised standards ahead of August 2027. Key changes include:

Removal of site classifications

From August 2027, tier (Tier 1, 2 and 3), Training Stage 4 (TS4), Linked-ED and Emergency Medicine Training Network classifications identified in current accreditation standards will no longer be used. Paediatric and Private Emergency Department classifications defined in Regulation G remain unchanged. In the lead-up to implementation:

- Tier upgrade requests will not be accepted after **1 December 2026**.
- TS4 accreditation applications will not be accepted after **1 December 2026**
- Sites with current TS4 accreditation remain the only sites eligible to provide TS4 training until August 2027.

Existing Linked-ED and network arrangements can continue to operate, however their classification labels are being removed. Under the revised standards, the College will recognise a broader range of collaborative training arrangements between sites, however, each site remains independently accountable for its own accreditation. At their next reaccreditation, sites will complete a collaborative training declaration identifying their partner sites and describing how they collaborate.

Current accreditation status

Sites will not be reaccredited under the revised standards until their next scheduled reaccreditation inspection. Sites with existing conditions should continue to address these within the timeframe specified in their Quality Improvement Plan.

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What will ACEM do next?

Accreditation Support Guide

The College is developing an Accreditation Support Guide to assist sites to interpret and apply the revised standards. The guide will outline the intent of each standard and provide practical examples of evidence that may demonstrate how a site meets it, along with guidance on preparing for accreditation. The guide will be released ahead of implementation in August 2027.

Collaborative Training Guidelines

Collaborative Training Guidelines will be released ahead of implementation in August 2027, to guide how sites can collaborate under the revised standards and what is required in a collaborative training declaration.

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 the Accreditation Team at accreditation@acem.org.au.



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