Organization of CAMPEP and its Relationship to Other Organizations

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• Professor of Radiological Sciences, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA
• Director, Physics and Biology in Medicine Graduate Program, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA
• Member of CAMPEP GEPRC
• President and Chair of Board of CAMPEP
Commission on Accreditation of Medical Physics Education Programs - CAMPEP

• CAMPEP - is an organization that accredits graduate and residency programs in Medical Physics primarily in US and Canada (www.campep.org)

• CAMPEP is sponsored by, but is separate from:
  • The American Association of Physicists in Medicine (AAPM)
  • The American College of Radiology (ACR)
  • The Canadian Organization of Medical Physicists (COMP)
  • The Radiological Society of North America (RSNA)
  • The American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO)
Medical Physics

• CAMPEP addresses all aspects of Medical Physics including:
  • Radiation Oncology Physics
  • Diagnostic Imaging Physics
  • Medical Nuclear Physics
Accreditation

• **Accreditation** - a voluntary, non-governmental process of peer review

• The purpose of accreditation - ensure that a program or institution meets **defined standards**.

• CAMPEP offers accreditation of medical physics educational programs:
  - Degree-granting programs (MS, PhD, DMP)
  - Clinical residencies
  - Certificate programs
  - Continuing education courses or programs

The Focus of this Presentation
# Accreditation vs. Certification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accreditation</th>
<th>Granted to programs</th>
<th>CAMPEP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Certification</td>
<td>Granted to individuals</td>
<td>ABR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Path to Clinical Practice of Medical Physics (Accreditation vs. Certification)

- BS Physics
- Graduate Program (MS, PhD)
- Residency Program (Clinical Training)
- Clinical Practice
Path to Medical Physics (Accreditation vs. Certification)

- Graduate Program (MS, PhD)
- Residency Program (Clinical Training)
- Clinical Practice

BS Physics

CAMPEP

ABR
Organization of CAMPEP
(http://campep.org/board.asp)
Organization of CAMPEP

• CAMPEP’s sponsoring organizations (AAPM, COMP, ABR, RSNA, ASTRO) nominate individuals to serve on the Board, but the existing Board selects its replacements from the list of nominees.

• It should be noted that CAMPEP is financially self-supporting, obtaining its funding from accreditation fees from programs and continuing education activities seeking accreditation.

• It should also be noted that CAMPEP is Recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) since 2017.
Functions of CAMPEP

• To establish minimum standards for educational programs in medical physics
• To develop standards and procedures for the accreditation of medical physics education programs
• To improve the quality of educational programs in medical physics
• To establish and evaluate qualifications of institutions and other sponsors of educational programs in medical physics
Functions of CAMPEP

• To grant and issue accreditation credentials or other certificates to institutions and other sponsors of educational programs in medical physics

• To institute a program or programs or re-accreditation at such time and under such conditions as the Board of Directors may deem prudent.
CAMPEP Policies and Procedures
CAMPEP Standards

• To accomplish and guide all of CAMPEP’s activities, the Board develops the following policies, procedures and standards documents:
  • Policies and Procedures (http://campep.org/CAMPEPP&Ps.pdf)
  • Graduate Standards (http://campep.org/GraduateStandards.pdf)
  • Residency Standards (http://campep.org/ResidencyStandards.pdf)

• These documents are continually being revised, improved and updated (documents have revision dates).
CAMPEP Policies and Procedures
CAMPEP Standards

• These documents are made publicly available through the CAMPEP website www.campep.org
• These documents serve as the principal sources of information for CAMPEP accreditation
Accreditation Status can be one of the following:

- **.01 Initial Accreditation**: Programs may be granted initial accreditation for a period of three (3) years. Upon submission of acceptable annual reports the program accreditation may be extended to five (5) years.

- **.02 Full Accreditation**: Educational programs applying for reaccreditation may be granted accreditation for a period of up to 5 years.

- **.03 Provisional Accreditation**: Provisional accreditation for a period of up to three years may be granted if circumstances preclude awarding of initial or full accreditation. The terms for ending the provisional accreditation shall be specified by the Board. Typically this is for new programs that have yet to graduate a student or resident (see P&P for more details).

- **.04 Accreditation Deferred**: For programs that are found be non-compliant with CAMPEP standards for accreditation; allows time to implement planned/suggested improvements.

- **.05 Accreditation Withheld**: When a program is found not to comply with CAMPEP standards and it appears that the changes that the program would have to make could not be achieved within a reasonable period of time.
CAMPEP Language/Terms

Compliance

• **Compliance** refers to the program’s conformance to the published CAMPEP Graduate Education Standards

Observations

• **Observations** are general comments related to the performance of the program within the context of the appropriate CAMPEP standards.

Requirements

• **Requirements are conditions that must be met** by the program as part of the accreditation process. PD is provided a 90 day opportunity to resolve. If not resolved then a public disclosure on the CAMPEP website is generated.

Recommendations

• **Recommendations** are suggestions by the program reviewers that are offered as improvements in the program but that are not requirements for accreditation.
## CAMPEP Language/Terms
### Compliance Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full</td>
<td>In full compliance with the CAMPEP Standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partial (P)</td>
<td>Denotes a minor noncompliance with the CAMPEP Standard and should be addressed in annual reports.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-compliant (N)</td>
<td>Denotes non-compliance with CAMPEP Standard and will result in a requirement that must be addressed within a given time period and will incur a public posting on the CAMPEP website if not addressed.</td>
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</table>
## CAMPEP Language/Terms Compliance Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compliance Summary</th>
<th>Full</th>
<th>Partial</th>
<th>Non-Compliant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Program Goal and Objectives</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Program Structure and Governance</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Admissions</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<td>4. Program Director</td>
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<td>5. Program Faculty</td>
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<td>6. Institutional Support</td>
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<td>7. Educational Environment</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>8. Core Curriculum</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
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Other CAMPEP activities - Annual reports

• CAMPEP (w/ SDAMPP) conducts an annual survey of all programs (This is a condition of accreditation)

• Programs report information such as accreditation status, public information, student statistics (applications, admissions, enrollment, completion, etc), student outcomes (entering residency program, nature of employment, further education, etc), and program changes.
Other CAMPEP activities - Annual reports

- The reporting is done online using a commercial survey software package (SurveyMonkey).
- The results of the reports are compiled and an annual report is prepared by each of the review committee chairs and posted on the CAMPEP website.
- This survey and response helps CAMPEP (and SDAMPP) understand trends in graduate and residency programs.
How CAMPEP interacts with other organizations

• Primary focus of CAMPEP is accreditation of medical physics education programs.

• Several other organizations concerned with education and training of medical physicists.
  • AAPM: Issues reports containing recommendations on the education and training of medical physicists (Report 197 - Academic Program Recommendations for Graduate Degrees in Medical Physics). These reports often serve as guidance to CAMPEP as they develop and revise their standards.
  • ABR: Certifies individual medical physicists (“Board Certification”). They often use CAMPEP standards as requirements to enter the Board Certification process, but they have their own evaluations (e.g. Board Exams).
  • SDAMPP: Provides a professional organization for communication among program directors and helps develop “best practices” in the training of medical physicists.
Thank you!

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