

January 2017

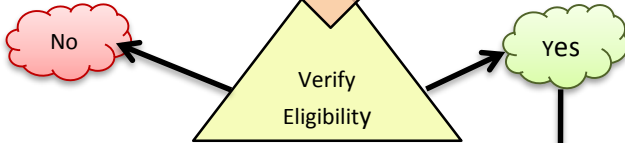
Provisional Accreditation Process

Read the accreditation *Standards* and all Provisional sections of the ARC-PA website

Does the institution meet the eligibility requirements?

- ❖ Geographically located in the United States
- ❖ Single institution must be clearly defined as sponsor of the program
- ❖ Authorized under applicable law to provide a program of post-secondary education
- ❖ Accredited by and in good standing with a regional accrediting agency
- ❖ Authorized by this agency to confer a graduate degree

Contact the ARC-PA regarding interest in starting program



Senior institutional official submits a formal written request for entry into the process including:

- ❖ Confirmation of institutional eligibility

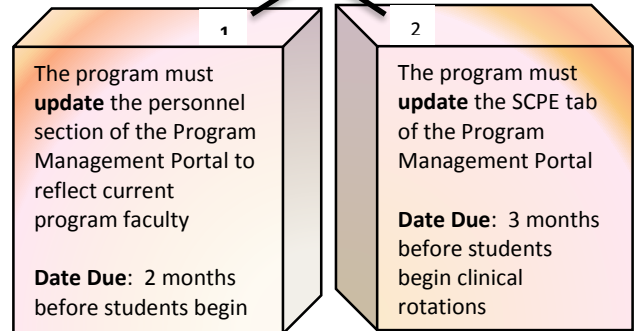
- ❖ Program receives correspondence from the ARC-PA regarding dates of the site visit and confirming placement on ARC-PA meeting agenda
- ❖ Attend mandatory Provisional Pathway Conference
- ❖ Program proposes dates and pays required fees
- ❖ ARC-PA chooses and confirms site visit dates
- ❖ Program obtains application packet from ARC-PA

- ❖ Submit completed application materials as received from ARC-PA
Due Date: 3 months before site visit

The provisional process includes **3 visits**
NOTE: A permanent qualified program director¹ must be in place 12 months prior to the date of the ARC-PA meeting at which the program application will be reviewed.

Visit 1: Initial Provisional Visit

- ❖ This visit verifies an institution's ability to begin a program in compliance with the *Standards*, and the program's readiness to matriculate students
- ❖ Occurs 6 to 12 months prior to matriculation of students
- ❖ After commission review the program is eligible to receive **accreditation – provisional**
- ❖ (If accreditation withheld, program may reapply from beginning of process)



Visit 2: Provisional Monitoring Site Visit

- ❖ This visit verifies the sponsoring institution's and provisionally accredited program's progress in delivering the program in compliance with the *Standards* and their ability to continue to do so.
- ❖ Scheduled within the 6 months prior to graduation of the first cohort of students
- ❖ After commission review, the program is eligible to continue as **accreditation - provisional**

Visit 3: Final Provisional Site Visit

- ❖ This visit verifies the institution's and program's demonstration of compliance with the *Standards* including their ability to incorporate and report the findings of a robust self-assessment process as required by the ARC-PA
- ❖ Occurs 18-24 months following the second provisional review by the commission
- ❖ After commission review, the program is eligible for an accreditation status of **accreditation - continued**

Accreditation - Continued

¹ The program director *must* meet the qualifications for the position as in the *Standards*. If the program director is not in place the program is removed from the agenda to which it was assigned.