

ACME | ACCREDITATION COMMISSION
for MIDWIFERY EDUCATION

Strategic Plan 2015-2018

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Executive Summary

The Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME) Board of Commissioners has created a three year strategic plan to address five goals which include improve ACME's financial position; maintain and advance excellence in midwifery education; expand diversity and inclusion in all ACME operations; promote the value of ACME as the accrediting agency for midwifery education; and provide fee based expert consultation to projects supporting those interested in development or expansion of midwifery accreditation systems.

This Executive Summary gives an overview of the goals and objectives that we will undertake from 2015 to 2018.



Mission

The mission of ACME is to advance excellence in midwifery education.

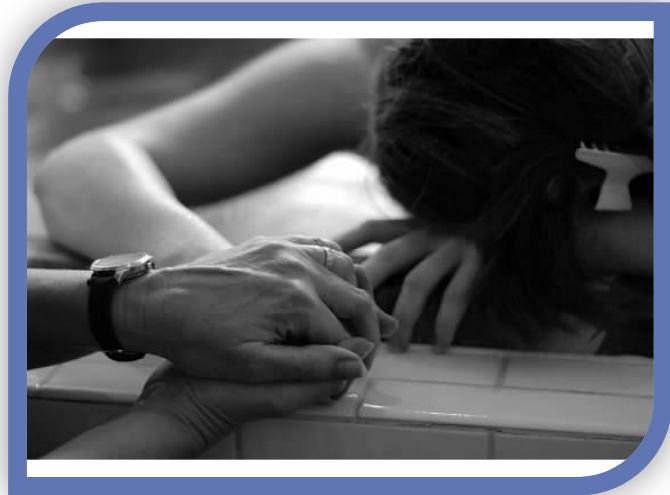
Vision

As the recognized accrediting body for midwifery education, ACME will assure expansion of high quality midwifery education through the accreditation process, knowledge sharing, and consultation. ACME will foster diversity in the organization and the workforce, reflecting the communities served. ACME will influence the quality, accessibility, and innovation of midwifery education at regional, national, and global levels. ACME will promote a robust midwifery workforce reflecting high quality education that leads to excellent health outcomes for women and newborns. AMCE will create innovative pathways to midwifery education accreditation.



ACME Core Values

- ACME values competency based midwifery education.
- ACME values accreditation through a process of peer partnership to assure excellence in midwifery education.
- ACME values diversity and inclusiveness.
- ACME values continuous quality improvement in the education of midwifery students.
- ACME values communication and collaboration with the American College of Nurse-Midwives, American Midwifery Certification Board and other relevant stakeholders.



Strategic Goals

Goal 1: Improve ACME's financial position.

Objective 1: Increase the number of [Accreditation for Midwifery Education](#) (ACME) accredited midwifery education programs.

Strategies:

- Develop marketing plan for initiating new programs.
- Disseminate the 2015 Midwifery Education Trends Report to Deans at Schools of Nursing and other institutions who do not have midwifery programs.
- Develop instructional information webinar to help potential start-up midwifery programs prepare for pre-accreditation.

Objective 2: Develop innovative accredited pathways for individuals seeking [American Midwifery Certification Board](#) (AMCB) certification.

Strategies:

- Collaborate with the [American College of Nurse-Midwifery](#) (ACNM) to develop an accredited pathway for re-entry and foreign trained midwives.
- Develop standards for direct assessment tools.

Objective 3: Review ACME's financial processes to ensure compliance with [U.S. Department of Education](#) (USDE) regulations.

Strategies:

- Attend educational accreditation conferences to stay up-to-date on USDE requirements.
- Bi-annual review of the ACME memorandum of understanding between ACNM and ACME.

Objective 4: Expand offerings to include webinars and full day workshops on ACME accreditation process, policies and procedures, and other timely education related topics.

Strategies:

- Hold in-person trainings at ACNM Annual Meeting.
- Conduct yearly survey of program directors to identify areas of need and create annual calendar offerings for webinars.



Goal 2: Maintain and advance excellence in midwifery education.

Objective 1: Establish a plan for ACME CQI (*Continuous Quality Improvement*)

Strategies:

- Develop a structure, process and outcomes to be used in the implementation of CQI.
- Develop a process for how the CQI process will be created and implemented.
- Collaborate with the ACNM Division of Education (DOE) to explore the development of criteria specific to preceptors to strengthen clinical education.
- Develop an ACME workshop/seminar for all preceptors.

Objective 2: Collaborate with US MERA to establish ICM education standards as the minimum standards for midwifery education in the United States.

Strategies:

- Participate in task forces including required annual meeting, steering committee and communications committee.
- Create and share ACME benchmarks with US MERA Steering Committee to continue to justify ACME's participation.

Objective 3: Streamline accreditation review process.

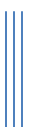
Strategies:

- Explore new technologies and processes to assist with the ACME accreditation process.
- Develop survey process to solicit feedback from programs that are re-accredited to improve process.

Objective 4: Collaborate with ACNM, AMCB and DOME to create needs assessment to develop alternative accreditation pathways to certification.

Strategy:

- Establish a one day meeting with the three organizations to explore this opportunity.



Objective 5: Enhance communications with other professional organizations.

Strategies:

- Examine the composition of the ACME Advisory Committee for the most appropriate representation of other professional organizations and stakeholders.
- Participate in national APRN initiatives (LACE).
- Participate in US MERA meetings, special projects, and task forces.
- Engage and support ICM and its standards.

Objective 6: Provide training opportunities for midwifery educators to enhance and implement competency based programs.

Strategy:

- Partner with ACNM DOE, DOME, and others to improve teaching competency in midwifery programs.

Goal 3: Expand diversity and inclusion in all ACME operations.

Objective 1: Develop a more diverse ACME leadership that reflects our core values.

Strategy:

- Actively recruit, appoint, and support diverse members to each of the boards and panels within ACME.
- Enhanced opportunities for members to actively participate in ACME.

Objective 2: Review ACME operations to ensure diversity and inclusiveness are implemented, transparent, accessible and inclusive.

Strategy:

- Provide diversity and inclusion training for all boards and staff on an annual basis.
- Develop a process for reviewing all policies and procedures within a specific established time frame.



Objective 3: Review ACME accreditation criteria documents for evidence of diversity and inclusion.

Strategies:

- Consult International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) materials and policies to enhance ACME's understanding and inclusion of diverse populations.
- Work with ACNM & AMCB to identify areas for collaboration and expansion of opportunities.
- Review ACME criteria through a diversity lens working in collaboration with DOME, DOE, and Midwives of Color (MOC).

Goal 4: Promote the value of ACME as the accrediting agency for midwifery education.

Objective 1: Develop communications plan to increase visibility and transparency of ACME.

Strategies:

- Actively explore and adopt emerging communication strategies and technologies that will promote ACME's work.
- Collaborate with ACNM division of education on communications strategies.
- Collaborate with AMCB

Objective 2: Collaborate with ACNM, AMCB, and other constituents to work towards common goals and objectives.

Strategy:

- Collaborate with ACNM division of education on communications strategies.

Objective 3: Expand ACME's scope of recognition by the USDE to include doctoral midwifery programs beyond basic midwifery competency.



GOAL 5: Provide consultation in the development or expansion of midwifery accreditation systems.

Objective 1: Communicate ACME's value as the midwifery accreditation expert by providing fee-based consultation on projects.

Strategy:

- Develop five day workshop for those seeking knowledge about midwifery accreditation in the United States.

Objective 2: Prepare ACME leaders to support global capacity building efforts.

Strategies:

- Collaborate with ACNM Division of Global Health.
- Market and promote these opportunities to targeted stakeholders.



In Conclusion

This strategic plan expresses ACME's continued commitment to provide excellence in the accreditation of midwifery education. ACME is grateful to the staff and volunteers who provided input or helped make decisions regarding our organizational strategic plan. We have established shorter and longer term goals and identified objectives and strategies to accomplish them. Our strategies are based on board discussion and analysis surrounding ACME's priority issues, and need for resource development, marketing, financial and operational plans. We will monitor this strategic plan on a regular basis and update it as needed. At a minimum, we will continue to update this plan every three years to cover a new planning period.



Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education

Strategic Plan 2015-2018

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