

**SELF-EVALUATION REPORT**

**TO THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF NURSE-MIDWIVES  
ACCREDITATION COMMISSION FOR MIDWIFERY EDUCATION**  
(formerly Division of Accreditation)

PROGRAM NAME:

TYPE OF PROGRAM:    \_\_\_ Nurse-Midwifery    \_\_\_ Midwifery

\_\_\_ Certificate    \_\_\_ Graduate    \_\_\_ Pre-certification  
DEGREE/CERTIFICATE AWARDED:

INSTITUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING NAME:

CURRENT ENROLLMENT:    Per Class:\_\_\_    Total:\_\_\_

NAME, CREDENTIALS, TITLES, ADDRESSES, AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR:

PROGRAM DIRECTOR:

HIGHEST INSTITUTIONAL OFFICER:

OTHER INSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS:

OTHER PERSON(S) TO BE NOTIFIED OF ACME (formerly DOA) ACTION:

American College Of Nurse-Midwives  
Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education  
(formerly Division Of Accreditation)

**CRITERIA FOR PROGRAMMATIC ACCREDITATION**  
of Education Programs in Nurse-Midwifery and Midwifery

**October 2003**  
**Revised November 2006**

## **CRITERION I. INTRODUCTION**

- A. This Self-Evaluation Report (SER) will begin with a one-page overview describing the midwifery program.
- B. This SER is a document written by a member/members of the midwifery faculty and reviewed by the administration and students of the midwifery program.
- C. The midwifery program provides opportunity for third party comment in the accreditation process.

## CRITERION II. ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

- A. The midwifery program resides within or is affiliated with an academic institution that is currently accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education.
  1. The midwifery program has an organizational relationship with the academic institution within which it resides or is affiliated.
  2. There is evidence of commitment to the midwifery program from key administrators in the academic institution and academic unit (if different) within which the program resides or is affiliated.
  3. The midwifery program has financial resources that enable it to meet program outcomes/objectives.
  4. The midwifery program is in an environment that promotes and facilitates scholarly and professional productivity.
- B. The midwifery program is a definable entity distinguishable from other education programs and services within the academic institution.
  1. The midwifery program is directed by a midwife who is clearly identified by title and position.
  2. The midwifery program is accurately described in the institution's representations to the public about its education offerings. The following aspects of the midwifery program are described and each component is accurate:
    - a. Current accreditation status from the ACNM Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education - ACME (formerly Division of Accreditation - DOA) and the address and telephone number of the ACME.
    - b. Admission requirements.
    - c. Duration of midwifery program of study, costs and possible patterns of progression.
    - d. Credential, e.g. certificate or degree that may be earned.
- C. Contractual agreements for student clinical experiences exist for all current clinical sites and are developed in accord with institutional criteria and periodically reviewed.

### CRITERION III. FACULTY AND FACULTY ORGANIZATION

- A. All faculty are recruited, appointed and promoted according to the institution's non-discrimination policy.
- B. All core and midwifery faculty are qualified to provide students with a level of instruction, supervision and evaluation that is compatible with safe practice and student learning needs.

Core and midwifery faculty are qualified in that:

- 1. Midwifery faculty are certified by ACNM or American Midwifery Certification Board (AMCB) and other faculty are certified by other credentialing bodies when applicable.
  - 2. Have a minimum of a master's degree and meet the academic institution's requirements for core and midwifery faculty. If a faculty possesses less than these qualifications, that individual must be responsible to a qualified faculty member.
  - 3. Have preparation for teaching.
  - 4. For clinicians, have at least one year of experience as a clinician prior to teaching.
- C. Faculty participating in the midwifery program will have the following responsibilities that will provide students with a level of instruction, supervision and evaluation compatible with safe practice and student learning needs.
- 1. Instruction, supervision and evaluation of students in didactic courses containing ACNM Core Competency content shall be the responsibility primarily of midwifery faculty.
  - 2. Instruction, supervision, and evaluation of students in clinical learning shall be the responsibility primarily of midwifery faculty.
  - 3. Core faculty participate in the following responsibilities:
    - a. Development and/or, implementation, and evaluation of the curriculum.
    - b. Selection, evaluation, advancement, and advisement of students.
    - c. Recruitment, selection and promotion of faculty.
    - d. Orientation of core and midwifery faculty to curriculum documents and expectations.

- e. Development and/or implementation of a mechanism for student evaluation of teachers, courses and midwifery program effectiveness.
  - f. Ongoing development and annual evaluation of the midwifery program's resources, facilities, and services.
  - g. Meet the academic unit's expectations to:
    - 1) Participate or have input into councils and committees of the academic unit.
    - 2) Continue professional advancement within the academic unit.
    - 3) Maintain clinical expertise.
    - 4) Participate in scholarly activities.
    - 5) Participate in community service.
  - 4. Faculty carry out their responsibilities with respect for individual variations.
- D. All faculty are evaluated annually and the outcomes/objectives are used to improve faculty performance. The following are evaluated:
- 1. Didactic teacher effectiveness as appropriate.
  - 2. Clinical teacher effectiveness as appropriate.
  - 3. Clinical competence in area(s) of practice related to midwifery program responsibilities.
  - 4. Non-discriminatory, respectful approach to students, colleagues, and patients in keeping with the basic principles of the *ACNM Code of Ethics*.
- E. Core faculty are afforded the rights and responsibilities consistent with the policy of the academic institution. These include the following:
- 1. Freedom of discussion, inquiry and expression.
  - 2. Criteria used for evaluation of faculty performance.
  - 3. Policies and procedures for promotion, tenure, merit recognition and termination, including the use of faculty evaluations for decision-making.
  - 4. Channels for receipt and consideration of faculty views and grievances.

5. Personnel policies that are comparable to those in effect throughout the institution.

## CRITERION IV. STUDENTS

- A. Qualified applicants are admitted according to non-discrimination policies of the institution.
- B. Selection and admission of students is based on:
  - 1. Established criteria and policies of the academic institution; academic unit; program.
  - 2. Additional criteria established by the midwifery program.
- C. Student policies related to evaluation, progression, retention, dismissal, and graduation are written and made available to students upon admission.
- D. Mechanisms are in place to assess students with special needs and provide services to meet those needs in order to promote their retention and progression through the program.
- E. Evaluation is an ongoing process that assesses the student's movement toward an ultimate achievement of midwifery program outcomes/objectives:
  - 1. Students are formally informed of course outcomes/objectives and methods of evaluation at the beginning of each course.
  - 2. Students are apprised of their progress on an ongoing basis.
- F. Student rights and responsibilities consistent with academic institution policy are available in written form. This includes:
  - 1. Opportunities for student involvement in development and implementation of midwifery program policies.
  - 2. Opportunity to participate or have input into the representation on councils or committees of the academic institution or academic unit.
  - 3. Clearly defined mechanisms for consideration of grievances/complaints.
  - 4. Mechanism to review personal records.
  - 5. Mechanism for equitable tuition refund.
  - 6. Access to resources and opportunities is equivalent regardless of student location and teaching methodologies.

## CRITERION V. CURRICULUM

- A. Each midwifery program seeking initial and continuing accreditation by the ACME, has clearly defined statements of philosophy, purpose/mission, and outcomes/objectives. The philosophy, purpose/mission, and outcomes/objectives provide the basis for the development and evaluation of the curriculum.
1. The midwifery program philosophy is consistent with:
    - a. The philosophy of the ACNM.
    - b. The philosophy of the academic institution within which the midwifery program resides or is affiliated.
    - c. The philosophy of the academic unit within which the midwifery program resides if applicable.
  2. The midwifery program's purpose, mission and outcomes/objectives are clearly stated and are consistent with the midwifery program philosophy.
  3. The curriculum, based on the philosophy, purpose and mission, is designed to achieve the stated outcomes/objectives of the midwifery program.
- B. Curriculum development is a continuing process that is the responsibility of the core faculty of the midwifery program.
- C. The curriculum has a logical sequence that provides for the theoretical and clinical experiences needed to achieve midwifery competencies.
- D. The components of the curriculum demonstrate that:
1. Direct entry midwifery programs only:

The curriculum is consistent with the current *The Knowledge, Skills, and Behaviors Prerequisite to Midwifery Clinical Coursework*.
  2. The curriculum is consistent with the current *ACNM Core Competencies for Basic Midwifery Practice*.
  3. The curricular content and instructional materials are current and in keeping with *ACNM Standards for the Practice of Midwifery* and other practice documents.
  4. The instructional methods:
    - a. Vary as appropriate to outcomes/objectives and content of the curriculum.

- b. Reinforce principles of adult learning.
  - 5. Students have the necessary clinical experiences to achieve the outcomes/objectives of the program.
- E. There is a program evaluation plan for continuous improvement that includes:
- 1. Data from faculty and student evaluations.
  - 2. Program attrition rate and the percent of students to complete the program within the expected time.
  - 3. First time and overall AMCB pass rates for all graduates for the last five years.
  - 4. Graduates' evaluation of the program.
  - 5. Graduates' employment in midwifery.
  - 6. Employer satisfaction if applicable.
- F. Allocation of academic credit for clinical hours is consistent with institutional policy and enables students to advance academically.
- G. Communication between/among faculty and students occurs on a regular basis.

## CRITERION VI. RESOURCES, FACILITIES AND SERVICES

- A. The facilities and staff of the institution are adequate to meet midwifery program needs. They include:
1. Offices for faculty and staff.
  2. Learning environment.
  3. Staff support.
  4. Technical and computer support.
- B. The learning resources provide the audiovisual, computer, and library materials needed by faculty and students, including classic and current reference material.
- C. Clinical facilities are sufficient, available, and appropriate for student educational experiences. This includes:
1. Space for instructional and non-instructional needs of faculty and students.
  2. The clinical resources are sufficient to assure that the program outcomes/objectives are achievable.
  3. Direct entry midwifery programs only:  
  
Patient population large and diverse enough in both in-hospital and out-of-hospital settings so students can acquire the elements contained within *The Knowledge, Skills, and Behaviors Prerequisite to Midwifery Clinical Coursework* document (if not acquired prior to entry into the program).
  4. Current written policies and practice guidelines for midwifery practice that are consistent with the ACNM *Standards for the Practice of Midwifery*.
  5. Initial and periodic evaluation site visits to clinical facilities are conducted.