

# ACME | ACCREDITATION COMMISSION *for* MIDWIFERY EDUCATION

To: ACME Accredited Midwifery Programs, ACME Site Visitors  
From: ACME Board of Commissioners  
CC: ACME Board of Review  
Date: March 11, 2020  
Subject: ACME Spring 2020 site visits postponed due to COVID-19

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Our greatest concern is for the safety, health, and well-being of our site visitors and midwifery program teams. Due to the uncertainties surrounding the pandemic of COVID-19 throughout the country and world, ACME has made the difficult decision to postpone all site visits scheduled to occur **between March 11, 2020 and May 31, 2020**.

At this time, ACME cannot accommodate virtual site visits. As an accreditor recognized by the US Department of Education, we are obligated by federal regulations to conduct in-person site visits.

#### **For programs and site visitors facing a postponed site visit:**

- The plan is to use the same site visit teams and to reschedule site visits as soon as possible. ACME will be reaching out to each program and providing dates for the program to consider for their rescheduled visit.
- All programs up for review will receive an extension of accreditation which will be granted by the ACME Board of Review. Letters and certificates will be forthcoming in the next month.
- Programs will not be required to write new SERs if the site visit can be conducted by December 31, 2020. However, if the pandemic requires us to postpone the rescheduled visits into 2021, ACME may require some sections of the SER to be updated. This will be assessed on a case-by-case basis and communications to program directors will be transparent about expectations.
- No off-cycle fees will be assessed for rescheduled visits.
- [Site visit fees](#) remain the same amount in 2020 and 2021.

At this time Fall site visits will be conducted as scheduled, however, subject to change as we continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic. We appreciate your flexibility and understanding at this time as we navigate through uncharted waters with this pandemic.

ACME staff will work closely with all impacted visit teams and programs. If you have any questions, contact [acme@acnm.org](mailto:acme@acnm.org) or 240.485.1802 or 240.485.1803.