

ACME | ACCREDITATION COMMISSION *for* MIDWIFERY EDUCATION

Volunteer Opportunity The Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME) Seeks a Member for the Board of Review

The Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education seeks a member to serve on its Board of Review (BOR). The BOR is the decision making body that reviews education programs in relation to ACME criteria and determines program preaccreditation or accreditation status.

The BOR is the unit within ACME whose responsibility is the evaluation of nurse-midwifery/midwifery education programs for the purpose of granting pre/accreditation status and monitoring the programs' continued compliance with pre/accreditation standards/criteria. The BOR is committed to the consistent application and enforcement of ACME criteria. Members are appointed to the BOR by the BOC for three year terms.

The BOR reviews a programmatic applicant's preaccreditation report (PAR) or self-evaluation report (SER), the Site Visitor Report (SVR), and additional information submitted prior to the BOR review by the applicant to determine the applicant's pre/accreditation status. The BOR also reviews: Mandatory Progress Reports (MPRs) which programs granted "pre/accreditation pending satisfactory Mandatory Progress Reports" must provide; information submitted after the BOR has deferred a pre/accreditation decision due to insufficient information; notification of planned substantive changes; and, information that reaches ACME via informal channels. Review of this information is used by the BOR in determining that the pre/accreditation criteria have been met by the program and to ascertain whether pre/accreditation status should be granted.

The BOR works cooperatively with the BOC in reviewing annual data submitted by the pre/accredited programs from their Annual Monitoring Reports (AMRs) to monitor as part of ACME's on-going quality assessment.

Required qualifications:

- 1) CNM/CM members:
 - a) Active or associate member (two-thirds shall be active members of ACNM)
 - b) Minimum of a master's degree
 - c) Five years of midwifery practice or education (including as a clinical preceptor) experience, at least two of which is within the five years preceding appointment
 - d) Familiarity with the accreditation process
 - e) Commitment to attend meetings and conference calls as necessary
 - f) Willing to serve as chair if qualified and elected
 - g) Able to communicate electronically
 - h) Must submit written consent to serve on the BOR

Preferred Experience:

- Experience with online or distance education courses
- Good writing and editing skills

Application Process:

Please submit current curriculum vitae, a letter of inquiry, and two letters of reference. Letters of reference may not be from ACME volunteers (BOC, BOR, Site Visitor Panel and Advisory Committee) and staff. Materials are reviewed for the above stated qualifications. Applicants to the BOR are encouraged to address the above qualities and criteria in their curriculum vitae and letter of inquiry and to encourage those writing letters of reference to address the same. Final selection is made by the members of the BOC.

Selection:

Application is reviewed for a variety of criteria, no single one of which is controlling: geographic, racial, ethnic, gender, and professional diversity; integrity of character; ability to critically assess and discuss issues, and willingness and availability to commit the time necessary to perform as a board member

Tenure:

- Minimum of three years
- Maximum of nine years

Members are not to exceed three consecutive terms or a maximum of nine consecutive years. However, time on the Board may be extended in exceptional circumstances by action of the BOC.

Orientation:

- A minimum of one orientation session with the BOR Chair to review policies, procedures and general operations of the BOR including the area of distance education.
- Inclusion of incoming member in all meetings of the BOR in order to mentor the incoming member to the general operations of the BOR, including observing the role of the BOR public member.
- The BOR Chair is available on an ongoing basis for consultation to the incoming members.

About the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education:

The mission of the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME) is to advance excellence in midwifery education. The Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education has been recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (under 'Health Care') as a programmatic accrediting agency for midwifery education programs since 1982. The accreditation process is a voluntary quality assurance activity conducted by both the education institution and ACME that combines self-assessment and peer evaluation. In 1994, ACME approved criteria to accredit direct-entry midwifery education programs; the first program was pre-accredited in April 1996.

The U.S. Department of Education grants the following scope of recognition to ACME: "the accreditation and pre-accreditation of basic certificate, basic graduate nurse-midwifery, direct entry midwifery, and pre-certification nurse-midwifery education programs, including those programs that offer distance education." ACME services are available to any education program that meets the eligibility requirements outlined in our Policies and Procedures Manual. ACME is administratively and financially autonomous from the American College of Nurse-Midwives.

For more information about the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education visit our website page, www.midwife.org/acme.

To apply please submit all required documents to the attention of Heather L. Maurer, MA, Executive Director, ACME, hmaurer@acnm.org.