



National Accrediting Agency  
for Clinical Laboratory Sciences

**Fall 2023 Changes**

<u>Category</u>	<u>Type of Change</u>	<u>Summary of Key Changes</u>	<u>Implementation date/Status</u>
<b>STANDARDS</b>			
<u>Standard (ie Number)</u>	<u>Current Standard or New Standard</u>	<u>Revision and/Summary of Key Changes</u>	<u>Implementation date/Status</u>
2023 Draft Standards	New 2023 Standards	<p>Adoption of the 2023 Standards excluding the following that have been denied or tabled for further consideration by the Review Committees or appropriate task force:</p> <p>Denials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MLS and MLT nomenclature requirements under Standards I.D and VII.A</li> <li>• Website requirements under Standard IV.1.A.c &amp; IV.1.A.d</li> <li>• Curriculum requirements under Instructional Areas, removal of the degree requirements as this is addressed in Standard I.D.1.h</li> </ul> <p>Tabled for Further Consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IDEA related recommendations under Standards II, IV, VII, and VIII               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Referred to IDEA Task Force for further consideration</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Fair Practices Standard V.E and F               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Referred to Review Committees for further consideration</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	No date of implementation has been determined at this time while the NAACLS assigned parties further develop the tabled items.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Career and Technical Entry Level Competencies for each discipline <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Referred to Review Committees for further consideration</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Nationally recognized certification/licensure for International or non- US Program Director qualifications under standard VII.1.b. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Referred to International Task Force for further consideration</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Faculty Requirements under Clinical/Applied Learning Experience Liaison must be “certified” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Referred to Review Committees for further consideration.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p>Standard VIII.2</p>	<p><b>Previous:</b>  <b>VIII. PBT Curriculum Requirements</b>  A. Instructional Areas</p> <p>The program curriculum must include instruction and experiences in the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A variety of collection techniques including evacuated tube collection devices, syringe collection, and capillary/dermal puncture methods;</li> <li>2. Contact with various patient types in a variety of settings such as health fairs, donor or pheresis centers, nursing homes, in addition to the typical inpatient and outpatient settings;</li> </ol>	<p><b>Proposed:</b>  <b>VIII. PBT Curriculum Requirements</b>  A. Instructional Areas</p> <p>The program curriculum must include instruction and experiences in the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A variety of collection techniques including evacuated tube collection devices, syringe collection, and capillary/dermal puncture methods;</li> <li>2. <del>Contact with various patient types in a variety of settings such as health fairs, donor or pheresis centers, nursing homes, in addition to the typical inpatient and outpatient settings;</del></li> </ol>	<p>Released for Public Comment, Board Review in April 2024</p>

DCLS Standards IV.A.1.k.5, VIII.A.1, VIII.A.2, VIII. A.3, VIII.A.4.i, VIII.B.2, VIII.C	Revisions to the DCLS Standards	<a href="https://naacslnews.org/2023/10/30/public-comment-sought-for-2012-and-dcls-standards/">https://naacslnews.org/2023/10/30/public-comment-sought-for-2012-and-dcls-standards/</a>	Released for Public Comment, Board Review in April 2024
BMS Unique Standards VII & VIII	New BMS Standards	Found in the 2012 Standards	Effective after the September 2023 Board of Directors Meeting
<b>STANDARDS COMPLIANCE GUIDE</b>			
<u>Standard (ie Number)</u>	<u>Previous Language</u>	<u>Revision and/Summary of Key Changes</u>	<u>Implementation date/Status</u>
DCLS SCG	Revisions to the DCLS Standards	See the DCLS Standards Compliance Guide	Effective after the September 2023 BOD Meeting
Standard II.B 3-4 & II.C.1	Revisions to Standards II.B 3-4 and II.C.1	<p><b>Standard II.B. 3: NAACLS BENCHMARK FOR GRADUATE PLACEMENT RATES</b></p> <p>At least the last three active years of results of graduate placement rates demonstrating that an average of at least 70%* of respondent graduates either find employment in the field or a closely related field (for those who seek employment) or continue their education within one year of graduation as calculated by the most recent three-year period.</p> <p><i>Three-year averages should be calculated using raw student numbers; do not calculate by adding each year's percentage placement rate and dividing by three.</i></p>	Effective after the September 2023 Board of Directors Meeting

	<p>Standards Compliance Guide Revisions to Standards II.B 3-4 and II.C.1 continued</p>	<p>Submit examples of tools used to collect data for outcome measures (include source documentation with student names redacted) <del>that includes:</del></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>• Graduate feedback</del></li> <li>• Employer feedback</li> </ul> <p><i>*If Outcomes Measures submitted for II.B. 'Accompanying Documentation for Self-Study' are below NAACLS approved benchmarks (or if there is not three years' worth of accumulated data, in the case of initial programs), additional information must be submitted for Standard VIII.C</i></p> <p><b>Standard II.B. 4:</b> Supply last three active years of ATTRITION RATES.</p> <p>Submit examples of tools used to collect data for outcome measures (include source documentation with student names redacted) that may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Course and/or faculty evaluations</li> <li>• <del>Graduate Feedback/Exit</del> interviews/Advising and/or Counseling Records</li> <li>• Quizzes/examinations/laboratory exercises or practicals, capstone projects</li> </ul> <p><b>Standard II.C.1:</b> Documentation reflecting review and evaluation of program outcome measures [advisory board, program faculty (didactic and/or clinical) curriculum team, <del>informal emails, employer communications, etc.</del>]</p>	
--	--	---	--

	Revisions to Standards II.B 3-4 and II.C.1 continued	and how feedback from graduates and employers are used in the process. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Graduate feedback – <i>feedback collected from the graduate at least three months post graduation</i></li> <li>Employer feedback</li> </ul>	
MLM and PHM SCG Language	New	See the Standard Compliance Guide	Effective after the September 2023 Board of Directors Meeting
<b>POLICY</b>			
<u>Policy</u>	<u>Revision or New</u>	<u>Summary of Key Changes</u>	<u>Implementation date</u>
Transfer of Sponsorship Policy in the Guide to Accreditation	No Revisions to the Policy or Application but to the review process.	<p>Previous Process: Applications would only be reviewed twice a year and then be placed on the Board agenda for determination.</p> <p>Current Process: After a program submits their transfer of sponsorship application, the appropriate Review Committee will review the documents. Once the review is complete, Staff will send the report to the Executive Committee for a final decision.</p>	Effective after the September 2023 Board of Directors Meeting. Available in the Guide to Accreditation
Inactive and Reactivation Status Policy in the Guide to Accreditation	Revision to provide clarity to the program and NAACLS.	<p>Inactive Status Policy:</p> <p>A program is considered inactive if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It does not accept students for a 12 month period and does not have students currently enrolled.</li> </ul> <p>A program has the following responsibilities: 1. To notify NAACLS as soon as it is known it will become inactive. (<i>NAACLS will use the date</i></p>	Effective after the September 2023 Board of Directors Meeting. Available in the Guide to Accreditation

		<p><i>provided from the program as the start date.)</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. To continue payment of NAACLS' full annual accreditation fees.</li> <li>3. To notify NAACLS of any changes in program director during the inactive period.</li> </ol> <p>A program may request inactive status for a maximum period of two years. At the end of the two year period, the program must do one of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reactivate the program by enrolling students and following the reactivation process, or</li> <li>2. Submit a letter from the administrative officer requesting Voluntary Withdrawal of Accreditation; the effective date of closure and the reasons for this action must be included.</li> </ol> <p>Failure to initiate one of these options before the inactive period expires will result in NAACLS placing the program on Administrative Probationary Accreditation.</p> <p>Reactivation Process:</p> <p>If an inactive program reactivates and it was for less than two years, a letter of reactivation is required addressing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the reason for inactivity, and reactivation,</li> <li>• resolution of issues which led to program inactivity and</li> <li>• a description of a formal evaluation plan for continually and systematically reviewing the effectiveness of the plan.</li> </ul> <p>If a program is inactive for two years, a Reactivation</p>	
--	--	--	--

		<p>Progress Report is required. The Reactivation Progress Report must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reason for inactivity, and reactivation,</li> <li>• resolution of issues which led to program inactivity and</li> <li>• a description of a formal evaluation plan for continually and systematically reviewing the effectiveness of the plan..</li> </ul> <p>If a program has met its two year inactive status limit and its self-study due date has elapsed, a self-study is due within six months and a site visit to follow within in six months.</p> <p>Upon receipt of the letter of reactivation or the reactivation report, the appropriate Review Committee Chairs will review and provide a recommend to the NAACLS Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will determine the programs accreditation status.</p>	
<p>Policy and Procedure Manual</p>	<p>Revisions to provide clarity to the program and NAACLS.</p>	<p>Additional Revisions were made since the last Board Meeting in April 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Created language to allow a program director who has been denied the ability to appeal to the board.</li> <li>• The Joint Review Committee modified the inactive status policy, and staff made the appropriate changes to the reactivation process.</li> <li>• Created a generalized due process section to apply to all areas.</li> <li>• Included language requiring programs to respond to their Self-Study Review in detail.</li> <li>• Added language that programs need to be in the professional phase of a program or have students already graduated before the</li> </ul>	<p>Effective after the September 2023 Board of Directors Meeting. Available on website</p>

		<p>initial site visit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Added language that programs must be up to date with their accreditation fees to submit any report or to have a site visit.</li><li>• Created a travel policy for uncontrollable circumstances.</li><li>• Incorporated the Review Committee Handbook and the Review Committee Leadership Manual into the P &amp; P Manual, with significant edits to section IV. Review Committees</li><li>• Added language to the reimbursement policy.</li><li>• Modified language on motion procedures.</li><li>• Revised the compliant policy to incorporate Faculty.</li><li>• Added the Anti-Retaliation Policy</li><li>• Added Staff and Volunteer Violence Policy</li><li>• Updated the Staff and Volunteer Sexual Harassment Policy</li></ul>	