

ACME

ACCREDITATION COMMISSION  
*for* MIDWIFERY EDUCATION

## **Interested in Seeking Initial Accreditation?**

The process of initial accreditation is ACME's first review and consideration of the midwifery education program after preaccreditation. The program should plan to meet all of the criteria in the ACME *Criteria for Programmatic Accreditation*.

### **What is the process for applying for *Initial Accreditation*?**

The process includes:

- Send a notification to ACME that the preaccredited program is about to graduate its first class and is interested in seeking accreditation status
- Prepare a Self-Evaluation Report (SER)
- Host a site visit
- Demonstrate compliance with the ACME accreditation criteria

Note: Education programs that have been preaccredited by ACME are revisited and evaluated for accreditation within six months after graduation of the first class. The time frame for continuation of accreditation of education programs is at an interval specific to the individual program. The maximum interval between evaluations for accreditation is ten years after a successful initial five-year accreditation period.

A program may have initial accreditation status for no more than five years. While some of the policies and procedures differ between initial accreditation and continuing accreditation, the accredited status holds the same rights and responsibilities. Students who graduate from a program that was granted initial accreditation are eligible to take the national certification examination administered by the AMCB to become a certified midwife or certified nurse-midwife.