



Accreditation Process and Policies: At-a-Glance Changes

On July 19, 2021, AASM announced revisions to its *Accreditation Process and Policies*. Accredited programs and applicants are advised to review the revised [Accreditation Process and Policies](#). Although the following summary is not an exhaustive list of every revision, it provides an itemized description of key changes to the Accreditation Process and Policies.

Accreditation Network Introduction

In the field of sleep medicine, it is becoming common place for accreditation programs to be associated with one another either under a hospital, large health system or multi-clinic sleep practice. To improve the accreditation experience for accreditation programs that share commonalities, the AASM accreditation process will begin identifying and sharing information between these accreditation programs within the same accreditation network.

An Accreditation Network groups other sleep programs that may be under the same ownership/legal entity and operate under the same policies and procedures. Accreditation programs that are a part of the same accreditation network will:

- Share specific information between applications
- Share the same accreditation expiration dates
- Share the same site visit schedules
- Be eligible to participate in volume pricing

New Accreditation (Accreditation Network) Term

The following describes how new accreditations that are joining an existing accreditation network will receive a prorated accreditation term to align with the shared accreditation terms expiration dates.

- If a new accreditation program applies for accreditation when the shared accreditation expiration date term is two (2) or less years away, then the new accreditation will initially receive a lengthened term by adding the two (2) years or less to their five-year accreditation term (equaling a seven (7) or less year accreditation term). A reaccreditation application will be required at the time the accreditation network applies for their reaccreditation.
- If a new accreditation program applies for accreditation when the shared accreditation expiration date term is more than two (2) years, then the new accreditation will initially receive a shortened term (anywhere between two (2) to five (5) years) to align with the shared accreditation expiration date. A reaccreditation application will be required at the time the accreditation network applies for their reaccreditation.

New Application (Accreditation Network) Fee

A new accreditation under an established (accreditation) network will receive an accreditation fee based upon their adjusted accreditation term. The fee applied to their adjusted accreditation term is a calculation of the total adjusted term length (number of year(s), month(s), day(s)) to the corresponding accreditation fee.

Business Associate Agreements

Use of a business associate agreement (BAA) other than AASM's BAA, or any request for modification to AASM's BAA, is assessed a \$500 custom BAA fee.

Volume Pricing

Volume pricing is available for networks that maintain more than one (1) accreditation program (Sleep Facility, ISP, DME) with the AASM. Determination is based upon the number of active accredited programs as a part of the Accreditation Network at the time of submission for an accreditation application.

Number of Accreditation Programs with AASM	Discount Percentage (Applied to Each Accredited Program)
2-4	5%
5-9	10%
10-14	15%
15-19	20%
20+	25%