

## What is Accreditation?

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Accreditation is a thorough, independent peer review and evaluation of an organization's structures, programs, and practices against internationally accepted standards. This process demonstrates to staff, stakeholders, and the industry at large that the organization is dedicated to continuing self-improvement and best practices. Additionally, accreditation serves as an indicator to clients, certifying that the organization's practices are ethical, safe, and of a superior quality.

# Who Developed CAC's Standards?

The Canadian Accreditation Council (CAC) uses standards that were developed and are continuously revisited by a Canadian peer-review committee composed of industry professionals like yourself, along with the integration of ongoing research, legislation, and professional experts. The individuals of the committee have knowledge of the needs and realities of their fields, and have created the standards to integrate harmoniously into your current practices and respond to the real needs of your organization.

#### What Areas Does CAC Evaluate?

In short, CAC accreditation looks at everything. We've broken "everything" down into several categories in order to make the process more manageable and comprehensible for our clients. Our accreditation process involves a review of the following aspects:

- Internal governance structures
- Board governance model
- Information management practices
- Quality assurance
- Outcomes data management

- Ethical practices
- Human resource practices
- Health and safety practices
- Service delivery

### Is My Organization Eligible for Accreditation?

CAC specializes in accrediting community health and human services organizations. However, we believe that the benefits of accreditation should be accessible to any motivated organization, so CAC welcomes applications from eligible service providers.

CAC has been authorized by Health Canada, Alberta Health Services, Children Family Services, and PDD Services to provide the mandatory accreditations for organizations operating programs in those fields.

If your organization is interested in becoming accredited but is unsure if CAC is a fit for you, please do not hesitate to contact us, and a CAC consultant will get in touch to discuss your case.

## Who Accredits CAC?

CAC believes in the benefits of accreditation and the difference it makes. To that end, CAC has been accredited by the International Society for Quality in Health Care (ISQuaEEA) in order to ensure we conform to best practices. ISQuaEEA's International Accreditation Programme (IAP) is the leading International Health Care external evaluation program of its kind, and demonstrates the dedication to best practices that we ourselves pursue.