

## **ACCREDITATION COMMISSION FOR ACUPUNCTURE & ORIENTAL MEDICINE**

Maryland Trade Center #3  
7501 Greenway Center Drive, Suite 820  
Greenbelt, MD 20770  
Phone: 301-313-0855  
FAX: 301-313-0912

### **ACAOM Approved as NCCAOM PDA/CEU Provider**

In October 2005, ACAOM was approved as a NCCAOM PDA/CEU provider for practitioners who attend ACAOM's site visitor training workshops and serve on ACAOM site visit teams.

Under NCCAOM's recertification policies, Diplomates must demonstrate a minimum of 60 PDA/CEU points attained during the four years prior to seeking recertification. NCCAOM's new recertification policy lists the maximum and minimum PDA points that can be earned through certain categories of professional development activities such as attending continuing education courses, teaching/lecturing, Tai Chi/Qi Gong, Supervised Clinical Experience/Clinical Supervision, Scholarly Activities (research and publications), etc.

Based on NCCAOM's review of ACAOM workshops and site visit activities, NCCAOM has agreed to award NCCAOM Diplomates up to **three PDA points for attending ACAOM's 3-hour site visitor training workshops**, and up to **ten PDA points for serving on an ACAOM site visit team**. NCCAOM's action to approve ACAOM as a PDA provider clearly demonstrates that participation in ACAOM's accreditation process is viewed as a valuable professional development experience for practitioners. It also provides an opportunity for NCCAOM Diplomates to play a direct role in improving the quality of education for the next generation of acupuncture and Oriental medicine practitioners.

Practitioners who serve on site visit teams review a self study report submitted by an acupuncture or Oriental medicine program documenting how they meet ACAOM's accreditation standards, followed by a three-four day site visit to the program with a team of experienced site visitors. Programs in the accreditation process cover all expenses of site visitors including hotel, meals and travel. Site visit teams review all aspects of the educational program, including clinic, office and classroom facilities, compliance with OSHA/HIPPA, patient recordkeeping practices, quality of classroom and clinical training/instruction, adequacy of institutional resources to support quality training, quality of faculty and teaching effectiveness, adequacy of library and other learning resources, etc. Site visitors also review all categories of program records, including patient files, curriculum records, student academic and admissions records, governance, records, financial records, OSHA/Clinical Manuals and Handbooks, etc., followed by interviews of all program constituencies, including administrative staff, faculty, students, alumni, board members, and assessing the quality of actual classroom and clinical instruction.

Site visitors must attend a site visitor training workshop to be eligible to serve as an ACAOM site visitor. Workshops are typically held in conjunction with the spring and fall national AOM

meetings and provide training in evaluating the quality of AOM educational programs seeking ACAOM accreditation or candidacy status. Other workshops may be held in conjunction with conferences conducted by state professional AOM associations. Scheduled site visitor training workshops are announced in the Commission's newsletters, which can be accessed by clicking the "Newsletter" link on ACAOM web site at [www.acaom.org](http://www.acaom.org) or <http://acaom.org/newsletter.asp>.

Practitioners who wish to attend ACAOM's site visitor training workshops, or who are interested in serving as ACAOM site visitors, should contact ACAOM's Maryland office at 301-313-0855 or submit a letter of interest with a CV to the Commission's Maryland office, ATTN: Monica Minor.

November 21, 2005