

American University of Antigua (AUA) College of Medicine, Antigua & Barbuda

Accredited for four (4) years, 2024-2028

January 2024 Determination: *Accredited for four (4) years, 2024-2028*

This was the fourth full accreditation visit for AUA. The site visit took place October 8-14, 2023, and involved a survey of the basic science campus in Antigua and clinical affiliates in Los Angeles. The site visit team members were:

1. Professor Samuel Leinster (Team Chair)
2. Dr Curt Bodkyn (Team Secretary)
3. Professor Christopher Stephens
4. Professor Helen Trotman-Edwards
5. Dr Paula M. Lashley
6. Dr Virginia Hardy

The CAAM-HP, at its meeting held January 24, 2024, considered and accepted the site visit report of the *ad hoc* site visit team.

Decision: The Board, after careful consideration, decided to grant AUA accreditation for four years, 2024-2028 with the proviso that the school continues to address all the outstanding concerns as identified, for example, improving its mechanism for record keeping and paying particular attention to improving its clinical training and assessment processes. Of note also was the apparent irregularity in the conduct of the clinical examinations. It is expected that annual Progress Reports submitted by the school would demonstrate the steps taken to address the concerns raised by the Site Visit Team. The Board also reminded the school of its obligation to keep the CAAM-HP Secretariat apprised of any changes in the administration and delivery of its medical education programmes.

July 2022 Update

The 2022 Progress Report from the American University of Antigua College of Medicine was presented to the CAAM-HP at its Annual General Meeting held July 25-26, 2022. The Authority accepted the report and noted progress made in improving research output. On the matter of attrition, the Authority suggested that the School make greater effort to ascertain the reason for voluntary withdrawal of students by creating and administering an exit survey/interview.

The Authority expects to receive the documentation for the next site visit in 2023.

September 2021 Update

The 2021 Progress Report from the American University of Antigua College of Medicine was presented to the CAAM-HP at its Annual General Meeting held September 22-23, 2021. The Authority considered and accepted the report and acknowledged the steps taken by AUA in reducing attrition rates, such as the institution of peer counselling and the consolidation of some clinical sites. The Board looked forward to seeing further improvements and receiving information about the School's admissions criteria in the documentation for the next site visit, whether virtual or actual, in 2022.

November 2020 Update

The 2020 Progress Report from the American University of Antigua College of Medicine was presented to CAAM-HP at its Annual General Meeting held November 18-19, 2020. The Authority considered and accepted the progress report and urged the school to continue to address the areas of concern, attrition rates and low research output.

The requirement for annual reports remains.

July 2019 Update

The 2019 Progress Report from the American University of Antigua College of Medicine was presented to CAAM-HP at its meeting held July 25-27, 2019. The Authority considered and accepted the progress report but requested evidence for the assertion that student counsellors were not also lecturers in the programme in contravention of the accreditation standards. Further, the Authority needed clarification on the school's response to concerns raised about the high attrition rate. Failure to address the research output of the school was another concern.

The requirement for annual reports remains.

July 2018 Determination: *Accredited for four (4) years, 2018-2022*

This was the third full accreditation visit for AUA. The site visit took place October 29 – November 4, 2017 and involved a survey of the basic science campus in Antigua and clinical affiliates in Florida and Baltimore. The site visit team members were:

1. Dr Paul R.G. Cunningham (Team Chair)
2. Dr Sherline Brown (Team Secretary)

3. Dr Sandra Reid
4. Dr Pamela Carter-Nolan

The CAAM-HP at its meeting held July 29-31, 2018 considered and accepted the site visit report of the *ad hoc* site visit team.

Decision: The Authority granted Accreditation for four (4) years, 2018-2022 and expects to receive annual progress reports indicating steps taken to address the issues cited in the site visit report and CAAM-HP's letter.

July 2017 Update

The CAAM-HP at its meeting held July 20-22, 2017 considered and accepted the April 2017 progress report and noted that the next full site visit would take place in October 2017.

July 2016 Update

The CAAM-HP at its meeting held July 27-29, 2016 considered and accepted the progress report of May 2016 in response to CAAM-HP's letters of July 28, 2014 and July 25, 2015.

The Authority noted the progress made on curriculum integration and drew attention to areas still to be addressed such as the oversight of the full programme by the curriculum committee, the development of an overall programmatic assessment review and strategy and measures taken to address the attrition rate.

The Authority expects that these issues will be addressed in the documentation for the site visit in 2017.

July 2015 Update

The CAAM-HP at its meeting held July 23-25, 2015 considered and accepted the progress report of April 2015 in response to CAAM-HP's letter of July 28, 2014.

The CAAM-HP noted the progress made but drew attention to a few outstanding issues still to be addressed including clarification of statistics of first-time takers of the USMLE, research output of faculty and signed affiliation agreements for all clinical sites. In addition, CAAM-HP requested that the school submits the details of the revised grading scheme.

CAAM-HP looks forward to receiving the annual progress report for 2016.

July 2014 Determination: *Accredited with Conditions, 2014-2017*

The Caribbean Accreditation Authority for Education in Medicine and Other Health Professions (CAAM-HP) thanked the American University of Antigua College of Medicine for the work done in preparing the accreditation instruments and the arrangements made for the visiting team to the medical school in Antigua and its clinical affiliates in Atlanta, Georgia, Florida and New York, April 6-11, 2014.

The CAAM-HP at its meeting held July 28, 2014 considered and accepted the site visit report of the *ad hoc* assessment team comprising:

1. Professor Paul O'Neill (Team Chair)
2. Dr Lauriann Young-Martin (Team Secretary)
3. Professor Christopher Stephens
4. Professor Penelope Hansen
5. Professor Renn Holness
6. Professor Howard Spencer

Decision: The meeting accorded accreditation to the AUA medical teaching programme for three years, 2014-2017 with the condition that the issues flagged in the survey report and in CAAM-HP's letter are addressed, and reported on in the school's annual report to CAAM-HP in 2015.

October 2013 Update

The CAAM-HP at its meeting held October 11-12, 2013 considered the report of the AUA's College of Medicine and noted progress made in the following areas:

- Staff involvement in decision making and committee membership
- Student involvement in committees
- Curriculum evaluation

The meeting noted that much better information was provided on the following:

- Rationale for curriculum change
- Development of learning outcomes
- Attrition rates
- Residency placements
- Publication record
- Faculty CVs
- Faculty remuneration policies

The meeting also noted developments since the 2011 visit, viz:

- Expansion of infrastructure
- Enhanced use of educational technology
- Staff recruitment and staff training

However, CAAM-HP determined that follow-up data was needed on the following:

- Evaluation of curricular change
- Balance of formative and summative assessments
- Revisions to clinical placement assessments
- Cumulative attrition rate and causes at end of each cohort
- Residency placement rate by cohort

The school is expected to address the above deficiencies in the Institutional Self Study report in preparation for the site visit in 2014.

June 2012 Determination: *Provisional Accreditation, 2012-2014*

The American University of Antigua (AUA) College of Medicine is an offshore medical school on the island of Antigua. A site visit was paid to its main campus in Antigua and clinical teaching sites in New York and Chicago from October 22-29, 2011. The team members were:

1. Professor James McKillop (Team Chair)
2. Professor Shivayogi Bhusnurmath (Team Secretary)
3. Mr Leroy Gibbs
4. Professor Archibald McDonald

Decision: The CAAM-HP, at its meeting held June 22-23, 2012, accorded **provisional accreditation to the MD education programme for the period 2012 – 2014 with the condition** that the issues flagged in the survey report and in its letter to the school are addressed and reported on in the school's annual reports to CAAM-HP.

CAAM-HP has determined that in addition to the annual progress reports that a survey visit should be made in 2014 before a further determination of the school's accreditation status. In preparation for the survey visit CAAM-HP should receive an updated institutional self-study before the survey visit.

CAAM-HP recommends to the governments that graduates of the school wishing to practise in the CARICOM countries be required to pass the Caribbean Association of Medical Councils (CAMC) examinations and satisfactorily complete an approved rotating internship or its equivalent.