



## CoARC Newsletter

### Spring 2019



We are pleased to bring you the latest news and information from the CoARC. We will send you three updates per year, one after each Board meeting.

If you have any ideas about how to improve the newsletter, please let us know!

### CoARC By The Numbers

Program Numbers by CoARC Level as of March 21, 2019 (n=452)						
	200-level (Entry Base)	210-level (Entry ADT B5)	220-level (Entry ADT MS)	300-level (U.S. satellites)	400-level (Sleep cert)	500-level (Degree Advancement)
Continuing Accreditation	376	1	3	9	4	0
Probationary Accreditation	7	0	0	0	0	0
Provisional Accreditation	22	2	1	1	1	6
Inactive Accreditation	1	0	0	0	0	0
Approval of Intent	4	0	0	1	0	6
Letter of Intent	2	0	0	0	0	5
<b>Total # of Associate Degree Programs</b>						<b>356 Entry</b>
<b>Total # of Baccalaureate Degree Programs</b>						<b>68 Entry; 15 DA</b>
<b>Total # of Master's Degree Programs</b>						<b>6 Entry; 2 DA</b>

### NA2RC, CAAHEP, and JRCRC

At our March 2019 meeting, the CoARC reviewed comments regarding the continued accreditation of associate degree programs. The CoARC wants to re-emphasize our commitment to support existing accredited associate degree programs. We continue to recognize the prominent role played by associate degree respiratory care programs in addressing workforce needs. We also reaffirm our position that there is a need for increasing numbers of respiratory therapists with baccalaureate and graduate education to serve as educators, researchers, managers, clinical specialists, and in other roles throughout the healthcare delivery system. The CoARC continues to work with other stakeholders to develop alternative pathways, including

degree advancement, to meet this goal.

Also, at our March meeting, the CoARC was informed that the National Association for Associate Degree Respiratory Care (NA2RC) applied to the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) to sponsor a new accrediting committee - the Joint Review Committee on Education in Respiratory Care (JRCRC). On April 14, CAAHEP approved the NA2RC sponsorship of the JRCRC. Currently, the NA2RC is the only sponsor of JRCRC.

## Value of CoARC Accreditation

- Established accreditation standards at all degree levels for entry into practice as well as degree advancement and advanced practice respiratory therapy (APRT) that ensure quality respiratory therapy education and optimally reflect the needs of the Respiratory Care profession;
- Accreditation standards and services supported by and in collaboration with the AARC and nationally-recognized physician organizations (ATS, ASA, and ACCP);
- Reputable and vetted outcomes data that inform the public and prospective students of programs' success in achieving outcomes deemed important for competent practice;

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## Value of CoARC Accreditation

- Committed support of the profession's goal of increasing the number of respiratory therapists who earn baccalaureate and graduate degrees;
- Accreditation decisions and responses to professional issues are conducted by well-informed and experienced peers of the respiratory therapy profession as opposed to a group of allied health occupations and professions where respiratory therapy has a minority voice;
- Demonstrated independence from any parent entity, or sponsoring entity, for the conduct of accreditation activities and determination of accreditation status.

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## Update on 2018 and 2019 Reports of Current Status

The data collected for the 2018 RCS will focus on the reporting years for 2015, 2016, and 2017 (i.e., outcomes data from January 1, 2015 thru December 31, 2017);

The validation/review of the 2018 Annual Report of Current Status (RCS) is currently underway.

The 2019 RCS due date will be announced soon.

Due to delays in the submission of the 2018 RCS, we anticipate publishing the 2018 Report on Accreditation in Respiratory Care Education sometime in early-June. The report will be available for download at [www.coarc.com](http://www.coarc.com) and an announcement will be made.

Shortly after the release of its 2018 Annual RCS in late October, the CoARC was informed that graduate and employer survey data from prior years could not be transferred into the new RCS format.

As a result, programs will only be able to submit survey data for 2017 in their 2018 RCS.

Accordingly, at our November meeting, the CoARC Board determined that no accreditation decisions based on sub-threshold results in graduate and employer surveys would be taken until three years of data are available, which will occur with the submission of the RCS due July 1, 2020.

## Update on 2020 Standards

The CoARC Standards Committee has completed a review of public comments from last fall and has made a number of changes that were reviewed at the March Board meeting.

CoARC released the first draft of the 2020 Standards for public comment following its March 2019 Board meeting. Comments are due May 15th.

We are also presenting and holding an Open Hearing forum at the AARC Summer Forum.

### CoARC SITE VISITOR AND AWARDS RECEPTION

Join us **Saturday, July 20th at 5:00 PM**  
Fort Lauderdale Marriott Harbor Beach Resort & Spa

An Email Invite will be coming soon...



## 2019 Summer Forum Activities

- **Meet the Referee**
  - One-on-one appointments with the referees and Executive Office staff.
- **CoARC Awards Ceremony**
  - Presentation of 2018 Distinguished RRT Award certificates;
  - Presentation of CoARC Louis Sinopoli, PhD, RRT, FAARC Faculty Educational Research Scholarship and George G. Burton, MD Student Educational Research Scholarship;
  - Presentation of Bonner Smith Outstanding Service Award.

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## CoARC Symposium at the 2019 AARC Summer Forum

Update on the 2020 CoARC Standards for Entry into Respiratory  
Care Professional Practice

Inter-professional Education: Why Now?

Compliance with CoARC Standards – Analyzing Your TMC  
Subscores by Content Domain and Generating  
an Effective Action Plan

Integrating Principles of Evidence-based Investigation into Your  
Curriculum

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## 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dr. H. Fred Helmholz, MD Education Lecture Series at the 2019 AARC Summer Forum



### *Supporting Graduate and Student Engagement*

Presenter:

**Kenneth Winn, MHA, RRT**

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### 2019 CoARC Board Meetings

July 19-21  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

December 12-14  
Tucson, AZ

### 2020 CoARC Board Meetings

March 12-14  
Scottsdale, AZ

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Inquiries related to this E-Newsletter can be addressed to:

Tom Smalling, PhD, RRT, RPFT, FAARC, Chief Executive Officer

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