



## COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION FOR RESPIRATORY CARE

### CoARC 2025 ENTRY INTO PRACTICE STANDARDS REVISION TIMELINE (Revised 4-1-25)

#### Following March 2025 CoARC Board meeting:

- Provide announcements to communities of interest\* regarding the revision process.

\*CoARC's communities of interest include:

- Matriculated and prospective students of RC programs
- Respiratory care educators (PDs, DCEs, Medical Directors, faculty)
- Individuals associated with RC educational program (CEOs, Deans, Advisory Committee members)
- Individuals involved in the accreditation process (CoARC employees, site visitors)
- Professional organizations associated with CoARC:
  - American Association for Respiratory Care, the American College of Chest Physicians, the American Society of Anesthesiologists, the American Thoracic Society, the Society for Critical Care Medicine, the Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions, and the National Board for Respiratory Care
- Practitioners;
- Employers of graduates of CoARC-accredited programs;
- Respiratory care department supervisors
- Consumers (patients);
- Regulators (licensure boards, state and federal higher education agencies)
- Recognition bodies (Council for Higher Education Accreditation)
- Accreditors (regional, national, and specialized accreditors)
- Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors
- Other health care professionals and organizations.

1. Blast email programs and place an announcement on the CoARC website announcing the first draft of the revised 2025 Standards. Disseminate a call for comment (with **May 1, 2025** deadline for comment) to all communities of interest\* and outline the procedure for those wishing to provide input to the CoARC Accreditation Policies/Standards/Bylaws Committee.
2. Use the CoARC website and Survey Monkey [Update survey link] to collect data and feedback from communities of interest (validity, ease of interpretation, potential issues, positives and negatives regarding the first draft of new Standards).
3. CoARC Accreditation Policies/Standards/Bylaws Committee (May 2025 – June 2025):
  - Review the data collected from all evaluation instruments.
  - Review any correspondence and e-mails received by CoARC regarding the proposed Standards, EOC, and Interpretive Guidelines.
  - Make recommended revisions to the second draft for review by the Full Board at the July 2025 meeting.
4. At the July 2025 CoARC Board meeting:
  - Hold an Entry Standards Open Hearing (**Date/Time/Location TBD**).
  - Review, discuss, and approve changes to the first draft of new Standards.



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### Following July 2025 CoARC Board meeting:

(if significant changes are not required, the Board may elect to approve the second draft as the final draft and follow the timeline AFTER THE DECEMBER 2025 COARC BOARD MEETING below)

1. Blast email programs and place an announcement on the CoARC website announcing the second draft of the revised Standards. Disseminate a call for comment (with **September 15, 2025** deadline for comment) to all communities of interest\* and outline the procedure for those wishing to provide input to the CoARC Accreditation Policies/Standards/Bylaws Committee.
2. Use the CoARC website and Survey Monkey [Update survey link] to collect data and feedback from communities of interest (validity, ease of interpretation, potential issues, positives and negatives regarding the second draft of new Standards).
3. CoARC Accreditation Policies/Standards/Bylaws Committee (Sept 2025 – Nov 2025):
  - Review the data collected from all evaluation instruments.
  - Review any correspondence, e-mails, or telephone calls received by CoARC regarding the proposed Standards, EOC, and Interpretive Guidelines.
  - Make recommended revisions to the second draft for review by the Full Board at the December 2025 meeting.
4. At the December 2025 CoARC Board meeting:
  - Review, discuss, and approve final changes to the 2025 Standards.

### Following December 2025 CoARC Board meeting:

5. Send the final version of the 2025 Entry Standards to the CoARC's collaborating organizations (AARC, ATS, ASA, and CHEST) requesting statements of support as per CoARC Bylaw 2.05.01.
6. The adopted 2025 Standards will be posted on the CoARC website and will go into effect on January 1, 2026. An email announcement will be distributed to all communities of interest.
7. CoARC Accreditation Policies/Standards/Bylaws and Site Visit Committees (Sept 2025 – March 2026):
  - Make recommended revisions to site visit documents for review by the Full Board.
8. Provide webinars to key personnel and site visitors retraining on implementing the revised Standards (Nov 2025 – March 2026):
9. The CoARC will begin assessing compliance with the new Standards as part of the regular on-site and Annual Report of Current Status process (June 2026). Programs with self-studies due after July 1, 2026 will be required to demonstrate compliance with the 2025 Standards.



**ONGOING REVIEW**

The CoARC Policies/Standards/ Bylaws Committee, a standing committee of CoARC, is responsible for reviewing the Standards at least every five years and recommending revisions, if any, to the Board. The CoARC may review and make revisions to the Standards sooner than the five-year period. If CoARC determines, at any point during its systematic program of review, that it needs to make changes to the Standards, CoARC will initiate action within 12 months to make the changes and will complete that action within a reasonable period of time. Before finalizing any changes to the Standards, CoARC will provide advance public notice of the proposed revised Standards. CoARC will provide adequate opportunity for broad comment from the academic community and the public prior to the adoption of proposed changes to CoARC Standards.