

Work with us to help ensure health care delivery of the highest quality and safety practices.



[Joint Commission Accreditation and Certification Overview](#)

Solutions to Support Your Health Plan Goals

As health plans look to expand or develop high-quality providers to participate in a value-based or CoE programs, The Joint Commission can offer solutions to support their health plan goals. The Joint Commission has a comprehensive continuum of accreditation and certification programs for providers. As health plans seek to comply with their own accreditation requirements to validate the quality of patient care and services and perform onsite provider assessments, The Joint Commission can help reduce this administrative burden.

The Joint Commission performs onsite performance assessments of health care organizations at select intervals. Onsite survey processes are data-driven, focused on patient safety and quality, and evaluate actual care processes and technology. Health plans that choose Joint Commission accreditation for a validation survey may benefit by freeing up resources. In addition, there is added value of knowing that organizations that have achieved Joint Commission accreditation have complied with the highest patient safety and quality requirements.

Global Driver of Quality Improvement and Patient Safety

The Joint Commission works across the continuum of care to help health care providers achieve higher levels of quality and safety in patient care and sustain that performance over time. Working in more than 100 countries, we are the largest and most experienced health care improvement enterprise.



Global health care performance improvement company working with our customers to improve quality of care.



Assisting health care organizations on their journey to high reliability.



Rigorous standards and performance measures can help organizations improve how they deliver health care every day.



Serve to accelerate progress on critical industry issues by driving collaboration of influential health care stakeholders.

Driving quality care and performance improvement

When it comes to accreditation, the experience and knowledge of The Joint Commission is unmatched. Our accreditation process drives quality care and patient safety improvements through nationally recognized evidence-based standards and accountability measures. But we go further than that — we help ensure health care organizations are maintaining compliance between surveys, inspire them to excel and provide tools and resources to help them every day.

Facts about our standards

Joint Commission standards focus on important inpatient, individual or resident care and organization functions that are essential to providing safe, high-quality care. Our evidence-based standards set expectations for organizational performance that are reasonable, achievable and surveyable. Included in our standards are the National Patient Safety Goals® to help organizations address specific areas of concern in regard to patient safety. We develop our standards with input from health care professionals, providers, subject matter experts, consumers and government agencies (including the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services). Our standards are informed by scientific literature and expert consensus, and reviewed by the Board of Commissioners.

DASH (Data Analytics for Safe Healthcare) Initiative

Data fuels better decisions that more effectively guides performance improvements

DASH is a collection of proprietary business intelligence tools developed to support our customers and empower them to make more informed decisions to drive quality improvement and reduce harm. The Joint Commission enterprise is in a unique position to have data depth beyond what is typical in order to support its customers with metrics that matter. We're providing data transparency in a convenient platform to power process and focus on relevant needs to drive efficiency and effectiveness to improve care results. DASH is our smart solution to enable the use of analytics for deeper insight into health care performance and market intelligence.



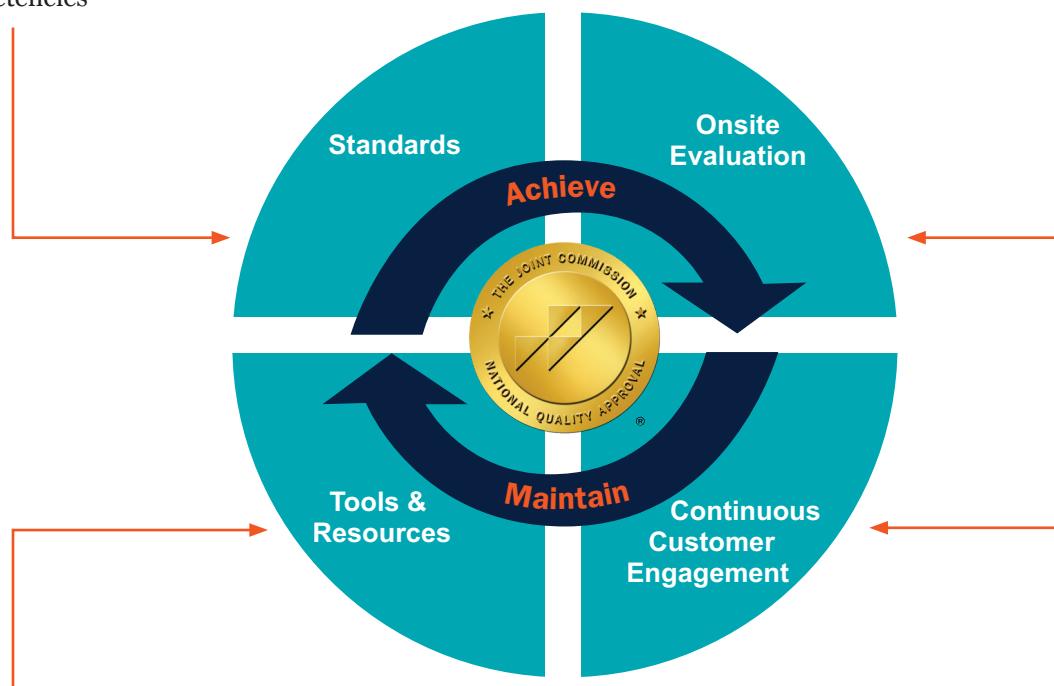


Achieve, Maintain, and Demonstrate Consistent Excellence

An Overview of The Joint Commission's Accreditation and Specialty Certification Process

Nationally Recognized Standards

- Enhanced requirements address critical patient safety and overall quality issues including staff competency, medication management, infection control, and patient education
- Process-focused; elements of performance and safety provide a comprehensive foundation for quality
- Certifications raise the bar for excellence and distinguishes advanced competencies



Tools & Resources

- SAFER® Dashboard provides accredited organizations unmatched visibility of survey findings and enables the ability to spot trends in performance and identify priority areas.
- Patient Safety Portals
- Joint Commission Center for Transforming Healthcare provides interactive tools that help accredited organizations pursue high reliability and address challenging areas
- Targeted Solutions Tool® (TST®) provides interactive online method to address infection control, falls, hand-off communications and sepsis challenges
- Oro® 2.0 is an assessment which identifies an organization's high reliability maturity level

Onsite Evaluation

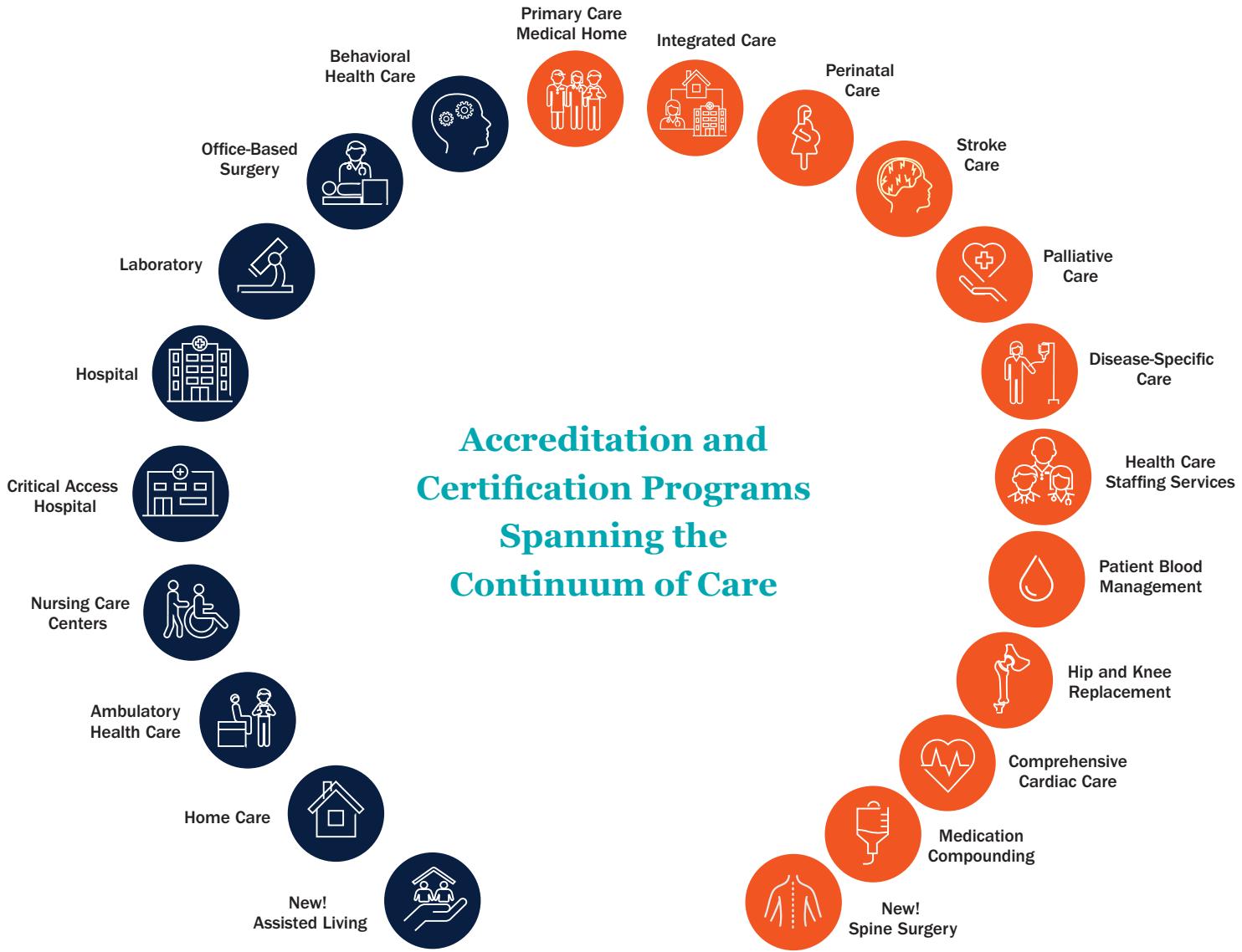
- Patient and system tracers to proactively identify risks and high-performing areas
- Experienced surveyors share best practices and insights to address challenging areas
- Collaborative learning environment for leadership and staff
- Certification provides enhanced learning opportunities related to patient transitions

Continuous Customer Engagement

- A data-informed connection between health care organizations and The Joint Commission
- Engagement strategies will inform and support accredited organizations' performance measurement and quality improvement initiatives

Health Care Continuum

The Joint Commission Offers Accreditation and Certification Services to the Full Range of Health Care Services Covered by Your Provider Network.



Accreditation

Certification

Verification



Maternal Levels of Care
(January 2022)

*A collaboration between The Joint Commission
and the American College of Obstetricians and
Gynecologists (ACOG).*

Ambulatory Care

Since 1975

over 1,900

ambulatory care organizations are Joint Commission-accredited

Settings:

- Medical Group Practices
- Surgery Centers, Including Deemed Status
- Kidney Care Providers
- Urgent Care Centers
- Telehealth/Telemedicine

Certifications:

- Advanced Diagnostic Imaging
- Primary Care Medical Home (PCMH)
- Integrated Care



Behavioral Health Care and Human Services

Since 1969

over 3,500

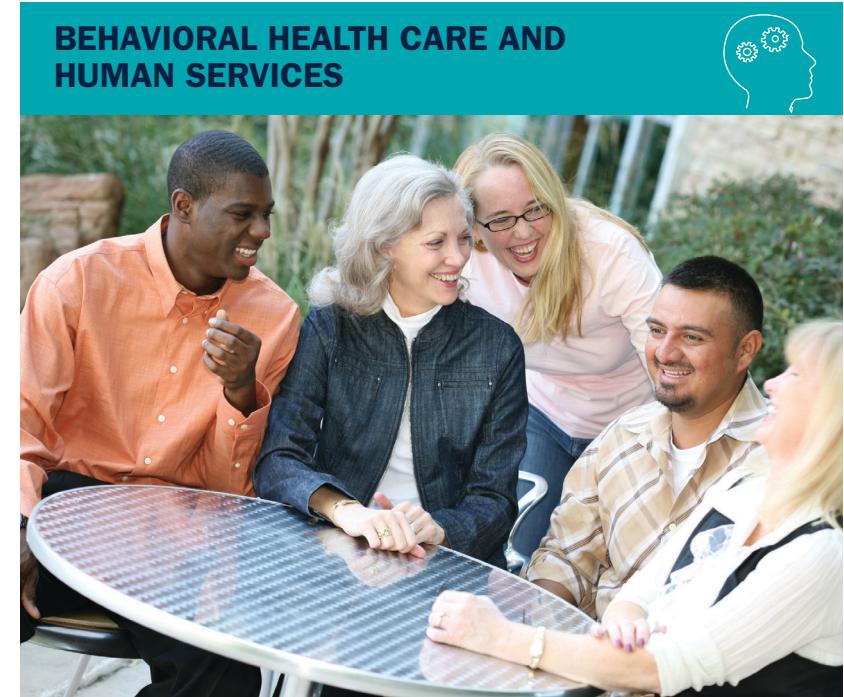
behavioral health care and human services organizations are Joint Commission-accredited

We accredit all levels of care from telehealth and in-home services to outpatient and residential programs, including:

- Addiction Treatment Programs and Services
- Child Welfare/Human Services Programs
- Eating Disorders Treatment
- Mental Health Services
- Outdoor/Wilderness Programs
- Services for the Intellectually or Developmentally Disabled

Certifications:

- Behavioral Health Home



Home Care

**Since 1988
over 5,200
home care organizations
are Joint Commission-
accredited**

Settings:

- Home Health
- Hospice
- Personal Care & Support
- Durable Medical Equipment (DMEPOS)
- Pharmacy

Certifications:

- Community-Based Palliative Care



Laboratory

**Since 1979
over 1,500
laboratories are
Joint Commission-
accredited**

Settings:

- Hospital
- Reference and Stand-alone
- Point-of-Care Testing Sites
- In Vitro Fertilization (IVF)
- Physician Office
- Ambulatory Care
- Anatomic Pathology
- Toxicology





Hospital & Critical Access Hospital

**Since 1953
over 4,000
hospitals are Joint
Commission-accredited**

Settings:

- General
- Children
- Long Term Acute Care (LTACH)
- Oncology
- Psychiatric
- Rehabilitation
- Specialty (Cardiac, Orthopedic, Surgical)

**Since 2001
over 350
critical access hospitals are
Joint Commission-accredited**

Certifications:

- Integrated Care
- Primary Care Medical Home
- Patient Blood Management

Nursing Care Center

**Since 1966
over 1,000
nursing care centers are
Joint Commission-accredited**

Settings:

- Skilled Nursing Facilities
- Nursing Homes
- Group Homes
- Transitional Living Facilities

Certifications:

- Memory Care
- Post-Acute Care
- Disease-Specific Care



Office-Based Surgery

**Since 2001
over 250
office-based surgery practices
are Joint Commission-accredited**

Settings:

- Physician-owned or physician-operated surgical practices that conduct invasive procedures



Certification



Disease-Specific Care
Since 2002
nearly 3,500
disease-specific care programs are
Joint Commission-certified

Advanced Levels of Certification:

- Cardiac
 - Acute Heart Attack Ready
 - Primary Heart Attack Center
 - Comprehensive Cardiac Center
 - Heart Failure
- Orthopedic
 - Spine Surgery
 - Total Hip and Knee Replacement
- Stroke
 - Acute Stroke Ready Hospital
 - Primary Stroke Center
 - Comprehensive Stroke Center
 - Thrombectomy-Capable Stroke Center
- Inpatient Diabetes
- Palliative Care
- Perinatal Care

Certification is offered in additional areas including Health Care Staffing Services (HCSS) and Palliative Care.



Just a Few Examples of the Benefits of Payor Reliance on The Joint Commission

Accreditation/Certification = Better Organizational Performance

Home Health Agency Performance

Joint Commission-accredited home health agencies perform better than non-accredited agencies in 14 quality measures reported in the CMS Home Health Compare dataset.

Fewer ER Visits & Readmissions

Joint Commission-accredited providers have fewer patients that need unplanned emergency care* or had to be admitted to the hospital**

* Accredited 10.54 vs. non-accredited 12.31 p<.00001

** Accredited 14.33 vs. non-accredited 15.34 p<.00001

Improvement in Patient Mobility

Patients from accredited agencies reported less pain when moving around* and improved capabilities when walking and moving around**

* Accredited 72.69 vs. non-accredited 64.01 p<.00001

** Accredited 62.25 vs. non-accredited 59.73 p<.00001

Primary Stroke Centers (PSC) Performance

A study conducted from 2004-2009 identified patients treated at a Joint Commission-certified PSC are more likely to receive rt-PA than those treated at noncertified hospitals.*

* In 2004, the proportion of patients receiving rt-PA was 3.1% overall: 2.2% at non-PSCs and 6.7% at Joint Commission PSCs. Between 2004 and 2009 the annual percentage of rt-PA administration increased from 1.4% to 3.3% at non-PSCs and 6.0% to 7.6% at PSCs.

Skilled Nursing Facility Performance

Joint Commission-accredited skilled nursing facilities perform better than non-accredited facilities in 9 CMS Nursing Home Compare quality measures.

Reduced Falls

Long stay residents in Joint Commission-accredited facilities experienced less falls with major injury*

* Accredited 2.7961 vs. non-accredited 3.2299 p<.00001

Reported Pain Levels

Both long stay* and short stay** residents from accredited facilities self-reported experiencing less moderate to severe pain**

* Accredited 5.899 vs. non-accredited 7.6653 p<.00001

** Accredited 17.1439 vs. non-accredited 18.609 p<.00005

Pressure Ulcers

Short stay residents from accredited facilities have fewer instances of new or worsened pressure ulcers*

* Accredited 0.8439 vs. non-accredited 0.9793 p<.000015

Hospital Performance

In a 2008 study, Joint Commission-accredited hospitals outperformed non-accredited hospitals on nationally standardized quality measures of AMI, heart failure, and pneumonia. Accredited hospitals were significantly more likely to have high performance (over 90%) in 13 of 16 standardized clinical performance measures and all summary scores.*

* Composite AMI score: Non-accredited 80.5 vs. Accredited 88.2 p<0.001

Composite heart failure score: Non-accredited 38.2 vs. Accredited 61.5 p<0.001

Composite pneumonia score: Non-accredited 69.3 vs. Accredited 85.3 p<0.001

Overall Composite: Non-accredited 69.0 vs. Accredited 83.8 p<0.001

The Gold Standard

Joint Commission allows consumers the opportunity to search for accredited and certified organizations on its *Quality Check*® website, www.qualitycheck.org. It includes the information outlined below about each organization's performance.

- The date of the most recent, full onsite survey
- The organization's current accreditation decision
- The date of the most recent onsite evaluation of the organization, if not a full survey
- Accreditation history
- Sites and services included in the accreditation survey
- Disease-specific care certification(s) and the effective date of each certification
- Standards areas with requirements for improvement (RFIs) related to an organization that has an adverse accreditation decision
- The receipt of special quality recognition awards, as recognized by the Board of Commissioners
- Compliance with *National Patient Safety Goal*® requirements

Note: The Joint Commission will provide verification of accreditation and certification to payors as requested.





For more information about Joint Commission accreditation and certification and how our organizations might collaborate, please contact:

Payor Relations
The Joint Commission
One Renaissance Blvd.
Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois 60181
Payor_Relations@jointcommission.org
Phone: 630-792-5295