The Joint Commission Difference

Unique Benefits for Joint Commission Customers:

- Assigned **account executive** to guide you through the entire accreditation process
- Access to electronic standards manual, **E-dition**
- Preferred access to **Standards Interpretation Group** for help on standards compliance questions
- **Personalized web account** to manage your application, account, and receive updates from The Joint Commission
- Survey **summation report** delivered on-site, the last day of survey
- **Publicity kit** and listing on Joint Commission web site, **Quality Check**® to assist with promoting your achievement
- The **Intracycle Monitoring process** to help organizations maintain peak performance throughout the three-year cycle of accreditation, including dedicated one-on-one sessions with Joint Commission staff
- **Targeted Solutions Tool**™ to identify and analyze specific breakdowns in care and provide solutions to solve these problems
- **Leading Practice Library** to review/submit leading performance improvement practices in the ambulatory care field
- **Standards BoosterPak**™ to provide detailed information about a single standard or topic area that has generated multiple inquiries or consistently is met with a high volume of non-compliance, in order to improve the understanding and consistency of standard interpretation
- **Perspectives** newsletter for changes to accreditation standards, requirements, and Joint Commission initiatives

“After a difficult experience trying to get coherent information on accreditation from another organization, I was pleasantly surprised by the quick call-backs, gracious service, and expedited process The Joint Commission provided. Our survey was such a positive experience that I actually look forward to future feedback and communication.”

**Alex Rothschild, MS, CMPE**
Administrator
**Garden State Surgical Center, LLC**
**Fair Lawn, NJ**

Joint Commission Accreditation for Ambulatory Care Organizations

- Ambulatory Surgery
- Community Health
- Convenient Care
- Correctional Health
- Diagnostic Imaging
- Dialysis/Kidney Care
- Medical Group Practice
- Military Clinic
- Mobile Imaging
- Office-Based Surgery
- Pain Clinic
- Sleep Testing
- Tele-Health
- Urgent Care
- Worksite/Occupational Health
What is Accreditation?
Joint Commission accreditation evaluates the operational systems critical to the safety and quality of patient care. Surveyors perform an on-site review to assess compliance with standards, but also to provide education and guidance to help staff continuously improve performance.

Raising the Bar - Why Accreditation

- Distinguishes you from the competition
- Proves to staff, patients, and community your commitment to safe, quality care for your patients
- Assists recognition from insurers, payers, and other third parties
- Standardizes delivery of care
- Validates quality of care
- Enhances staff education
- Focuses performances improvement
- Reduces risk

The Gold Standard - Why Joint Commission Accreditation
Established in 1975, today, the Ambulatory Health Care Accreditation Program accredits over 2,100 organizations in a variety of ambulatory care settings. In addition to being recognized as the most comprehensive evaluation process in the health care industry, Joint Commission accreditation is also distinguished for its:

Experienced surveyors - Joint Commission ambulatory care surveyors are unique in two ways: their understanding of the day-to-day issues that confront ambulatory care organizations and their hands-on expertise to help resolve those issues. Not only are surveyors experienced in ambulatory care settings, they are employees, not volunteers that average 4 surveys a month and undergo annual training to ensure a consistent, thorough survey.

Collaborative Review – In combination with its nationally-recognized standards for ambulatory care, the unique on-site “tracer” process engages both patients and staff, allowing organizations to show how they meet the standards beyond policies and procedures.

Customer Service – Joint Commission staff and resources are second to none.

Efficiencies in processes - Whether you have one or multiple sites, you complete only one application and undergo one survey.

Customization - The Joint Commission organizes a surveyor, or team of surveyors, to match an organization’s needs and unique characteristics.

Flexibility – The non-prescriptive nature of the standards allows organizations to dictate how they meet ambulatory care requirements.

Help is Here

Resources to prepare you for accreditation

Accreditation Overview – A general review of Joint Commission survey process, preparation tools and resources
Pricing Worksheets – Calculates general cost of accreditation
E-dition Trial Version – Free, 90-day access to the electronic standards manual
Free webinar on “Basics of Accreditation” – Free, 20-minute overview of complete accreditation process with Q&A
Survey Activity Guide – Details the components of on-site visit with tools such as Sample Survey Agenda and Document List

Toolkit for New Accreditation Professionals – Electronic toolkit covers “need-to-know” accreditation and compliance material for beginners. Here you’ll find more than 50 tools to download and customize—from checklists to tracer worksheets to staff education materials.

Supplemental Educational Opportunities – Several fee-based tools to help you prepare for and maintain accreditation such as: seminars, conferences, online webinars, manuals, consultation services, and newsletters

Accreditation Options

Early Survey Option - For organizations not actively caring for patients, but needing to provide evidence (to payers, state and/or federal regulators) of their intent to obtain ‘full’ accreditation.

System Accreditation - Grants a single accreditation decision to a large organization via a sampling of sites,

Additional Options - Deemed Status Surveys for Surgery Centers Seeking Medicare Reimbursement, Primary Care Medical Home Certification, Advanced Diagnostic Imaging Certification, Tailoring Options for Organizations Offering Multiple Disciplines (i.e., Ambulatory Care, Behavioral Health Care, Laboratory, etc.

Get Started Here

Call: 630-792-5286
Email: AHCquality@jointcommission.org.
Website: www.jointcommission.org/AHCProgram
You can also find us at: Twitter LinkedIn