



Curriculum Documentation and COVID-19

Given COVID-19's impact on curriculum content, learning and assessment design, and faculty and students, the priority for schools has rightly been aimed to preserve public health and ensure student transition to remote learning where necessary. At the same time, it is important to chronical the changes made to curriculum this year, both for individual schools and collectively. Schools may need a historic record of which learning content or assessments were delivered remotely, and this data will help us understand and share how medical school curriculum has been impacted by COVID-19.

To help balance school's efforts to deliver curriculum remotely and document curriculum change, here are several adjustments the AAMC Curriculum Inventory (CI) would like to share:

- All invited M.D. schools will be granted an extension through Friday, October 23, 2020. The CI upload period will begin as usual on August 1, 2020. Normally the CI Portal would close on September 30; this extension gives another three weeks to upload data. Because the CI collects curriculum data from the previous academic year, by next November schools will be almost half-way through their current curricular year, and so ending the CI upload by October 23 will help schools to focus on their current academic year.
- The AAMC CI upload will be available with normal operations from August 1-October 23, 2020. We understand that some schools have accreditation visits or documentation due, are amid curricular change or benchmarking, or depend on their curriculum inventories for regular program evaluation. For all schools who need the AAMC CI upload to operate as usual, it will be available for you.
- To document how your curriculum changed this year, keep a list of all the curricular change your school has made due to COVID-19. AAMC will be collecting this information via survey. If you are able, document in your CI which sessions were changed using the optional "keyword" field of the CI standards. Documenting curriculum change through keywords is not required, but if you are trying to document curriculum change due to COVID-19 in your CI, we recommend following the following principles. Your keyword data shared will be in Table 9 of your Verification Report 2020.
 - 1. For each session or event delivered remotely due to COVID-19, we recommend entering "COVID-19 Remote" in the keyword field. In this way, whatever the instructional or assessment methods (e.g., lecture, simulation, ward rounds), the fact that they were delivered remotely will be documented.



- 2. For sessions that were altered in some other way due to COVID-19, we recommend entering "COVID-19 Altered" in the keyword field. Examples of how a session could have been altered due to COVID-19, aside from being delivered remotely, include:
 - Some of the learning objectives originally planned for a session were delayed due to COVID-19, so for this year, this session's learning content will look different compared to last year.
 - Fewer students were scheduled at the Simulation Center to comply with social distancing, so the schedule and room usage for this simulation session was different compared to last year.
- Focus your CI submission to keep the task as efficient as possible. For benchmarking purposes, this is going to be a challenging year of data collection. During the August 1-October 23, 2020 CI data collection period, please only share accurate data with AAMC. If your school chooses not to document any curriculum change due to COVID-19 in the Spring 2020 semester, please only submit your Fall 2019 semester as only the Fall 2019 content will be accurate in your CI submission. Please keep a list of curriculum changes you are unable to submit through your CI; we will collect that information via survey.
- Participation from August 1 October 23, 2020 is voluntary. Participation in the AAMC CI is always voluntary, though very strongly encouraged as the data set is critical to AAMC's mission. If schools need this summertime to plan to deliver their fall 2020 semester remotely, we understand if schools need to take this year off. As your institution decides whether to hold fall 2020 curriculum remotely, please notify ci@aamc.org.

While taking a year off from curriculum documentation may be tempting as it is time-consuming and there are always demands for time and resources, please consider the reasons you document your curriculum with the AAMC CI:

- It may be important to document what curricular content was delivered remotely or differently, so that any differences in cohorts, especially around assessments, can be resolved, and ultimately all graduating students receive the required content of the program.
- We all collectively have one chance now to document how schools responded to COVID-19 and how curriculum adjusted. You may want a historical record for these circumstances which have been unprecedented in our lifetimes.
- AAMC uses CI data to support its efforts in advocacy when responding to media or legislative inquiries. AAMC needs data about how curriculum changed over the last few months to support, defend, and disseminate information.





 Participation in the CI gives schools access to the Verification Report with several new enhancements for 2020, the Accreditation Support Report (new for 2020), and national aggregate curriculum reports for benchmarking.

As always, if you have questions or suggestions, please feel free to reach out to ci@aamc.org.

Onward!

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