The Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) is the accrediting authority for all medical schools in the United States and Canada. The voluntary, peer-reviewed process occurs every 8 years and is jointly sponsored by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and the American Medical Association (AMA). As part of the accreditation process, medical schools are evaluated on 12 standards consisting of 93 elements. The four components of the accreditation process are: Data Collection Instrument (DCI), Faculty-led Institutional Self Study, Student-led Independent Student Analysis (ISA), and the Site Survey Visit.

**WHAT IS THE LCME?**

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**TIMELINE**

2021
- Review all standards/element
- Implement Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Projects

2022
- Implementation of Process Improvement Plans (PIPs)
- DCI Developer & ISA Town Halls
- DCI Compilation

2023
- Faculty Town Hall
- ISA Completion
- DCI Draft Review
- DCI to Committees for Review
- Implementation of additional PIPs
- Additional Data Collection
- Finalize Required Submissions

2024
- Submission of Survey Package
- Mock Site Visit
- Site Survey Visit (April 14-17, 2024)
- Final report from LCME

**KEY ACCREDITATION COMPONENTS**

- **Data Collection Instrument (DCI)** - Compilation of data in tables, narrative responses, and supporting documentation for the 12 standards and 93 elements within each standard, required for accreditation. The DCI and required appendix items, due 3 months prior to the site visit, could exceed 1000+ pages of data.

- **Institutional Self Study (ISS)** - Period of evaluative review in which faculty, staff, and students from academic and administrative departments, contribute to and support medical education while evaluating their medical education program.

- **Independent Student Analysis (ISA)** - Student managed survey which provides the opportunity to objectively and independently evaluate, comment, and critique the medical education program. Includes required LCME questions and allows for additional climate survey items developed by the ISA student committee.

- **Site Survey Visit** - Visit of survey team appointed by the LCME from a pool of experienced and knowledgeable administrators, faculty, and members of the medical education community. During the visit, the team will meet with the Dean and Senior Vice Dean for Medical Education as well as other administrative leaders, department chairs, clerkship directors, faculty, residents and students.

**Questions??** For more information please email us at PSOM-LCME@pennmedicine.upenn.edu or visit our accreditation website here.