



**Policy Title:** ACAOM Integrity in the Accreditation Process Policy

**Approved By:** ACAOM Executive Committee

**Document History:** Implementation Date: 25 May 2017

Last Updated:

**Related Policies:** [ACAOM Code of Conduct and Professional Ethics Policy](#); *ACAOM Eligibility Requirements*; *ACAOM Standards and Criteria for Accreditation*

**References:** 34 CFR Part 602; 20 U.S. Code § 1099(b)

**Responsible Official:** ACAOM Executive Director

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**Policy Summary:** This guidance outlines the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine's (ACAOM or Commission) integrity expectations.

**The Principles of Integrity**

ACAOM expects and requires that its representatives (i.e., Commissioners, staff, site visitors, contractors, etc.), and programs/institutions of acupuncture and Oriental medicine (AOM) meet the highest standards of ethics and professional integrity in their dealings with, and/or on behalf of, the Commission and the accreditation process.

- A. ACAOM representatives and its AOM programs/institutions are expected to comply with Commission requirements, policies, procedures, guidelines, self-study requirements, decisions, and requests.
- B. In the accreditation process, ACAOM representatives and AOM programs/institutions shall be completely honest and candid, and shall provide the Commission all pertinent information. Subject to legal rights of privacy, AOM programs/institutions shall provide the Commission with access to all parts of their operations, with complete and accurate information about its affairs, including reports and actions of other accrediting, regulatory and auditing agencies. AOM programs/institutions shall cooperate fully with the Commission in preparation for visits, the identification and selection of site visitors, and they shall timely comply with the Commission's requests for acceptable reports.
- C. Additionally, ACAOM representatives are also subject to [ACAOM's Code of Professional Ethics Policy](#), and shall be ethical, civil, polite, and professional in all dealings with the Commission, its stakeholders, regulatory bodies, and legal authorities.

**Breaches of Integrity**

Failure to report honestly by presenting false information, by omission of essential information, or by distortion of information with the intent to mislead, constitutes a breach of integrity in and of itself. If it appears to the Commission that an ACAOM representative or AOM program/institution has violated the principles of integrity by conduct, or in any reports or materials submitted to the Commission, or in any other manner that requires Commission attention, the Commission will conduct an investigation. The accused will be offered an opportunity to respond to alleged violations. Evidence of violation of the principles of integrity may affect the ACAOM representative's or AOM program's/institution's relationship or status with the Commission.

**Revision History**

Date Revised	Summary of Revisions	Approved By
170525	Refreshed, Revised and Reformatted; related hyperlinks added	ACAOM Executive Director