In response to a Council of Colleges for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (CCAOM) letter dated 18 April 2020, the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (ACAOM or Commission) appointed an ad hoc committee of Commissioners to review the letter and make recommendations for full Commission consideration and action. The full Commission’s actions follow:

1. **EMERGENCY WAIVER LIMITATIONS, BY PROGRAM, FOR CLINICAL TRAINING**
   The following guidance replaces and supersedes previous Commission guidance around COVID-19 pandemic emergency waiver clinical hour requirements.

<table>
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<th>Programs</th>
<th>Revised Clinical Hour Requirements</th>
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| Entry-level programs in acupuncture: M.Ac, Dipl.Ac, PD acupuncture-only  | • Students must complete at least 75 hours of ACAOM’s total 150 hour clinic observation requirement live and in-person.  
• Students must complete at least 320 hours of ACAOM’s total 500 hour clinical internship requirement live and in-person. |
| Entry level programs in acupuncture with a specialization in Chinese herbal medicine: MOM, Dipl.OM, PD with CHM | • Students must complete at least 75 hours of ACAOM’s total 150 hour clinic observation requirement live and in-person.  
• Students must complete at least 450 hours of ACAOM’s total 700 hour clinical internship requirement live and in-person. |
| Certificate programs in Chinese herbal medicine                          | • Students must complete at least 135 hours of ACAOM’s total 210 hour clinical internship requirement live and in-person. |
| Advanced practice doctoral programs: DAOM                                | • Students must complete at least 130 hours of ACAOM’s clinical internship requirement live and in-person |

2. **INTERN/PATIENT RATIO CLARIFICATION**
   ACAOM accreditation standards do not prescribe an intern/patient ratio for patient contacts. However, programs must document and be able to justify any supervisor/intern/patient ratios adopted and produce evaluation evidence demonstrating effectiveness of the adopted ratios.

3. **DURATION OF EMERGENCY WAIVERS**
   Effective immediately, all currently issued emergency distance education waivers supporting both didactic and clinical training will end on the last day of the program/institution’s academic term in progress on 1 June 2020. The Commission understands that term end dates will vary by program/institution but expects they likely will fall between mid-June and late August 2020, depending upon academic calendars.

4. **FUTURE REPORTING**
   All schools participating in the emergency waiver process for either didactic or clinical training will be required to submit a supplemental information report (specific components to be determined) within 90 days of the conclusion of instruction occurring under emergency waiver. The report must include documentation demonstrating that students were successful in achieving all required competencies. These reports will be analyzed to improve future emergency planning processes and to determine if changes may be warranted to ACAOM’s accreditation standards, policies or procedures.