

## What does it mean to become CAAHEP accredited?

All CAAHEP accredited programs must go through a rigorous process to assess the quality of the program and its compliance with the Standards.

- Programs submit a self-study, analyzing how well the program adheres to the Standards.
- A site review is conducted, where a team of reviewers determines how well the self-study reflects the status of the program.
- That profession's specific committee on accreditation reviews the report from the site reviews and develops a recommendation.
- The recommendation is sent to the CAAHEP Board of Directors for final action.

CAAHEP accredits programs in more than 20 different allied health care professions. To find an accredited program near you, visit the CAAHEP website: [www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org).

**Commission on Accreditation of Allied  
Health Education Programs**  
1361 Park Street  
Clearwater, FL 33756



## What is CAAHEP Accreditation... and why should I care?





“Employers in our community know we are training our students to CAAHEP Standards, and that makes our students the most in demand group of graduates in our area.”

- From a Program Director of a CAAHEP-accredited program

## What is CAAHEP Accreditation?

Accreditation is an effort to assess the quality of institutions, programs, and services, measuring them against accepted quality standards. The accreditation process is designed to evaluate and ensure that these standards are met.

Programmatic (or specialized) accreditation examines specific programs within an educational institution (e.g., the diagnostic medical sonography program or the surgical technology program). That’s what CAAHEP does – reviews individual education programs to make sure they meet the standards of the profession. The CAAHEP standards by which these programs are measured have been developed primarily by the professionals involved in each discipline, are approved by each profession, and are intended to reflect required knowledge and skills that a person needs to be able to successfully function within that profession. CAAHEP Standards focus on quality outcomes, assuring that educational programs are preparing competent entry-level health care professionals.

That means that CAAHEP-accredited programs provide the educational foundation necessary to begin a successful career in many allied health professions.

CAAHEP is one of the largest specialized accrediting bodies, reviewing and accrediting more than 2,000 education programs in over 20 health related disciplines.

Accreditation in the health-related disciplines also serves a very important role for the public. Along with certification and licensure, accreditation helps to assure that health care personnel are well-prepared and qualified.

## Why Should You Care?

In many health care fields, graduating from a CAAHEP-accredited program is required in order to become certified or licensed. It is important to know the accreditation status of a program, as well as the certification or licensure requirements of the profession you are studying. With this knowledge, you can be sure to enroll in a program that allows you to seek certification or licensure upon graduation and keeps you moving forward in your career.

## CAAHEP

Quality - that is the mission of the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). Quality is what CAAHEP is all about. As each individual program is reviewed, CAAHEP stays focused on each profession’s Standards and quality outcomes to assure that every CAAHEP accredited program is preparing students to be successful as they enter their chosen health care field.

CAAHEP currently accredits programs in the following professions: Anesthesiologist Assistant; Cardiovascular Technologist; Cytotechnologist; Diagnostic Medical Sonographer; Emergency Medical Services Personnel; Exercise Physiologist (Clinical & Applied); Exercise Science Professional; Kinesiotherapist; Medical Assistant; Medical Illustrator; Neurodiagnostic Technologist; Orthotist and Prosthetist; Perfusionist; Personal Fitness Trainer; Polysomnographic Technologist; Recreational Therapist; Specialist in Blood Banking Technology; Surgical Assistant; and, Surgical Technologist. CAAHEP is working toward accrediting programs in the following professions: Advanced Cardiovascular Sonographer; Anesthesia Technologist; Clinical Research Professional; Intraoperative Neurophysiologic Monitoring; Lactation Consultant; and Orthotic and Prosthetic Technician.

## Contact Us

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