

# Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs in Retina

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# INTRODUCTION

The *Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence (AFC) Programs in Retina* are a national set of standards maintained by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada for the evaluation and accreditation of Retina AFC programs. The standards aim to provide an interpretation of the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs* as they relate to the accreditation of AFC programs in Retina, and to ensure these programs adequately prepare AFC trainees to meet the health care needs of their patient population(s) upon completion of training.

The standards include requirements applicable to AFC programs and learning sites and have been written in alignment with the standards organization framework used in the general standards that aims to provide clarity of expectations, while maintaining flexibility for innovation.

These standards are intended to be read in conjunction with the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs*, as well as the discipline-specific documents for Retina. In instances where the indicators reflected in the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs* have been modified within this document to reflect a discipline-specific expectation, the indicator as reflected in this document takes precedence.

# STANDARDS

## DOMAIN: PROGRAM ORGANIZATION

The *Program Organization* domain includes standards focused on the structural and functional aspects of the AFC program, which support and provide structure to meet the general and discipline-specific standards of accreditation for AFC programs.

### **STANDARD 1: There is an appropriate organizational structure, with leadership and administrative personnel to support the AFC program, teachers, and trainees effectively.**

Refer to Standard 1 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs*.

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## DOMAIN: EDUCATION PROGRAM

The *Education Program* domain includes standards focused on the planning, design, and delivery of the AFC program, with the overarching outcome to ensure that the AFC program prepares trainees to be competent for practice in the discipline.

### **STANDARD 2: Trainees are prepared for independent practice in the AFC discipline.**

Refer to Standard 2 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs* in addition to the indicators detailed below.

#### **Element 2.2: There is an effective, organized system of trainee assessment.**

<b>Requirement(s)</b>	<b>Indicator(s)</b>
<b>2.2.1:</b> The AFC program has a planned, defined, and implemented system of assessment.	<b>2.2.1.4:</b> The assessment process within the program meets the requirements of the <i>Competency Portfolio for the Diploma in Retina</i> . <b>2.2.1.5:</b> The system of assessment includes a regular review of the AFC trainee's logbook of procedures and portfolio.
<b>2.2.2:</b> There is a mechanism in place to engage trainees in a regular discussion for review of their performance, including timely support for trainees not attaining the required competencies as expected.	<b>2.2.2.7:</b> The AFC director meets with the trainee at least every three months to review the logbook of procedures and portfolio.

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## **DOMAIN: RESOURCES**

The *Resources* domain includes standards focused on ensuring that the AFC program's clinical, physical, technical, financial, and human resources are sufficient for the delivery of the education program and, ultimately, to prepare trainees for practice in the discipline.

### **STANDARD 3: The delivery and administration of the AFC program is supported by appropriate resources.**

Refer to Standard 3 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs* in addition to the indicators detailed below.

#### **Element 3.1: The AFC program has the clinical, physical, technical, and financial resources to provide all trainees with the educational experiences needed to acquire all competencies.**

<b>Requirement(s)</b>	<b>Indicator(s)</b>
<b>3.1.1:</b> The patient population is adequate to ensure that trainees attain required competencies.	<b>3.1.1.2:</b> [Modified]: The AFC program consistently provides access for all trainees to the volume and diversity of patients appropriate to Retina, including the full spectrum of acuity and diseases of the posterior segment of the eye.
<b>3.1.2:</b> Clinical and consultative services and facilities are effectively organized and adequate to ensure that trainees attain the required competencies.	<b>3.1.2.5:</b> The AFC program has access to clinic, inpatient ward, and emergency department facilities for the assessment and management of patients with diseases of the posterior segment of the eye. <b>3.1.2.6:</b> The AFC program has access to posterior segment imaging technology, including: optical coherence tomography (OCT); fluorescein, indocyanine green, and OCT angiography; fundus autofluorescence; visual field testing; and ocular ultrasound. <b>3.1.2.7:</b> The AFC program has access to an operating room with all necessary procedural equipment for procedures on the posterior segment of the eye.
<b>3.1.3:</b> The AFC program has the necessary financial, physical, and technical resources.	<b>3.1.3.5 [Exemplary]:</b> <i>The AFC program has access to resources for simulation-based educational experiences.</i>
<b>3.1.4:</b> There is appropriate liaison with other programs and teaching services to ensure that trainees experience the breadth of the discipline.	<b>3.1.4.2:</b> The AFC program has access to the following services: anesthesiology, dermatology, endocrinology, genetics, internal medicine, medical imaging, medical oncology, neonatal-perinatal medicine, neurology, ophthalmology, otolaryngology-head and neck surgery, pathology, pediatrics, plastic surgery, radiation oncology, and rheumatology.

### **Element 3.2: The AFC program has the appropriate human resources to provide all trainees with the required educational experiences.**

<b>Requirement(s)</b>	<b>Indicator(s)</b>
<b>3.2.1:</b> Teachers appropriately implement the curriculum, supervise and assess trainees, contribute to the program, and role model effective practice.	<b>3.2.1.1</b> [Modified]: The number, credentials, competencies, and scope of practice of the teachers are adequate to provide the breadth and depth of the discipline, including required clinical and academic teaching that encompasses the basic and clinical sciences related to Retina; appropriate research; and assessment of and feedback to trainees. <b>3.2.1.2</b> [Modified]: The number, credentials, competencies, and scope of practice of the teachers are sufficient to supervise trainees at all levels and in all aspects of Retina, and in all learning environments, including when trainees are on call. <b>3.2.1.4:</b> The AFC director has Royal College certification in Ophthalmology or equivalent, is a member of the Canadian Retina Society, and has been in practice for at least one year. <b>3.2.1.5:</b> The AFC program includes at least three teachers with competency in retinal surgery and with membership in the Canadian Retina Society.

## **DOMAIN: LEARNERS, TEACHERS, AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL**

The *Learners, Teachers, and Administrative Personnel* domain includes standards focused on safety, wellness, and support for learners and teachers.

### **STANDARD 4: Safety and wellness are promoted throughout the learning environment.**

Refer to Standard 4 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs* in addition to the indicators below.

#### **Element 4.1: The safety and wellness of patients and trainees is promoted.**

<b>Requirement(s)</b>	<b>Indicator(s)</b>
<b>4.1.2:</b> AFC education occurs in a safety-conscious learning environment.	<b>4.1.2.6:</b> Laser safety equipment and facilities are used appropriately to ensure safety for the operator, staff, and patient.

### **STANDARD 5: Trainees are treated fairly throughout their progression through the AFC program.**

Refer to Standard 5 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs*.

## **STANDARD 6: Teachers effectively deliver and support all aspects of the AFC program.**

Refer to Standard 6 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs*.

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### **DOMAIN: CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT**

The *Continuous Improvement* domain includes standards focused on ensuring a systematic approach to the evaluation and improvement of the AFC program.

## **STANDARD 7: There is continuous improvement of the educational experiences to improve the AFC program and ensure trainees are prepared for independent practice in the discipline.**

Refer to Standard 7 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs*.

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