



CoA-END Newsletter

June 2007

Message from the Chair, Janet Ghigo, R.EEG/EP T. _____

Greetings to all you hard-working providers of education for END technologists. This is the first issue of a Newsletter from the CoA-END that we hope will keep you all up to date on both CoA and CAAHEP activities.

As you have all noticed, there have been some dramatic changes in the past few years. We have a new Executive Director, Theresa Sisneros, whose extensive experience in CAAHEP accreditation I hope will be of great help to you all. We are really trying to make the entire process easier for everyone, while not ignoring our responsibility to students and the public. One of Theresa's first acts was to establish a Web site specifically for communication with this CoA, www.coa-end.org. I encourage all of you to visit this site; please let me and/or Theresa know what else would be helpful to have on the site. Another dramatic change is the new annual report form. I want to personally thank you all for suddenly switching gears and submitting your reports on this form. More information on this is in the article on the Excel annual report. Again, we are all learning together, and this electronic report will help move us more securely into outcomes assessment. We are negotiating with ASET to provide a conference call tutorial about these forms. What would be most useful to you?

We meet yearly, but have at least five other meetings by conference call. This gives us more flexibility in reviewing Self-Study Reports and Site Visitor Reports as well as keeping up with other accreditation actions in a timely manner. These frequent discussions allow us to address any of your issues quickly. Thank you for the work you do; we hope to work with you all to make your voluntary accreditation review as painless (and maybe useful) as possible.

CoA-END Website _____

The CoA-END has a new website! Please visit www.coa-end.org for information about the Committee and accreditation, including a new document outlining the accreditation process. Suggestions for inclusion of other information are welcome – just contact the CoA-END office!

Standards and Guidelines Revision _____

The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) requires all Committees on Accreditation (CoA) to review their Standards at least every five years. The CoA-END has begun the review and revision process, which includes the following steps:

1. Over the next several months, the CoA-END will be working on progressive drafts of the Standards, which will be reviewed by CAAHEP's Standards Committee.
2. Once a final draft is complete, it will be distributed to program directors and sponsoring organizations for review and comment by the communities of interest.
3. The CoA-END will consider feedback received and make further revisions, as appropriate.
4. The CoA-END will forward to CAAHEP a final copy of the proposed Standards, along with the formal endorsement of each of the CoA-END's sponsoring organizations.
5. CAAHEP will hold a public open hearing on the proposed Standards and will provide at least thirty (30) days notice of the public open hearing to appropriate communities of interest.
6. Immediately following the open hearing, the CAAHEP Standards Committee will assess testimony and comments, and forward a recommendation to CAAHEP's Board of Directors.
7. The CAAHEP Board of Directors will take action and notify the CoA-END of its decision.
8. Once the Standards are approved, programs will be notified and will be given one (1) year to come into compliance with new requirements.

The CoA-END hopes to complete this process and receive CAAHEP approval by January 2008.

To view the current draft of the proposed Standards, go to www.coa-end.org and click on "Standards Revision."

Don't hesitate to contact the CoA-END office with questions or comments!

Use of CAAHEP's Logo_____

CAAHEP recently approved a policy regarding the use of its logo by programs and sponsoring institutions. Information, including a copy of the logo, can be found on CAAHEP's website at www.caahep.org under "For Program Directors." Following is the policy:

The CAAHEP logo is the exclusive property of CAAHEP. However, CAAHEP allows accredited programs and their sponsoring institutions to use the CAAHEP logo in publications and displays. The following guidelines must be followed.

1. The logo must be used in its entirety and not modified except that it may be reduced or enlarged to suit the use, but the scale of elements should be retained.
2. It may be reproduced in black and white.
3. The logo may NOT be used by programs that have applied for, but not yet received accreditation.
4. When programs are included in the publication and/or display that are not accredited by CAAHEP then accompanying text must be included that makes it clear which programs are CAAHEP accredited.
5. Use of the logo shall be subject at all times to revocation and withdrawal by CAAHEP when, in its sole judgment, its continued use would not serve the best interests of CAAHEP or the public.

Excel Annual Reports_____

Thank you to all programs for submitting the 2006 Excel annual report! The CoA-END reviewed all reports at its April 14-15, 2007 meeting. As a result, several changes are being made to the report to help clarify requested information. A copy of the revised 2007 report form and accompanying instructions will be distributed to programs this Fall, with a due date of January 31, 2008.

Curriculum Changes Are Coming!_____

A committee has been working diligently to review and revise the graduate competencies in each specialty area of END. Once complete, there will be both introductory and detailed competencies for the areas of Evoked Potentials (EP), Intraoperative Neurophysiological Monitoring (IONM), Long Term Monitoring (LTM), Nerve Conduction Studies (NCS) and Polysomnography (PSG).

As part of the Standards revision, the CoA-END will be using the new learning outcomes as required curriculum. The basic END curriculum will include detailed EEG competencies, as well as the introductory competencies for EP, IONM, LTM, NCS, and PSG. Programs will have the option to add-on one or more of the specialty areas to the basic END program. Programs wishing to add-on an EP, IONM, LTM, NCS, and/or PSG component will be required to use the detailed competencies for each appropriate specialty.

***Please note that these changes will not go into effect until the Standards and Guidelines have been revised and approved by CAAHEP.

Graduate and Employer Surveys_____

All accredited END programs are required to use the standardized graduate and employer surveys. The surveys were recently revised to include CAAHEP's logo and statement stressing the importance of returning the survey to the program. Please use these revised surveys for all future distributions. Copies are available on the CoA-END website at www.coa-end.org.

Upcoming CoA-END Meetings_____

The CoA-END has set the following dates for conference call meetings (dates are subject to change):

July 17, 2007
September 18, 2007
November 20, 2007