

POLICY 323: Integrity for Advanced Practice Provider Programs

A sponsoring organization and/or advanced practice provider program shall demonstrate honesty and integrity in all disclosures to the ACEN and ARC-PA and its representatives, trainees, and the public. A sponsoring organization/advanced practice provider program in disclosing any information to the ACEN and ARC-PA and its representatives, trainees, and the public shall:

1. Disclose all voluntary, required, or requested information in a timely manner;
2. Fully, accurately, and straightforwardly disclose all voluntary, required, or requested information, including data, whether complimentary or otherwise; and
3. Comply with all the accreditation requirements, policies, guidelines, decisions, and requests.

The ACEN and ARC-PA jointly accredit advanced practice provider programs, not individuals. Therefore, any individual who reports to the ACEN and ARC-PA on behalf of a sponsoring organization/advanced practice provider program, either by virtue of his or her office (e.g., program administrator) or as delegated by the designated administrative officer of the sponsoring organization, obligates the sponsoring organization and advanced practice provider program in all matters regarding integrity. Additionally, to comply with the requirements for honesty and integrity, appropriate representatives (e.g., program administrator, designated administrative officer, etc.) of the sponsoring organization are obligated to review and ensure the honesty and integrity of the information disclosed.

With due regard for confidentiality, a sponsoring organization/advanced practice provider program applying for Candidacy or seeking joint initial or joint continuing accreditation shall provide the ACEN and ARC-PA and its representatives with unrestricted access to all aspects of its operations, including information about the sponsoring organization's/advanced practice provider program's affairs, including, but not limited to, reports of other accrediting, licensing, and auditing agencies.

If the ACEN and/or ARC-PA has reason to believe that a sponsoring organization/advanced practice provider program has breached this policy, the ACEN and ARC-PA will investigate and issue a report of its findings. The investigation will use an appropriate process. The sponsoring organization/advanced practice provider program will have the opportunity to respond to any alleged breach prior to imposing a sanction.

Presenting false, distorted, or incomplete information of any type, either through intent or through failure to exercise care and diligence, is considered a breach of this policy. Failure to respond appropriately to the ACEN and ARC-PA decisions and requests in a timely manner, or to make complete, accurate, and honest disclosure, is sufficient reason, in and of itself, for the imposition of a sanction.

Verified breaches may adversely affect the sponsoring organization's/advanced practice provider program's accreditation status with the ACEN and ARC-PA. Depending on the seriousness of the breach, sanctions by the ACEN Board of Commissioners and ARC-PA Commissioners may result in a letter of censure, being placed on contingent status, being denied joint continuing accreditation and being removed from the list of accredited advanced practice provider programs, or being denied joint initial accreditation. Only the decisions by the ACEN Board of Commissioners and ARC-PA Commissioners to deny joint initial accreditation or to deny joint continuing accreditation and remove a sponsoring organization/advanced practice provider program from the list of accredited advanced practice provider programs are appealable actions.

Policy 323 History

Initial Approval: ____ 2023