

Record of Complaints in CoA Periodic Review: Public Notice

The APA Commission on Accreditation (CoA) is recognized by the United States Department of Education (ED) and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). The APA's scope of recognition includes the accreditation in the United States of doctoral programs in health service psychology (i.e., clinical, counseling, and school psychology, combinations of two or more of these practice areas and other developed practice areas in health service psychology); doctoral internship programs in health service psychology; postdoctoral residency programs in health service psychology; and preaccreditation of doctoral internship programs in health service psychology and postdoctoral residency programs in health service psychology. As such the CoA's Standards must align with the recognition criteria of both the ED and the CHEA.

In order to comply with criteria established by external bodies that recognize accrediting agencies, the CoA requires programs keep all materials pertaining to any complaints/grievances filed against it to comply with CoA, institutional, state, and federal policies, whichever time-period is longest. To meet this requirement, the APA-CoA has clarified its related policies resulting in modifications to Implementing Regulations (IR) C-6 D, C-7 I, and C-7 P.

In accordance with the APA "Policies for Accreditation Governance" and the US Department of Education regulations for notice and comment, the CoA is providing additional information and is making the changes available for a 30-day period of public notice. On behalf of the CoA, thank you in advance for your review. Please contact the APA Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation with any questions or concerns. Address: 750 First Street, N.E., Washington, DC 20002-4242; Phone: (202) 336-5979; Email: apaaccred@apa.org; Web: <http://www.accreditation.apa.org/>

C-6 D. Record of Student Complaints in CoA Periodic Review
(formerly C-3; Commission on Accreditation, October 1998; revised November 2015, July 2021)

Standard III.B.2 of the *Standards of Accreditation* for doctoral programs addresses the need for accredited programs to recognize the rights of students to be treated with courtesy and respect, to inform them of the principles outlining ethical conduct of psychologists, and to ensure that they are aware of avenues of recourse should problems with regard to these principles arise.

In accordance with Standard III.B.2 of the *Standards of Accreditation* for doctoral programs, a program is responsible for keeping information and records of all formal complaints and grievances, of which it is aware, filed against the program and/or against individuals associated with the program since its last accreditation site visit. These records will be reviewed by the Commission on Accreditation (CoA) as part of its periodic review of programs.

The CoA expects a program to keep all materials pertaining to each of the complaints/grievances filed against it ~~during the aforementioned time period to comply with policies of the CoA, as well as institutional, state, and federal policies, whichever time-period is longest.~~ The site visitors shall review the full record of program materials on any or all of the filed complaints/grievances.

C-7 I. Record of Student Intern Complaints in CoA Periodic Review
(formerly C-3; Commission on Accreditation, October 1998; revised November 2015, July 2021)

Standard I.C.4 of the *Standards of Accreditation* for internship programs addresses the need for accredited programs to recognize the rights of interns to be treated with courtesy and respect, to inform them of the principles outlining ethical conduct of psychologists, and to ensure that they are aware of avenues of recourse should problems with regard to these principles arise.

In accordance with Standard I.C.4 of the internship *Standards of Accreditation*, a program is responsible for keeping information and records of all formal complaints and grievances, of which it is aware, filed against the program and/or against individuals associated with the program since its last accreditation site visit. These records will be reviewed by the Commission on Accreditation (CoA) as part of its periodic review of programs.

The CoA expects a program to keep all materials pertaining to each of the complaints/grievances filed against it during the aforementioned time period to comply with policies of the CoA, as well as institutional, state, and federal policies, whichever time-period is longest. The site visitors shall review the full record of program materials on any or all of the filed complaints/grievances.

C-7 P. Record of Resident Complaints in CoA Periodic Review
(formerly C-3; Commission on Accreditation, October 1998; revised November 2015, July 2021)

Standard I.D.2 of the *Standards of Accreditation* ~~SoA~~ addresses the need for accredited programs to recognize the rights of residents to be treated with courtesy and respect, to inform them of the principles outlining ethical conduct of psychologists, and to ensure that they are aware of avenues of recourse should problems with regard to these principles arise.

In accordance with Standard I.D.2 of the *Standards of Accreditation* for postdoctoral residency programs, a program is responsible for keeping information and records of all formal complaints and grievances, of which it is aware, filed against the program and/or against individuals associated with the program since its last accreditation site visit. These records will be reviewed by the Commission on Accreditation (CoA) as part of its periodic review of programs.

The CoA expects a program to keep all materials pertaining to each of the complaints/grievances filed against it ~~during the aforementioned time period to comply with policies of the CoA, as well as institutional, state, and federal policies, whichever time-period is longest.~~ The site visitors shall review the full record of program materials on any or all of the filed complaints/grievances.