Systems Integration
Accreditation Standards

2021 Standards Revisions

Systems Integration Standards and Criteria

Accreditation in the area of System Integration is limited to those Programs that demonstrate regular and recurring, intentional, bi-directional interaction with clinical partner(s) and expertise in the development, implementation, and validation of system improvement activities.

There are three types of programs that typically apply for accreditation in Systems Integration, listed below and specifically addressed in the criteria:
- Hospital Based: A simulation program situated within a hospital or health system.
- Stand Alone: A simulation program that is independent from, but works closely with a hospital or health system. This may include medical and nursing programs as examples.
- Other: A simulation program with direct application to healthcare, that uses various systems modeling and simulation to support the delivery of healthcare. Examples include: Engineering, Business, or Information Technology Programs

If there are questions on whether or not your Program meets the criteria for an organization that complies with Systems Integration, please contact the Director of Accreditation. The two sections of Systems Integration Standards are:

(1) Mission & Scope and (2) Integration Activities.

1. MISSION & SCOPE
    a. The Simulation Program's simulation activities are driven by the strategic needs of a clinical facility and/or healthcare system to improve the quality of healthcare.
        i. Describe and provide supporting documentation for how the Program links its system integration activities to the mission and/or vision, goals, and strategic planning.
        ii. Describe and provide supporting documentation for how the Program has been used as a resource by quality, patient safety, risk management, and/or similar groups for the improvement of healthcare systems in the past 24 months. This should include a demonstration of bi-directional feedback.
        iii. Document: Provide a letter (2 pages maximum) from organizational quality, patient safety, risk management, or comparable leadership group which supports the Program's role in achieving organizational quality, patient safety, and risk management and/or value goals.

2. SYSTEMS INTEGRATION ACTIVITIES
    a. The Simulation Program participates in organizational quality management system improvement activities, including measurement of outcomes for purposes of improvement.
        i. Describe and provide supporting documentation for three (3) examples of simulation activities used by the program that demonstrates the integration of the Simulation Program to facilitate quality, patient safety, risk management, organization improvement, and/or quality outcomes projects.
        ii. Describe and provide supporting documentation for a system or human factors engineering or other systematic approach used to solve or mitigate an organization-defined safety, quality, or value concern, including bi-directional accountability for the activity/project.
        iii. Describe and provide supporting documentation of reports provided to organizational leadership related to system-based initiatives that are impacted by simulation activities.
        iv. Describe and provide supporting documentation of ongoing evaluation of simulation-based systems integration programs.

b. The Simulation Program has clear evidence of participation by Simulation Program leadership in the design and processes of quality management system improvement activities at the organizational level.
   i. Document: Provide documentation of ongoing involvement of Simulation Program leadership in the design and process of performance improvement activities at the organizational level over the last 24 months.

c. The Simulation Program has access to appropriate qualified human factors, systems engineering, psychometric, informatics, and/or other appropriate support or resources.
   i. Describe and provide supporting documentation that the Program has access to appropriate qualified systems engineering, human factors, psychometric, informatics, and/or other appropriate support or resources for systems integration activities.