

COA Accreditation

A Service of Social Current



Why Accreditation?

Accreditation provides a framework to manage resources, offer best practices, and strive for continuous improvement. This supports an organization's sustainability, encourages its growth, and helps it to achieve measurable results.

- Accreditation is both a process and a credential
- The accreditation process is voluntary
- Only organizations, agencies, or programs can be accredited
- Accreditation signifies that an organization or program is effectively managing its resources and providing the best possible services

Over and over, COA Accreditation has helped organizations find **new direction** and take their services to a **higher level**.

More specifically, accreditation helps you to:



Support your staff



Deliver the highest quality services to your clients



Satisfy your board



Inspire confidence in donors and funders



Meet the needs of regulators

Who We Accredit

Our network of **more than 1,600 accredited organizations** includes:

- Canadian Organizations
- Private Organizations
- Child and Youth Development Programs
- Public Agencies

The COA Accreditation Difference



We look at the whole picture.

Our private organization accreditation covers the entire agency. We look at both an organization's programs and services as well as its administrative infrastructure, as both are critical to producing the best possible outcomes. We want to ensure that you have the internal support you need to best support your clients.

By making accreditation a whole-organization process, you help to ensure that everyone – from human resources to finance to direct care and clinical staff – is working together to carry out your mission. Everyone becomes invested in best practices, and everyone benefits from them.

We're powered by our community.

We strongly believe in grounding our process in our human and social services community. That is why we conduct our Site Visits and finalize accreditation decisions not with our staff, but with peer review volunteers. Our volunteers receive no compensation; they generously donate their time and talent and represent a pool of seasoned, skilled professionals in the field.

Our standards are field-driven.

Our standards are grounded in the belief that when organizations invest in strong management practices and understand and monitor the impact of their services, clients benefit. Our multi-stage standards development and vetting process involves a diverse set of experts and ongoing feedback from those in the field. This ensures that our standards remain rigorous yet practical, reflecting current trends and best practices. It is also why we make our standards available on our website for free.

We are with you every step of the way.

Your dedicated accreditation coordinator will be there throughout to answer any questions and to collaborate with you to tackle the process at a pace that works for your organization.

Our Approach

Collaborate

We work with you to identify the right standards and build out a timeline that fits your organization's needs.

Support

Provide feedback and resources throughout the process to help you stay on track and well-prepared for the review.

Validate

Review verifies the implementation of best practices and confirms the quality of your work in order to award accreditation.