



Midwifery Education Accreditation Council

Setting the Standards for Midwifery Education

MEAC MEMBER SCHOOLS LETTER #5

CLARIFICATION ON NARM'S 2-YEAR MINIMUM CLINICAL TRAINING TIMEFRAME

February 12, 2013

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Sandra Bitonti Stewart

Dear MEAC Member Schools:

The new NARM eligibility requirements specify that all students who enrolled after 1/1/2013 and all students graduating after 1/1/2015 must obtain their clinical skills in a timeframe no shorter than two calendar years.

NARM has clarified that they will accept experience prior to enrollment in a MEAC-accredited program to meet this timeframe requirement. They will also accept attendance in any capacity for the requirements in the observed births category. Therefore, any of the required clinical experiences, including observed birth experiences may count in the two-year minimum timeframe for clinical experience, even if those experiences occur prior to a student's enrollment in an accredited school.

Schools must obtain documentation of these experiences (with witness signature) from the student upon enrollment. We understand that schools organize clinical experience differently; however, in all cases the school must have evidence that every student completes the minimum two year timeframe. MEAC will verify this in site visits.

MEAC is still seeking additional clarification from NARM regarding when clinical skills developed outside preceptorship (in a lab or classroom setting) might apply to the two-year timeframe. We will keep you informed as progress is made in this area.

I hope that this clarification is helpful to you. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Sandra Bitonti Stewart