

**CARIBBEAN ACCREDITATION AUTHORITY (MEDICINE
AND OTHER HEALTH PROFESSIONS)**

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**THE CARIBBEAN ACCREDITATION AUTHORITY
(MEDICINE AND OTHER HEALTH PROFESSIONS)
ACT**

Act
9 of 2006.

[11th August, 2006.]

1. This Act may be cited as the Caribbean Accreditation Authority (Medicine and other Health Professions) Act. Short title.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

Inter-
pretation.

“Agreement” means the Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Accreditation Authority for Education in Medicine and other Health Professions, signed at Castries, St. Lucia on the 13th day of November, 2003 of which the text of the Articles is set out in the Schedule;

Schedule.

“Authority” means the Caribbean Accreditation Authority for Education in Medicine and other Health Professions, established by Article 2 of the Agreement.

3. The provisions of Articles 14, 15 and 16 of the Agreement shall have the force of law in Jamaica.

Certain provisions of Agreement to have force of law in Jamaica.

4. All sums required to be paid to the Authority by the Government for the purpose of meeting the obligations of Jamaica under the Agreement are hereby charged on the Consolidated Fund.

Financial provisions.

5. The Minister may, by order, make such provisions as he considers necessary or expedient for giving effect to the Agreement.

Power of Minister to make implementing orders.

6.—(1) Where any amendment to the Agreement is accepted by the Government, the Minister may, by order, amend the Schedule by including therein the amendment so accepted.

Amendment of Schedule and consequential matters.

(2) Any order made under this section may contain such

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consequential, supplemental or ancillary provisions as appear to the Minister to be necessary or expedient for the purpose of giving effect to the amendment accepted under subsection (1), and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, may contain provisions amending references in this Act to the specific provisions of the Agreement.

(3) An order made under this section shall be subject to negative resolution.

(4) Where the Schedule is amended pursuant to this section, any reference to the Agreement in this Act or any other instrument shall, unless the context otherwise requires, be construed as a reference to the Agreement as so amended.

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SCHEDULE

(Sections 2 and 6)

*Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Accreditation
Authority for Education in Medicine
and other Health Professions*

THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

Recalling the provisions of the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas establishing the Caribbean Community, including the CARICOM Single Market and Economy signed at Nassau, the Bahamas, on 5 July, 2001:

Concerned that international trends in the accreditation of training programmes in certain fields, in particular, the regional accreditation initiatives of the European Union will have implications for the traditional methods of accrediting medical programmes offered by institutions in the Caribbean Community:

Acknowledging the absence of a regional system of accreditation for training programmes in the Caribbean Community in medicine and other health professions:

Recognizing that the establishment of such a system is essential within the Caribbean Community and that such a system must be internationally recognized:

Conscious that the primary focus of accreditation and quality assurance initiatives in the Caribbean Community must be on the delivery of programmes of study aimed at achieving recognized, pre-determined quality standards, by Universities and like institutions in the Caribbean Community engaged in providing training in medicine and other health professions:

Aware of the critical importance of international comparability of programmes of study accredited by a body established within the Caribbean Community:

Determined to establish in the Caribbean Community a regional mechanism for the accreditation of training programmes in medicine and other health professions:

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

Use of Terms

1. In this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires—

“accredit” means the according of recognition by the Authority, on the basis of an informed evaluation, that the programmes of study offered by an institution and any award it confers, satisfy

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standards prescribed or approved by the Authority; and "reaccredit", "accreditation" and other cognate expressions shall be construed accordingly;

"Associate Member" means a state or territory that is admitted to associate membership of the Community under Article 231 of the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas signed at Nassau, the Bahamas, on 5 July, 2001;

"Authority" means the Authority established by Article 2;

"award" means a degree, diploma, certificate or other evidence that prescribed programmes of study in medicine and other health professions have been completed successfully;

"Contracting Party" means a Member State or an Associate Member State of the Community for which this Agreement is in force;

"Community" means the Caribbean Community, including the CARICOM Single Market and Economy established by the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas signed at Nassau, the Bahamas, on 5 July, 2001;

"Executive Director" means the Executive Director appointed by Article 11;

"medicine" includes dental medicine and veterinary medicine;

"other health professions" means any health profession other than medicine specified by the Authority pursuant to paragraph 4 of Article 9;

"quality assurance" means a system or process of ensuring that awards granted or programmes of study offered in medicine and other health professions by Universities or like institutions satisfy standards prescribed or accepted by the Authority;

"Secretariat" means the Secretariat established by the Authority by Article 10;

"Secretary-General" means the Secretary-General of the Community;

"standard" means a clearly defined level of academic achievement employed as a measurement of the quality of education.

2. For the purposes of this Agreement any reference in the following Articles to the Community shall include a reference to an Associate Member.

ARTICLE 2

Establishment of the Authority

1. There is hereby established the Caribbean Accreditation Authority for

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Education in Medicine and other Health Professions having the objectives, powers and functions set out in this Agreement.

2. The Headquarters of the Authority shall be located in a Member State of the Community to be determined by the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 3

Objectives of the Authority

The Authority shall have the following objectives—

- (a) the achievement and maintenance of standards of excellence in programmes of study in medicine and other health professions offered by institutions in the Community;
- (b) the establishment of an efficient system of regulation in relation to the standards and quality of programmes of study in medicine and other health professions;
- (c) the securing of international recognition of the programmes of study in medicine and other health professions;
- (d) maintaining the confidence of the peoples of the region in the quality of training offered in the Community in medicine and other health professions.

ARTICLE 4

Composition of the Authority

1. Subject to this Article and to Article 5, the Authority shall consist of the following members:

- (a) three (3) persons nominated jointly by academic institutions in the Community offering training in medicine (other than dental medicine and veterinary medicine);
- (b) one (1) person nominated jointly by academic institutions in the Community offering training in dental medicine;
- (c) one (1) person nominated jointly by academic institutions in the Community offering training in veterinary medicine;
- (d) two (2) persons nominated jointly by regional organizations representing civil society;
- (e) two (2) students enrolled in training programmes in medicine at academic institutions in the Community and nominated by the institutions;
- (f) two (2) persons from outside the region who have expertise in the accreditation of training programmes in medicine or other health professions;