Accreditation Cycle

From start to finish, this is how CACs achieve accreditation and re-accreditation with NCA.



Reaccreditation

Begins 12-18 months prior to the end of the CAC's five-year cycle



NCA contacts CAC to schedule site visit date

8 months prior to visit

NCA reminds CAC to begin application (if not started already) 6 months prior to visit

12-18 months

Accreditation Application is due

application

to NCA

Within 2 weeks of application

NCA connects CAC with Site Reviewers

New Accreditation

Accepted on a rolling basis, CACs can submit application at any time

4-6 months

CAC submits

Within 2 weeks of application

NCA schedules site visit with CAC Within 2 weeks of visit scheduled

NCA connects CAC with reviewer

Site Visit

Site Reviewers visit CAC to ensure standards are met and with services offered.

If any outstanding CAC has 2 weeks to Site Reviewers make recommendation to NCA

Between application receipt and site

2. Identify questions or information gaps 3. Work with the CAC to complete the

visit, Site Reviewers:

application

1. Review the application

NCA Board votes on Site Reviewers' recommendation at their next meeting (January, June, October)

Board votes to accredit site

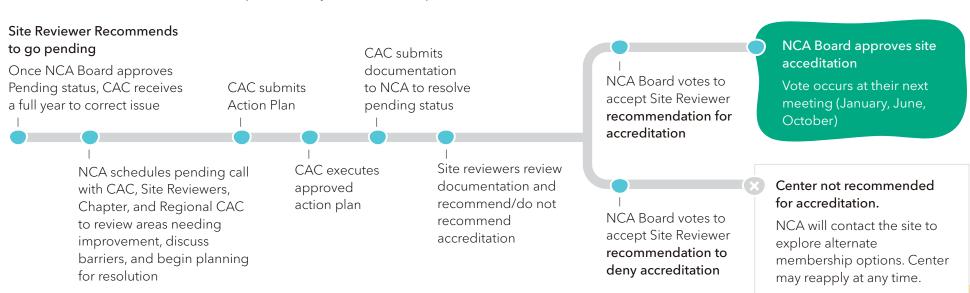
Board votes for site to go pending

Site Accredited

For CACs recommended for Accreditation, their 5-year cycle begins effective at the time of the Board meeting when the vote takes place.

Pending Process

The Center has 1 calendar year to resolve the pending status. During that year the CAC maintains the same membership status they had with NCA prior to the site visit.



What happens when centers go "pending?"

When a center in the Accreditation process goes pending due to the recommendation of the Site Reviewer, and this recommendation is approved by the NCA Board, it's because the center is not meeting one or more of the essential components in the Standards. Fear not! There is support for pending CACs through NCA's Accreditation Team.

Pending status is a safeguard that provides a center with additional time to meet the Standards while ensuring that the services offered at the center meet the minimum level of service kids deserve. In pending status, the center has a full calendar year to resolve the status. During that year, the CAC maintains the same membership status they had with NCA prior to the site visit.

The pending process above highlights the key steps to ensure a thorough review of challenges meeting essential components missed, and time to plan, resolve, document, and resubmit the application to be accreditation.

What guides the pending process is the CAC's Action Plan, developed by the CAC with support from the Chapter and Regional CAC, and approved by Site Reviewers. Once the plan is approved, the CAC has about 10 months to follow and complete the Action Plan and submit documentation to resolve the pending status.

At any point during the process, you can reach out to NCA's Accreditation Team for help at accreditation@nca-online.org, as well as ask for support from your Chapter and Regional CAC.

