



## **CAHME/The Joint Commission Fellowship Award for Advancing Sustainable Health Care**

The Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (CAHME) and The Joint Commission recognize that sustainability, a well-educated workforce, and healthcare quality & safety have a broad and all-encompassing impact on the health of the community.

The Joint Commission in collaboration with CAHME created a fellowship unlike any other. This one-year fellowship is awarded to a student who will graduate from a CAHME Accredited or Certified program, and who demonstrates the commitment to sustainability, quality and safety, and process improvement.

The Fellow will be embedded into The Joint Commission operations, observing and participating in activities that support quality and safety in hospitals and other health care organizations. They will learn The Joint Commission evaluation process and be trained on the principles of conducting a site visit. They will do project work under the supervision of an Executive at the Joint Commission.

The Fellow will also serve as an observer on one CAHME site visit. The Fellow will undergo training on CAHME standards and processes. While the CAHME experience will not be as extensive as the experience at The Joint Commission, it will be an important part of the fellowship and be essential for a key deliverable, a white paper that highlights how The Joint Commission and CAHME criteria and standards ensures high standards in healthcare.

### **Who is The Joint Commission?**

The mission of [The Joint Commission](#) is to continuously improve health care for the public, in collaboration with other stakeholders, by evaluating health care organizations and inspiring them to excel in providing safe and effective care of the highest quality and value.

We do this by setting quality standards, evaluating an organization's performance, and providing an interactive educative experience that provides innovative solutions and resources to support continuous improvement.

### **Who is CAHME?**

CAHME's mission is to serve the public interest by advancing the quality of healthcare management education. [CAHME](#) actively promotes continuous improvement in the preparation of future healthcare leaders by developing measurable, competency-based criteria for excellence in healthcare management.

### **Fellow Activities and Responsibilities:**

- Complete all employee new hire orientation and corporate compliance training, as well as mandatory employee training throughout the year.

- Meeting with the Corporate Compliance Officer to understand the processes for maintaining the confidentiality of all organization-specific information, including PHI.
- Understand the components of Joint Commission accreditation surveys and certification reviews and observe one accreditation survey and one certification review (program TBD).
- Observe meetings of Customer Advisory Councils.
- Support Strategic Business Units, Governance and Corporate Affairs and Joint Commission Resources staff in facilitating applicable in-person meetings, conferences and other educational events.
- Work with the Standards Interpretation Group to understand the process for responding to standards-related inquiries, both clinical and Environment of Care/Life Safety Code.
- Work with the Department of Standards and Survey Methods to understand the standards development process, including supporting the work of Technical Expert Panels and summarizing field review input on proposed new or revised standards.
- Work with the Department of Performance Measurement to understand the measurement development process, including doing research on potential new or revised measures.
- Work with the Office of Quality & Patient Safety to understand the process for reviewing de-identified potential adverse or sentinel events, including attending weekly case review meetings.
- Work with the Corporate Compliance Office to understand potential threats and risk management activities, including attending a meeting of the Corporate Compliance Council.
- Work with the Department of State and External Relations to understand activities related to state government and payor advocacy, including conducting research on proposed bills and regulations. Accompany staff on meetings with state officials or state legislative committees.
- Work with the DC Office to understand activities related to federal government relations, including conducting research on proposed bills and regulations. Accompany staff on meetings with federal officials or Congressional committees.
- Work with Business Development staff to understand the new customer life cycle.
- Work with Marketing staff to prepare collateral for trade shows and conference exhibits. [OBJ]
- Work with Market Research staff compiling data and trends for various business unit strategic plans.
- Work with JCR staff to understand the publication development process, including e- products such as AMP with Tracers, accreditation manuals, *Perspectives* and other monthly newsletters.
- Work with the Department of Corporate Communications to understand the process for developing news releases and responding to requests from media outlets.
- Work with staff from the National Quality Forum on activities supporting its mission and goals.
- Understand the components of a CAHME site visit survey and observe one CAHME site visit at a graduate healthcare management program.
- Complete the white paper summarizing key learnings from the CAHME/TJC Fellowship.
- Complete other duties as assigned.

**Eligibility:**

- Student in a CAHME Accredited or Certified Program.
- Candidates must be legally authorized to work in the United States without employer sponsorship.

**Fellowship Location and Dates:**

- This fellowship includes a hybrid work environment, meaning the selected candidate will perform work onsite at their designated office location on a recurring basis and from an alternative work location. The supervising manager can request the fellow to perform work onsite at any time. The Joint Commission office is in Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois, USA.
- Begins July 1, 2024, and concludes July 1, 2025.

**Fellowship Compensation:**

- \$65,000 fellowship stipend (plus benefits)

**Additional Benefits:**

- Appear on CAHME and Joint Commission website and social media
- Featured in Modern Healthcare magazine
- Honored at the 2024 CAHME Awards Ceremony at ACHE Congress and receive complimentary registration and travel.
- Featured in joint press release
- Opportunity to be featured in additional media vehicles, including but not limited to CAHME Master Your Healthcare Career Podcast.

**Selection Process:**

- The candidate completes the application on CAHME.org.
- With the application, the candidate must secure a confidential recommendation from a faculty member at a CAHME Accredited or Certified Program. While the program director is preferred, other faculty may submit the letter with the approval of the program director.
- An independent Blue-Ribbon panel of judges will review applicants and recommend the finalist. These panels represent leading professionals as selected by the Joint Commission and CAHME. Final applicants are determined.
- Finalists are interviewed by the Joint Commission.

**Application Checklist and Timeline:**

1. Interested students in CAHME Accredited or Certified programs review fellowship requirements and activities. Students apply online and submit the following:
  - a. Resume
  - b. Nomination Essay Responses (6 questions)
  - c. Program Director Letter of Recommendation

- d. Professional Letter of Recommendation
2. Online application must be submitted by **Friday, November 17, 2023**. *Application can be found [here](#).*
3. Application reviewed by Blue Ribbon Panel by December 2023.
2. Finalist Interview scheduled for January 2024.
  - a. Finalists will need to submit their transcripts prior to the interview.
3. Fellow notified and acknowledged in media vehicles January/February 2024.
4. Fellow honored at CAHME Awards Ceremony at the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) Congress on March 24, 2024.
5. Fellowship begins July 1, 2024.

### Essay Questions:

We suggest creating a word document with essay responses prior to entering them in the online application in case of any technical difficulties. All questions must be answered in 100 words or less (approximately 500 characters).

1. Describe how accreditation serves to ensure and enhance healthcare quality.
2. Discuss an example from your academic or extracurricular experiences where you demonstrated a strong commitment to sustainability. Explain the specific actions you took, the impact they had, and how this commitment aligns with promoting high-quality healthcare that is environmentally responsible.
3. Describe a specific instance where you demonstrated leadership characteristics, for example, leading study groups, or initiating and managing a project. Provide details about your role, the goals or objectives of the project, the challenges you encountered, and the results or outcomes achieved.
4. How have your volunteer activities contributed to improving the well-being of others. Include how they have had a meaningful impact, both on those you served and on your own personal development.
5. Describe a research project you conducted during your master's program that relates to healthcare quality and safety, sustainability, and/or process improvement.
  - a. Optional to include PDF or a link to the research project.
6. What are your primary goals and expectations for your one-year experience at the Joint Commission, particularly in terms of gaining a deeper appreciation of accreditation, its role in supporting healthcare quality and safety, as well as its connection to sustainability efforts within healthcare?

Apply and learn more at [cahme.org/awards](https://cahme.org/awards).

### Contact

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