AAAHC Ambulatory Accreditation Consulting

Last reviewed October 2026 · https://www.integralhs.com/aaahc-ambulatory-accreditation

What to have ready

Each item below ties to the Accreditation Handbook for Ambulatory Health Care (v44 or v45; see the version note above) or to the AAAHC program pages, read October 2026.

- The handbook version for your survey date. AAAHC's store page for the v44 handbook gives December 15, 2026 as its end date and directs later surveys to a v45 handbook (AAAHC store, Handbook v44 [https://store.aaahc.org/Accreditation-Handbook-for-Ambulatory-Health-Care-v44-PDF_4], page opened October 3, 2026).
- The application packet for AAAHC, fee included, sent ahead of the survey (AAAHC, Ambulatory Accreditation [https://www.aaahc.org/accelerated-readiness/program-overview/ambulatory-accreditation/], page opened October 3, 2026).
- Budget for the application fee. AAAHC says it does not refund application fees (AAAHC, Medicare Deemed Status [https://www.aaahc.org/accelerated-readiness/program-overview/medicare-deemed/], page opened October 3, 2026).
- A current description of what your organization is, how large it is and which services it offers, since AAAHC uses those details to plan the survey (AAAHC, Ambulatory Accreditation [https://www.aaahc.org/accelerated-readiness/program-overview/ambulatory-accreditation/], page opened October 3, 2026).
- A new organization needs at least six months of operating history before AAAHC will survey it, unless it uses the Early Option Survey or, for Medicare Deemed Status, the Initial Medicare Deemed Status Survey (AAAHC, Medicare Deemed Status [https://www.aaahc.org/accelerated-readiness/program-overview/medicare-deemed/], page opened October 3, 2026).
- Plan to post AAAHC's Notice of Survey a full 30 days ahead of any scheduled survey; random and discretionary surveys come without that lead time (AAAHC, Ambulatory Accreditation [https://www.aaahc.org/accelerated-readiness/program-overview/ambulatory-accreditation/], page opened October 3, 2026).
- For Medicare Deemed Status: the attestation that you meet the CMS definition of an ASC, and a team ready for an unannounced survey. AAAHC gives Medicare Deemed Status applicants no warning: no survey date and no surveyor names ahead of time, so keep the team survey-ready from the day the application is in (AAAHC, Medicare Deemed Status [https://www.aaahc.org/accelerated-readiness/program-overview/medicare-deemed/], page opened October 3, 2026).
- Policies, credentialing files and quality data mapped to the handbook, each with an owner, because AAAHC ties the three-year term to a finding of substantial compliance with its Standards (AAAHC, Ambulatory Accreditation [https://www.aaahc.org/accelerated-readiness/program-overview/ambulatory-accreditation/], page opened October 3, 2026).