

E.3-2. Conflict of Interest Policy for Site Visitors

(*Site Visitor Workbook*, 1997; Commission on Accreditation (CoA), date unknown; revised January 2001, March 2023)

To maintain the integrity and credibility of the accreditation process, the CoA and office of program consultation and accreditation (OPCA) attempt to avoid actual and perceived conflicts of interest between site visitors and the program being visited. However, all relationships between individuals and programs cannot be known by the CoA and OPCA. Therefore, the responsibility to disclose any actual and perceived conflicts of interest lies equally with the program and site visitors. The CoA will not consider a site visit report in which it detects the appearance of or an actual conflict of interest.

Possible conflicts of interest include (but are not limited to):

- A site visitor being formerly employed by the program
- A site visitor having a family connection with the program
- A site visitor having a current or past close professional or personal relationship with an individual at or in the program
- A site visitor being a previous site visitor to the program within the past 5 years
- A site visitor's program having been visited within the past 5 years by an individual at the program