



American College
of Radiology[™]

Partnering with your C-suite - ACR Accreditation

Why ACR Accreditation is the right choice



What is ACR Accreditation



Self assessment/peer review process that focuses on diagnostic image quality, staff qualifications, policies, protocols, equipment and therapeutic treatment.



Allows facilities to set and surpass industry-accepted quality standards for patient care and includes recommendations for improvement.



Assessment of readiness to perform quality imaging as a system (personnel, technology, processes) in a manner that complies with ACR Practice Parameters.

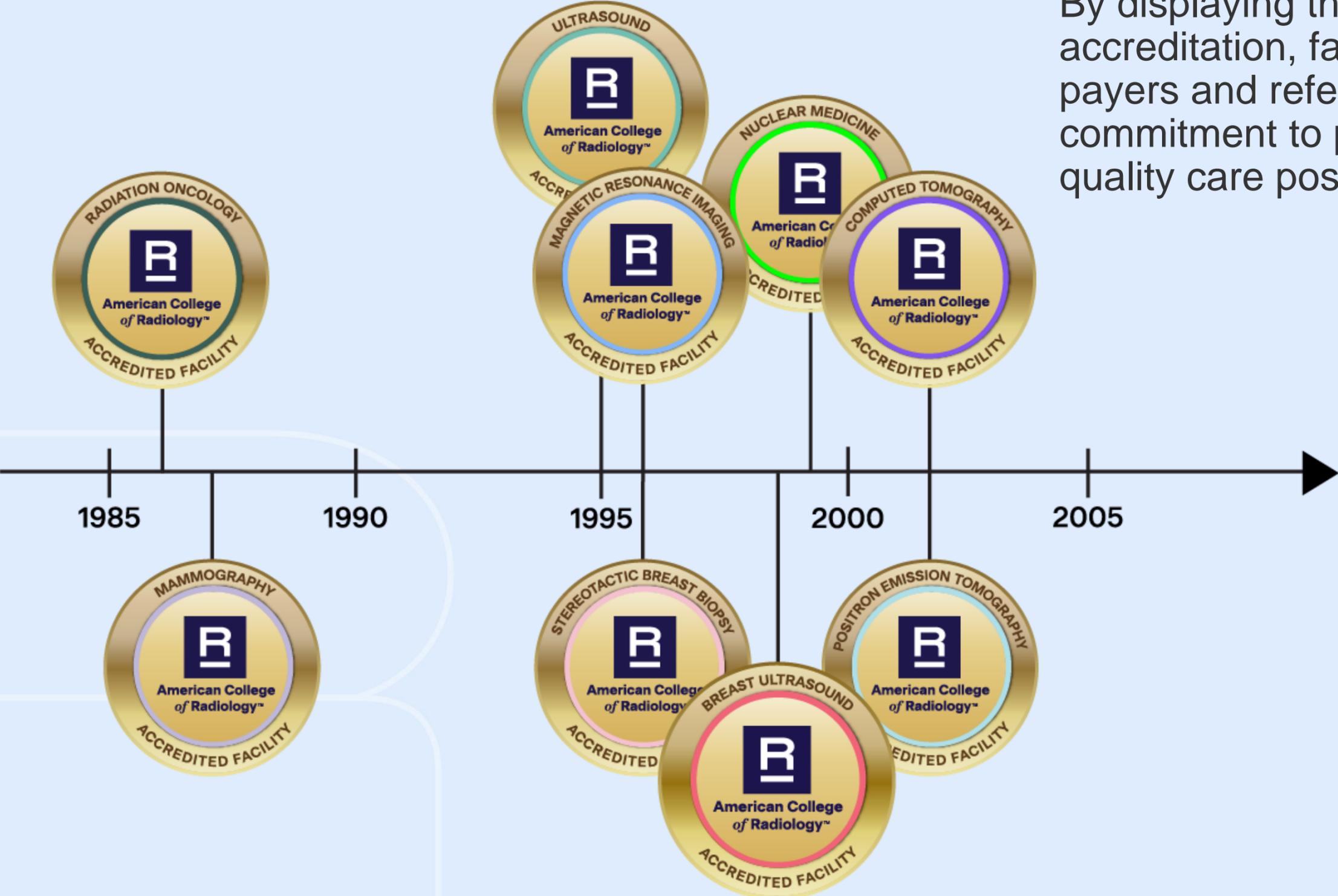
What is ACR Accreditation

- ❑ Since 1987, the ACR has accredited more than 39K facilities and over 60K units in 9 imaging modalities, 3 designation program, and 1 COE program
 - ✓ Breast Ultrasound
 - ✓ Computed Tomography (CT)
 - ✓ Mammography
 - ✓ MRI (including breast MR)
 - ✓ Nuclear Medicine
 - ✓ Positron Emission Tomography (PET)
 - ✓ Radiation Oncology
 - ✓ Stereotactic Breast Biopsy
 - ✓ Ultrasound

- ❑ Over 40% of the hospital market choose to be ACR accredited.



ACR Accreditation



By displaying the gold seal(s) of ACR accreditation, facilities demonstrate to patients, payers and referring physicians their commitment to providing the safest and best quality care possible.

Why ACR Accreditation



Gold standard. ACR accreditation is the most widely recognized organization in medical imaging and radiation oncology.

Ever evolving. The ACR is at the forefront of radiology's evolution – improving, promoting and protecting the practice of radiology to ensure the quality and safety of patient care.

Learning resources. ACR continuously creates tools and learning resources to help staff deliver the highest quality care. (i.e. practice parameters, registries, appropriateness criteria).

Excellent reputation. Built on comprehensive standards, a rigorous review process and the best customer service in the industry.

Recruit and attracts quality employees. ACR provides department stability, giving staff a clear roadmap to follow.

Why ACR Accreditation



Increased revenue. Improve confidence from payers, referring physicians and patients, leading to higher revenue and growth for your facility.

Improved patient outcomes. Reduce errors and improve patient outcomes with a consistent quality of medical imaging across facilities or multiple sites.

Streamlined process. New customer support platform reduces staff hours spent on application process. No initial site visit required to achieve accreditation.

Updated accreditation web site. ACR accreditation process is very accessible with all requirements, forms, and resources in one place.

Educational. ACR accreditation is educational, not punitive. Our reviewers often provide feedback and comments to help facilities continuously improve.

Why ACR Accreditation



Faster turnaround. Our turnaround time far exceeds those of our competitors; often sites receive results on their images in 2-3 weeks.

Dedicated help. Our certified technologist and associate staff are dedicated to working with your team.

Multisite discounts for large practices

One-stop shopping. Complete coverage of your accreditation needs with more modalities and modules than competitors.

Why ACR Accreditation



- ❑ **Attract more patients.** Our marketing kit helps improve brand recognition and promote your high standards to attract more patients.
- ❑ **Increase patient confidence.** Patients feel safe when they know you provide consistent quality medical imaging

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ACR®
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF
RADIOLOGY

MODALITIES | CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE | RESOURCES | FACILITY SEARCH

Search this site

ACCREDITED FACILITY SEARCH

Find an ACR accredited imaging facility

What Does ACR Accreditation Mean for Patients?

Accredited Facility Search

Use the search form below to find imaging facilities accredited by the American College of Radiology.
Facilities: To verify the accreditation status of specific units within your imaging facility, please call 1-800-770-0145.

Find by: ZIP/City

ZIP/City: Ashburn, VA

Within: 50 Miles

Modality: - Select -

Designation: - Select -

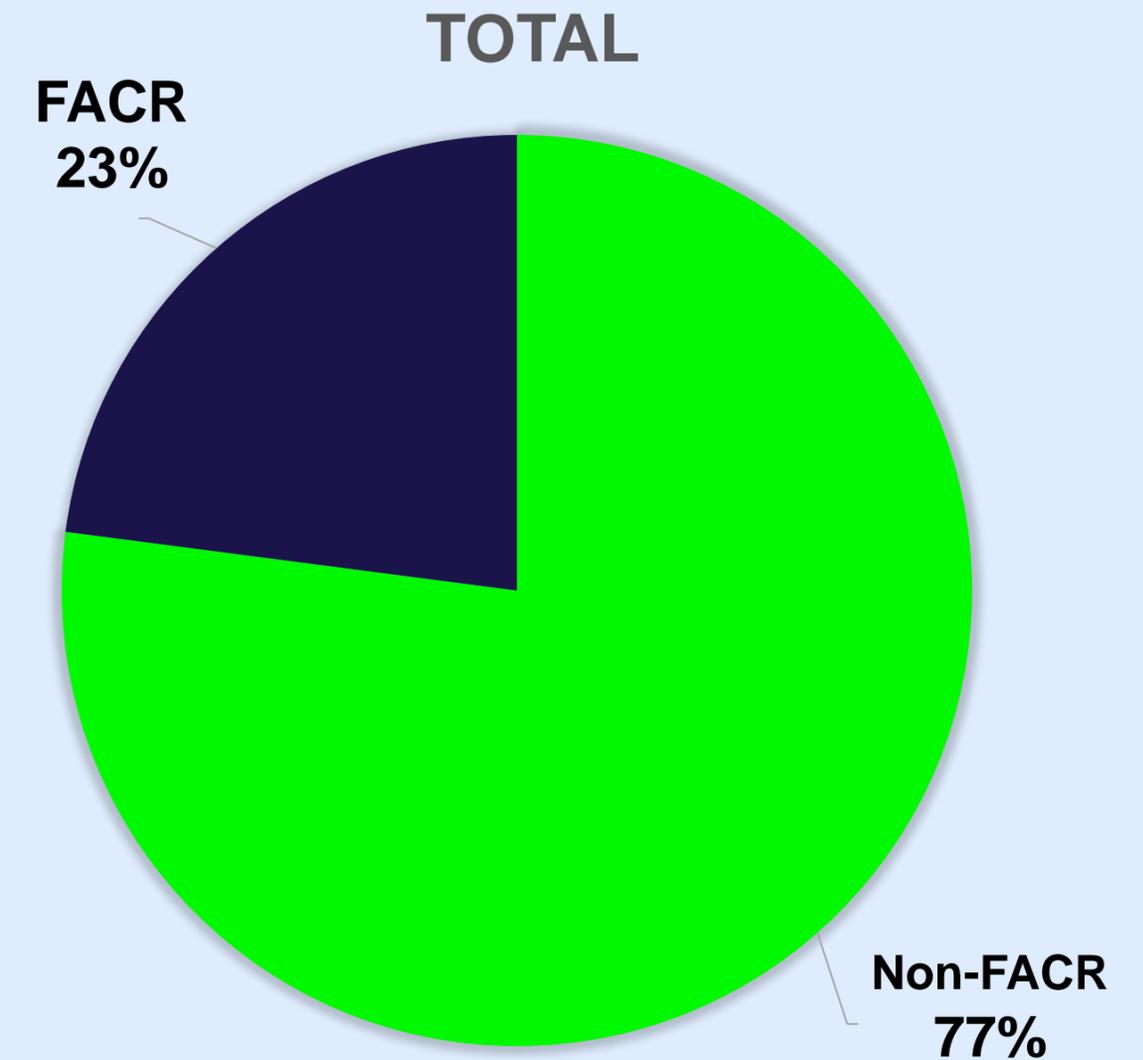
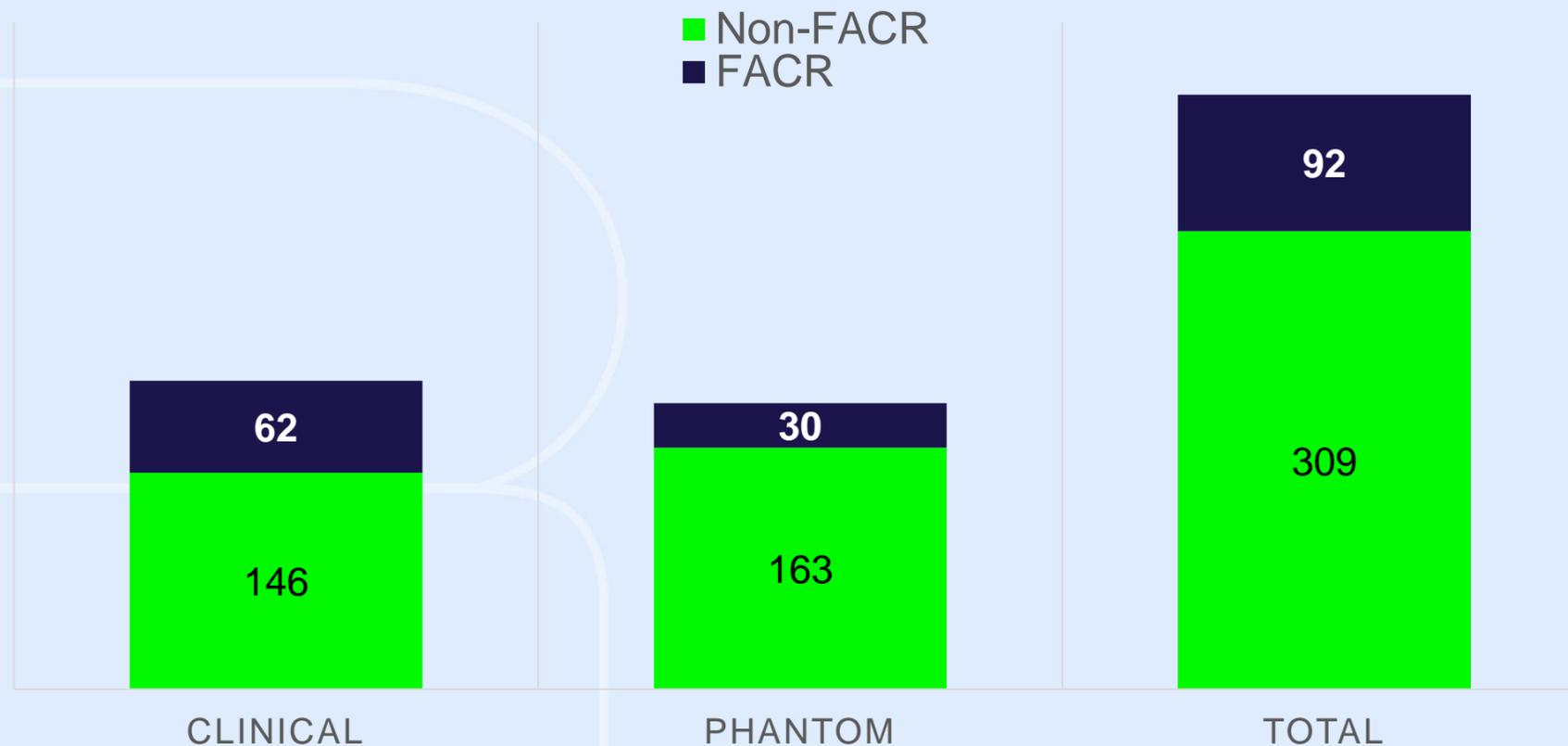
Search

Find an ACR accredited facility on our web site.

Why ACR Accreditation

- ❑ Validation of your images. Ensure consistent medical imaging quality with images evaluated and interpreted in a blind peer review by working radiologists who are ACR members.
- ❑ Peer-reviewed and educationally-focused
- ❑ Reviewers with expertise and experience – many have earned status of Fellows of the American College of Radiology (FACR)

ACCREDITATION REVIEWERS



Why ACR Accreditation



Online marketing tool-kit is provided once ACR accreditation is achieved

Designed to assist facilities in promoting this success within their community, to their patients and to referring physicians

Downloadable, customizable materials included:

- Certificate to display
- Press release template
- Patient brochure to display
- Videos and customizable ads
- Window decals
- Modality specific gold seal (JPG/EPS)
 - Patient reports, facility letterhead, referral pads, billing statements, facility website, advertisements

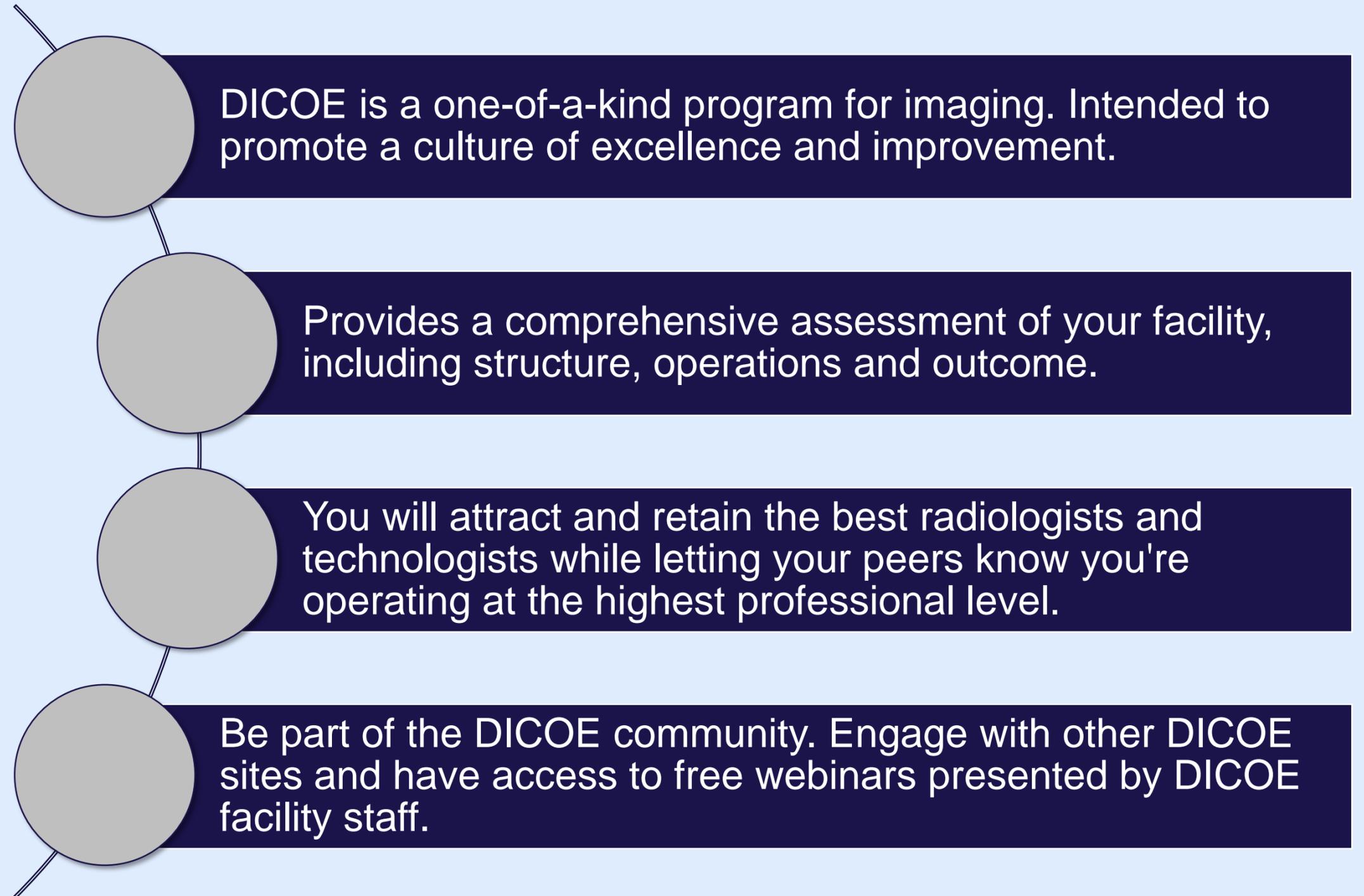




ACR Diagnostic Imaging Centers of Excellence (DICOE) Program



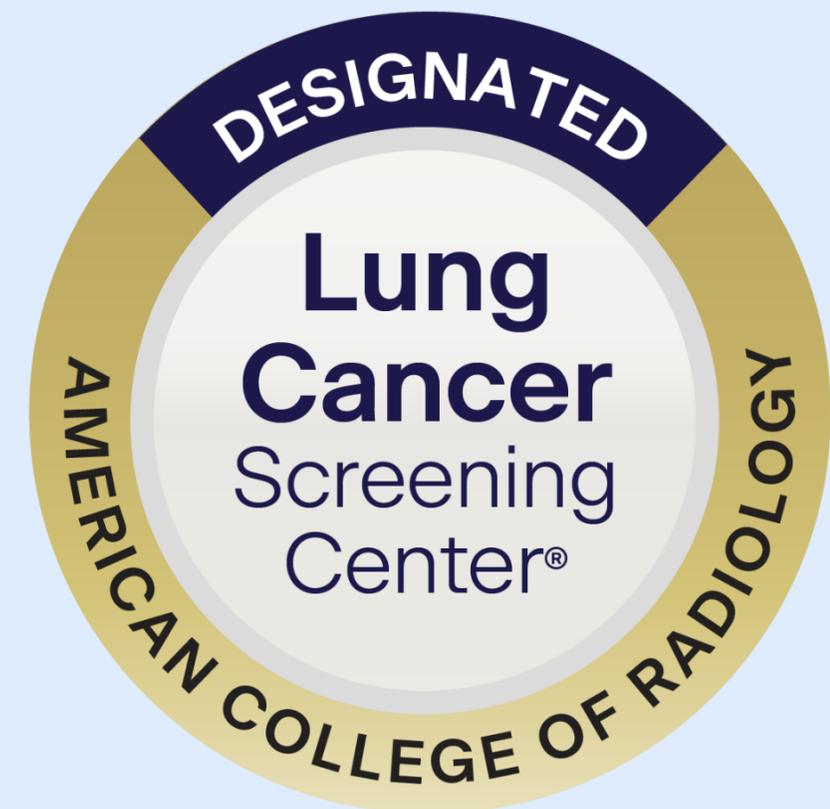
**Diagnostic Imaging
Center *of* Excellence**



ACR Designation Programs



- ✓ Valuable tools for maintaining excellence in everything from operations to patient care.



What we hear from our customers

I wouldn't work anywhere that wasn't ACR accredited.

Thank you!
As a radiologist practicing in the community, I have found them to be a big help and support, with resources to ensure that what we're doing is the highest quality. I'm really grateful for that.

I sent the images, and the response back was I got a lot of very nice images, great job. It's something small, but it meant a lot to me. You take pride in what you do and they took the time to comment on that. And I really appreciated that.

People are much more inquisitive these days...they look for that quality factor in the choices that they make for their healthcare.

I can call them up and they're very good with communicating and helping me with something or, you know, they've always been very good about that. They're approachable and they're knowledgeable.

What we hear from our customers

The accreditation process has even helped premier institutions identify gaps in their policies and processes and they use the accreditation cycle to make sure they have all the right systems in place.

As radiologists, many of the physician leads see accreditation as a way for them to feel reassured that the hospital management is adhering to the criteria that radiologists deem necessary for good practice (via practice parameters).

Accreditation is a way for hospital administrations to demonstrate to their radiologists that all is as it should be, and physicians should feel confident about the quality of imaging coming out of the department.

Our accredited facilities tell us that they see accreditation as the cost of doing business. The fee is something they make back in a couple of days or less, and then they are set for another 3 years. Nobody wants to explain why their facility does not have the gold seal when the facility down the street does the fee is a small price to pay.

ACR Accreditation - Process and Requirements

- ✓ Confirm that your practice lives up to the guidelines defined by radiologists for quality imaging.

MODALITIES CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE RESOURCES FACILITY SEARCH



Preparing for ACR Accreditation

ACR Accreditation is a valuable tool for maintaining excellence in everything from operations to patient care. To prepare for your application:

- ✓ Confirm that your medical imaging staff has the appropriate experience and qualifications.
- ✓ Perform all quality control tests as established by ACR and your MRI unit manufacturer.
- ✓ Work with your supervising physician to select your best MRI images for submission.

The comprehensive information you need to guide you through all of the above, including complete program requirements and testing instructions, can be found [here](#).

Start your application >>



ACR Accreditation – Setting up for success

Stamp of Approval

A Timeline for Accreditation Success

Patricia Wilson, director of accreditation at Asheville Radiology Associates in North Carolina, shares her tried-and-true process for navigating the accreditation process.

- #### 1 START EARLY

Start the accreditation process a year before accreditation expires. The ACR sends a renewal notice eight months before accreditation expiration. Accreditation can be completed only after a practice submits an accreditation application and the ACR accepts it. Note that mammography exams must be dated after the ACR acceptance date.

PRO TIP! Manage your time by creating a list of each modality's accreditation expiration date.
- #### 2 COMPILE RESOURCES

Assemble an accreditation manual to keep everyone on track and ensure you have everything you need for each accreditation submission. The manual should include imaging requirements, data sheet instructions, a list that matches each radiologist with their modality, ACR contact information, and helpful tips about study submission. It should also include the ACR-provided checklist for each modality.

PRO TIP! The ACR provides an accreditation checklist for each modality. Access the checklists, modules, and other resources at [acr.org/accreditation.org](http://acr.org/accreditation)
- #### 3 HOLD A KICKOFF MEETING

Send invitations to lead technologists and facility directors. In the meeting, discuss key information — such as due dates — identify the lead interpreting radiologist for each modality, and share the accreditation manual. Be sure that all scanning technologists meet the certification requirements for each modality. For example, a vascular ultrasound submission requires that at least one technologist has the appropriate vascular certification (RVT, RT(VS) or RVS).

PRO TIP! Have attendees use the "Reply All" feature from your initial email forward so that no one misses key information.
- #### 4 COLLECT YOUR EXAMS

Review ACR's accreditation modules to determine which exams to submit for each modality. Communicate the exam requirements to the scanning technologists and share necessary forms. Have the facility supply required images within a month of the kickoff meeting. Send reminders if images are not received in time. The goal is to have all of the exams approved by the time of the ACR renewal notice.

PRO TIP! Ask the facility staff to write the patient's last name and medical record number on the data sheet so that you can confirm that you have received the correct images.
- #### 5 REVIEW IMAGES

Conduct a preliminary review to look for common errors, such as mislabeled images, and then send collected images to at least two radiologists for review.

PRO TIP! Although the ACR requires that only the lead supervising physician review the images, two radiologists can ensure that all questions and concerns are covered before submission.
- #### 6 ENTER DATA AND UPLOAD IMAGES

Enter the required information and data into the ACR accreditation database. Schedule a meeting with your information technology (IT) team to upload the images to the ACR accreditation database.

PRO TIP! Meet with your IT team via video conferencing and give everything a final review before submitting.
- #### 7 TIME TO SUBMIT
- #### 8 SHARE FINAL REPORTS

Circulate final ACR accreditation reports with everyone involved in the accreditation process, including the program director, supervising radiologists, and specializing radiologists. The information contained within the reports can help the team prepare for future accreditations.

PRO TIP! Ask the team to review the reports to identify quality improvement opportunities.

REMEMBER ...

- A consistent, standardized method for accreditation, whether you're completing one accreditation or 50, makes the process quick and efficient.
- Embrace the accreditation process. As with most things, it gets easier each time as you learn and build knowledge along the way.
- Reach out to the ACR for help. The accreditation team is available to help and wants you to succeed. Contact the team at acr.org/accreditationsupport

View the companion Imaging 3.0 case study at acr.org/Stamp-of-Approval

Summary - What it means to be the gold standard

The ACR is rigorous for a reason, but also rewarding

The ACR wants you to succeed and will support you

ACR strives to lead by consistently evolving

ACR isn't some faceless organization – it's your peers



Focus. Forward. Together.™