

**Table 1. Growth of Latin American and Caribbean Medical Schools**

<b>Country</b>	<b>1969</b>	<b>1975</b>	<b>1988</b>	<b>1992</b>	<b>2004</b>
Argentina	9	9	9	13	24
Antigua and Barbuda					1
Bolivia	3	3	3	7	10
Belize					2
Brazil	30	75	78	80	112
Chile	4	10	6	7	16
Colombia	7	15	22	21.	44
Costa Rica	4	2	2	2	7
Cuba				13	22
Dominican Republic	1	6	n.a.	n.a	9
Dominica					1
Ecuador	2	5	5	7	19
El Salvador	1	2	5	5	6
Guatemala	1	2	2	2	5
Guyana					1
Haiti					2
Honduras	1	1	1	1	1
Mexico	22	52	59	58	102
Nicaragua	1	1	2	2	3
Panama	1	1	1	1	3
Paraguay	1	1	1	2	1
Peru	3	7	13	13	25
Puerto Rico					4
St Vincent/Grenada					1
Suriname					1
St. Kitts and Nevis					3
Trinidad & Tobago	-	-	-	1	1
Uruguay	1	1	1	1	1
Venezuela	6	7	7	8	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>581</b>

n.a.: not available

Source: Pulido, 1996; IIME 2004; PAFAMS 2004

**Table 2. Medical Education in the Americas. (EMA Report )**

**Medical Education in Latin America**

<b>MEDICAL SCHOOL MISSION</b>	<b>MEDICAL SCHOOL ACTIVITIES BY CATEGORIES</b>
I Undergraduate Medical Training	1. Final Product 2. Evaluation of Student Performance 3. Vocational Orientation 4. Admission to Medical Schools 5. Curriculum Review 6. Teaching Methodology 7. Teaching-service integration 8. Teachers pedagogical training 9. Basic Sciences 10. Ethics 11. Administrative Structure
II Specialist, teacher and researcher training	12. Postgraduate courses
III Maintenance of Professional competence	13. Continuing Medical Education, CPD
IV Advances in Knowledge and Biomedical Technologies	14. Research 15. Health Science Information
V Satisfaction of Society's needs	16. Human Resources development 17. Multi professional team work 18. Educational evaluation 19. Agreements among medical schools 20. Institutional relations and collaboration

Source: (PAFAMS, 1990)

**Table 3: Accreditation Process and Procedures in Medical Schools in the Americas**

COUNTRY	ACCREDITING INSTITUTIONS	THE PROCESS	ADDITIONAL RESULTS
ARGENTINA	<u>AFACIMERA, CONEAU, MERCOSUR and CCPM</u> is the <b>Certification Council of Medical Professionals</b>	In 1995, the Law of Higher Education N° 24521, decrees the obligation of evaluating and accreditation of careers. Resolution 535 of the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Nation of August 1999, established the model and standards to oblige the self-evaluation and accreditation of medical schools.	The evaluated standards are 112 obligatory; 7 recommended; 7 optional, for a total of 126. The CCPM established standards for the specialty residencies, as well as a knowledge exam. Certification renewal is mandatory. There are 24 Medical Schools in Argentina. 21 are accredited.
BOLIVIA	<u>ABOLFAM, CONAMED and CONAES</u> Bolivia also follows MERCOSUR guidelines.	Legislation: Accredited institutions are eligible to receive public funds. The main problem is the proliferation of private universities.	10 Medical Schools. Not one accredited.
BRAZIL	<u>ABEM, CINAEM and MERCOSUR</u>	There is also an Institution called Coordination for Perfection of Higher Education Personnel, this institution accredits university careers and postgraduates courses. The accreditation process allows a periodical recertification	Total Medical Schools 112, accredited 92
CANADA	<u>CAMC, CACMS and LCME, US</u>	Approximate time of the process: 2 years	16 Medical Schools and 16 accredited.
CHILE	<u>ASOFAMECH, CONACEM and CNAP</u>	Accreditation: : Complete (7 years), temporary (2 years) or not accredited..	There is an exam to all graduates at the end of the last year. Medical curriculum involves 7 years of study. There are 16 medical schools and 4 are accredited.
COLOMBIA	<u>ASCOFAME, National Council of Accreditation, CNA; CNDM, and CESU.</u>	Legislation: Rules that control the actions of the National Council of Accreditation: Political Constitution of Colombia; Law 30 of 1992, Law 115 of 1994; CESU Agreement of 1995; Decree 272 of 1998; Decree 1655 of 1999; Decree 792 of 2001; Decree 917 of 2001; Decree 1279 of 2001. A National Council of Doctorates and M.Sc. (CNDM) was created by Decree 2701 ( Dec.1994)	ASCOFAME recommends the accreditation every 5 years From a total of 44 Medical Schools 4 are accredited. 24 are affiliated to ASCOFAME.
COSTA RICA	<u>SINAES, National System of Higher Education</u>	Only 1 is accredited: the School of Medicine of the University of Costa Rica CUCR, in San José.	There are 7 Medical Schools.
CUBA	Education of basic general physicians. Primary care of health (Scientific training ,		22 Medical Schools. Standards of accreditation not available.

	humanistic and solidarity) International. The government gives the accreditation		
<b>ECUADOR</b>	<b>AFEME:</b> Association of Medical Schools of Ecuador	There is a strong movement for evaluation and accreditation of Medical Schools.	There are 8 Accredited Medical Schools; 3 are in the process. Según el cuadro (tabla 1) de este artículo Ecuador tiene 11 escuelas
<b>EL SALVADOR</b>	<b>SCHOOL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES OF EL SALVADOR.</b> <b>SICEVAES:</b> Central American System for evaluation and accreditation of Higher Education	Accreditation is accepted .Ongoing work .	6 Medical Schools not accredited.
<b>GUATEMALA</b>	<b>CSUCA, SICEVAES and ACAFAM</b>	Increase private medical education. Changes and reforms in the public medical education, reforms of the health sector.	Need of accountability.
<b>MEXICO</b>	COMAEM (Comisión Mexicana para la Acreditación de la Educación Médica)	One third of the medical schools have been accredited by this process, another third is in the auto evaluation phase. Of the accredited schools only 1/10 has gone through the 5 year reaccreditation procedure.	A two step process, first an auto evaluation based on 47 defined standards and then an external evaluation by specialized experts. The process takes between 1.5 and 2 years. The accreditation has to be renewed with the same process every 5 years
<b>NICARAGUA</b>	Medical School of the University of Nicaragua.		There are 3 Medical Schools, accredited 1
<b>PANAMA</b>	The National Council of Accreditation of Human Resources in Health is proposed		3 Medical School . Not yet accredited.
<b>PERU</b>	<b>ASPEFAM, CAFME and CONAFU</b>	Law 27154: Institutionalize the accreditation of Medical Schools to guarantee the quality of the academic - professional education of physicians-surgeons for the community health care.	There are 25 Medical Schools in the Country. 8 are accredited There are 143 standards.
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	AAMC, Association of American Medical Colleges. LCME	Well organized process, available in www.aamc.org.	125 Medical Schools. All accredited
<b>URUGUAY</b>	<b>MEDICAL SCHOOL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF URUGUAY.</b> <b>MERCOSUR:</b> Institution in charge of the evaluation process. Accredite the Educational Centers of its members	.	1 Medical School. Accreditation Work in process.
<b>VENEZUELA</b>	AVEFAM: Venezuelan Association of Medical Schools	Standards for evaluation and accreditation of Medical Schools were approved in July 2001.	12 Medical Schools. Accreditation , work in process.

		<p>A National Council of Evaluation and Accreditation ought to be established.</p> <p>The Law of Education and of Higher Education supports accreditation.</p> <p>There is no culture for evaluation and accreditation of educational institutions.</p>	
--	--	---	--

Source: PAFAMS, 2004

**Table 4. CURRENT STATUS OF ACCREDITATION OF MEDICAL SCHOOLS IN THE AMERICAS**

Country	Total number of Active Medical Schools	Affiliated to PAFAMS	Schools Nationally Accredited	Accredit. in progress	Non accredited (without information)	New Schools
<i>Antigua &amp; Barbuda</i>	1	-	-	-	1	-
<i>Argentina</i>	24	21	21	-	3	-
<i>Belize</i>	2	-	-	-	2	-
<i>Bolivia</i>	10	4	-	-	10	-
<b>Brazil</b>	112	112	92	-	20	-
<b>Canada</b>	16	16	16	-	-	-
<i>Chile</i>	16	6	4	2	4	6
<i>Colombia</i>	44	24	6	14	4	20
<i>Costa Rica</i>	7	1	1	-	6	-
<i>Cuba</i>	22	-	22	-	-	-
<i>Dominica</i>	1	-	-	-	1	-
<i>Ecuador</i>	19	8	-	16	3	-
<i>El Salvador</i>	6	1	-	-	6	-
<b>USA</b>	125	125	125	-	-	-
<i>Guatemala</i>	5	1	4	-	1	-
<i>Guyana</i>	1	-	-	-	1	-
<i>Haiti</i>	2	-	-	-	2	-
<i>Honduras</i>	1	1	-	-	1	-
<i>Jamaica</i>	1	1	-	-	1	-
<b>Mexico</b>	102	67	32	29	41	0
<i>Nicaragua</i>	3	1	1	-	1	1
<b>Panama</b>	3	1	-	-	3	-
<i>Paraguay</i>	1	1	-	-	1	-
<i>Peru</i>	25	21	8	-	17	-
<i>Puerto Rico</i>	4	-	-	-	4	-
<b>Dominican Republic</b>	9	8	9	-	-	-
<i>St. Kitts and Nevis</i>	3	-	-	-	3	-
<i>St. Vincent and Grenada</i>	1	-	-	-	1	-
<i>Suriname</i>	1	-	-	-	1	-
<i>Trinidad</i>	1	-	-	-	1	-
<i>Uruguay</i>	1	1	-	-	1	-
<i>Venezuela</i>	12	12	-	12	-	-

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>27</b>
--------------	------------	------------	------------	-----------	------------	-----------

Source: PAFAMS, 2004