

Request for Reconsideration of a Decision Policy

Scope of This Policy

As an aspect of its due process provisions, the COCA allows a COM to request a reconsideration of an accreditation decision under specified circumstances. This policy covers decisions affecting the accredited status of a COM and the requirement that it requested prior to an appeal of an adverse action (see Appeal of Adverse Actions Policy).

Circumstances for a Reconsideration

A COM may request the Commission to reconsider its accreditation decision when it believes that the decision was subject to bias, injustice, factual error, or significant departure from established procedures and policies, and is of sufficient magnitude to warrant a reconsideration.

The COM's Chief Executive Officer or Chief Academic Officer must file a request for reconsideration within seven business days of receiving the Final Action Letter from the COCA. The COM must email the request and any documentation, including the reason for reconsideration and specific alleged issues, to the COCA Secretary at predoc@osteopathic.org. While a reconsideration action may not include new information, materials that were initially submitted and believed to have been improperly considered may be emphasized in the reconsideration request.

Reconsideration Review and Decision

The COCA Executive Committee (EC) will review the reconsideration request, together with submitted documents and narrative, at its next regularly scheduled meeting. Verbal testimony from the COM will not be considered during this review. If the EC determines that the request so warrants, it will forward the request and documentation to the full Commission for reconsideration at its regularly scheduled meeting. When warranted, the COCA Chair can call for a special meeting of the Commission or the COCA Executive Committee.

Following a reconsideration review, the Commission will either maintain or modify its original action. The COCA Secretary will communicate the Commission's decision in writing to the COM within seven business days of its action.

If a COM has received an Adverse Action by the Commission, as defined in the COCA Appeal of Adverse Action Policy, the COM must have submitted a Request for Reconsideration of the action and have received a determination from the Commission on that request, prior to initiating an appeal of the Adverse Action.