

I.20 Confidentiality and disclosure

The Office holds narrative reporting and correspondence with programs confidential. Annual statistical reporting data are published on the Office website reports and publications page. If accreditation is denied or withdrawn, the standards at issue as stated in the decision letter of response to the review are made public. If an appeal is filed, the standards at issue are not publicly disclosed until a final decision is made.

COA members sign a confidentiality agreement at the beginning of their terms. ERP members sign a confidentiality agreement at the beginning of each review to which they are assigned.

The following guidelines apply to the distribution of documents related to the accreditation process:

Self-Study	The COA encourages every school to make its Self-Study available publicly. The Office will make the Self-Study available for educational purposes with permission of the school.
External Review Panel report	The COA treats the report of the ERP as confidential, but encourages schools to make the report available publicly. If the school makes public only excerpts of the report, the Office, on behalf of COA, may elect to make the entire report public.
Decision Document	The COA treats its Decision Document letter as confidential correspondence. No modification to it may be made by anyone except the COA. The COA encourages the school to broadly distribute the accreditation decision and the reasons behind the decision.
Annual Statistical reporting	The Office makes a trended summary of annual statistical reporting publicly available.