



# The Importance of the International Accreditation of the Physician and Surgeon Program

*La importancia de la Acreditación Internacional del Programa de Médico y Cirujano*

*L'importance de l'accréditation internationale du programme des médecins et chirurgiens*

*A importância do credenciamento internacional do médico e do programa de cirurgia*

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The Faculty of Medical and Life Sciences of the Universidad Da Vinci de Guatemala is proud to announce the start of the international accreditation process for the Bachelor's Degree Physician and Surgeon Program. This effort, begun in July 2024, reflects our commitment to academic excellence, social relevance, and active contribution to improving health systems nationally and internationally.

International accreditation is a seal of quality and a commitment to the highest standards in Medical Education. This process ensures that our program meets and exceeds international expectations in training health professionals. This includes focusing on advanced clinical competencies, research skills, and a deep sense of ethics and social responsibility.

Guatemala's health system faces significant challenges: inequalities in access to services, high

rates of infectious and chronic diseases, and a lack of medical personnel in rural areas. International accreditation allows us to align our training with educational models that prioritize primary care, health equity, and the use of advanced technologies, which are essential to confronting these problems.

Our program has been designed with a global vision and a local application. It integrates a competency-based approach, which guarantees that our students acquire practical skills from the first years of their training. This approach combines theoretical learning with experience in real scenarios, preparing future doctors to respond to the demands of the national environment and to compete and collaborate on the global stage. International accreditation strengthens our position as a leading institution in Medical Education. Its benefits are:



- Our graduates can work in international environments, expanding their professional opportunities.
- The accreditation process encourages constant evaluation of our study plans, ensuring that they remain updated and aligned with the needs of the health sector.
- By complying with international standards, we encourage the production of relevant and high-quality scientific knowledge.
- An internationally accredited program allows us to attract the best students,

teachers, and researchers, enriching our academic community.

International accreditation consolidates our role as leaders in training committed and competent doctors. We are sure that this effort will contribute significantly to developing a more equitable and sustainable health system in which doctors trained at our university are agents of change and promoters of community well-being.

### **Conflict of interest**

There are no conflicts of interest.

### **Contributions from authors**

Conceptualization: Guillermo Antonio Chávez-Meza

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