

# About **carf** INTERNATIONAL

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CARF was founded in 1966 and is an independent, nonprofit accreditor of health and human services. The CARF group of companies includes CARF International, CARF Canada, and CARF Europe.

## What is Accreditation?

When a program or service is CARF-accredited, it means it has passed an in-depth review (survey) and meets rigorous CARF guidelines—a qualified endorsement that it conforms to internationally-recognized person-centered standards and is focused on ongoing performance improvement.

## What to expect from a survey?

Peer surveyors assess conformance to the standards, identify strengths, and deliver consultative feedback to enhance an organization's business and service practices.



## Accreditation areas

CARF accredits providers for their specific programs and services, and many providers seek CARF accreditation in more than one area. CARF standards manuals used to accredit programs and services are:

- Aging Services
- Behavioral Health
- Child and Youth Services
- Continuing Care Retirement Communities
- Employment and Community Services
- Medical Rehabilitation
- Opioid Treatment Programs
- Vision Rehabilitation Services

Scan the QR code or go to  
[carf.org/accreditation/programs](https://www.carf.org/accreditation/programs)  
to read full descriptions of the  
programs/services CARF accredits.



# Why Choose CARF?

CARF accreditation is a partnership between CARF and the service provider. The survey process is consultative rather than prescriptive and is a valuable resource to address many of the challenges facing providers. In addition to standards for programming and service delivery, CARF has robust standards for business practices. Known as ASPIRE to Excellence®, these standards support organizations' efforts to build their foundation and sustain and grow their business. CARF accreditation promotes active, dynamic planning that is focused on outcomes and impact to stakeholders.

Organizations that have participated in a CARF accreditation survey demonstrate:

- A higher degree of internal quality.
- Greater involvement of persons served in their services.
- Increased cohesion among staff members at all levels within the organization.
- Enhanced status of the accredited programs/services within the community.



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