



Society for Simulation in Healthcare
ACCREDITATION

**Simulation Research
Accreditation Standards**

2026 Standards Revisions

Simulation Research Standards and Criteria

Accreditation in the area of Research is limited to those Programs that demonstrate regular and recurring research activities that demonstrate expertise in the development, implementation, evaluation, and dissemination of research in the area of simulation.

- Programs seeking Accreditation in Simulation Research must demonstrate two years of active Simulation Research in the area of simulation.
- Activities that demonstrate an active Simulation Research Program include (but are not limited) to developing and implementing formal research protocols specifically focused on simulation as a technique and as a pedagogy.
- Simulation can also be used as a research tool "testbed" to evaluate usability of medical devices, new technology, clinical workflow redesign, facility design, etc.
- The design capability of simulation provides the healthcare industry a unique tool to assess and mitigate potential patient harm before clinical implementation, reduce development cost and improve time to market.
- Submission of Simulation Research activities is encouraged for peer-reviewed publications that expand the field.

The seven sections of the Simulation Research Standards are :

(1) Simulation Research Activities, (2) Simulation Research Activity Design, (3) Qualified Simulation Researchers, (4) Evaluation and Improvement, (5) Simulation Research Collaboration (6) Compliance, and (7) Ethics.

1. RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

- a. The Simulation Program has an intentional and credible commitment to simulation-specific research activities.*
 - i. Describe the process and provide supporting documentation that links the simulation research activities to the Program's mission/vision, and/or strategic planning.
 - ii. Document: Provide documentation of up to three (3) Simulation Research activities delivered or conducted by the Program.
- b. The Simulation Program has an established record of organizational and/or financial support for Simulation Research.*
 - i. Describe and provide supporting documentation on the Program's organizational and financial commitment to Simulation Research.
- c. The Simulation Program has a designated individual(s) responsible for providing oversight of the Simulation Research program.*
 - i. Document: Provide an SSH accreditation biosketch for the individual(s) responsible for oversight of Simulation Research activities.
 - ii. Describe and provide supporting documentation for the role and responsibilities of the individual(s) responsible for oversight of Simulation Research activities.
 - iii. Describe and provide supporting documentation that the individual(s) responsible for oversight of Simulation Research activities has dedicated time (at least 20% recommended).

- d. *The Simulation Program has evidence of Simulation Research activity, including publication(s) and/or presentation(s) of Simulation Research findings in peer-reviewed forums demonstrating a continuum of efforts focused on healthcare simulation.*
 - i. Document: Provide a list of presentations involving Simulation Research within the past 24 months at local, regional, national, and/or international meetings or conferences (maximum of 10).
 - ii. Document: Provide a list of peer-reviewed publications involving Simulation Research within the past 24 months (maximum of 10).
 - iii. Document: Provide a list of Simulation Research activities (current and past) that have not been presented or published in peer-reviewed publications (maximum of 10).

2. SIMULATION RESEARCH ACTIVITY DESIGN

- a. *The Simulation Program designs Simulation Research activities using best practices.*
 - i. Describe the design and development process for Simulation Research activities.
 - ii. Document: Provide a list of Simulation Research activities that follow the design process (maximum of 10).
 - iii. Describe and provide supporting documentation for the process to ensure that simulation experts are included in the design of Simulation Research activities.

3. QUALIFIED SIMULATION RESEARCHERS

- a. *The Simulation Program has access to qualified Simulation Researchers*
 - i. Describe how the individuals who are Simulation Researchers with the Program are qualified for their role.
 - ii. Document: Provide SSH accreditation bio-sketches for the most active Simulation Researchers (maximum of 5).
 - iii. Document: Provide a list of Simulation Research-related professional development activities attended by those involved in Simulation Research.
 - iv. Describe how simulation program staff who participate in the Simulation Research Program are oriented to their role(s).

4. EVALUATION AND IMPROVEMENT

- a. *The Simulation Program has mechanisms in place to evaluate, review and update Simulation Research activities at least annually.*
 - i. Describe and provide supporting documentation for how Simulation Research activities are evaluated systematically and routinely.
 - ii. Describe and provide supporting documentation of changes implemented to the overall Simulation Research Program based on the evaluation process (maximum of five).

5. SIMULATION RESEARCH COLLABORATION

- a. *The Simulation Program's Simulation Research activities promote collaborative relationships and engagement internal and external to the Program.*
 - i. Describe and provide supporting documentation of any collaborative Simulation Research relationships within the last 24 months that included collaborators external to the Simulation Research program.

b. The Simulation Program has evidence of mentorship related to Simulation Research.

- i. Describe how Simulation Research mentorship is conducted through the Program.
- ii. Describe and provide supporting documentation for any mentor/mentee Simulation Research pairs (Max of 5) facilitated by the Simulation Program in the last 24 months. Include a brief description of the associated Simulation Research for each mentor-mentee relationship.

6. COMPLIANCE

a. The Simulation Program is compliant with accepted Simulation Research standards and/or processes.

- i. Document: Provide policies and procedures related to Simulation Research conducted through the Program.
- ii. Describe and provide supporting documentation on how the Program maintains compliance with applicable national, regional, and/or institutional research standards.

7. ETHICS

a. The Simulation Program is committed to ethical Simulation Research.

- i. Describe how the simulation program ensures individual(s), involved in Simulation Research, are operationalizing ethical standards.