

ACAHM Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine

Policy Title:	Program Naming Policy
Approved By:	ACAHM Commission
Document History:	Implementation Date: 06 March 2020 Last Updated: 23 January 2024
Related Commission Policies:	Notification of Change Policy ; Glossary
Responsible Official:	ACAHM Director of Accreditation Services

Policy Summary: This policy identifies authorized names for ACAHM-accreditable programs.

Effective **1 January 2024**, these are the only program names that ACAHM will recognize and accredit:

1. ENTRY-LEVEL PROGRAMS:

A. *Necessary for professional licensure and/or national certification in acupuncture*

- Master of Acupuncture (MAc) or
 - Master of Science¹ in Acupuncture
- Doctor of Acupuncture (DAc)

B. *Necessary for professional licensure in acupuncture that includes Chinese herbal medicine and/or national certification in Chinese herbology/Oriental medicine*

- Master of Acupuncture with a Chinese herbal medicine specialization (MAcCHM) or
 - Master of Science¹ in Acupuncture with a Chinese herbal medicine specialization
 - Master of [Science in] Acupuncture and Chinese Herbal Medicine²
 - Master of [Science in] Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine³
- Doctor of Acupuncture with a Chinese herbal medicine specialization (DAcCHM) or
 - Doctor of Acupuncture and Chinese Herbal Medicine²
 - Doctor of Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine³

2. ADVANCED PRACTICE DOCTORAL PROGRAM:

- Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (DAOM)⁴

3. GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS:

- Certificate in Chinese Herbal Medicine (CCHM)
- Certificate in Asian Medical Bodywork (CAMB)

For instructions on changing the name of ACAHM-accredited programs see the Commission's *Notification of Change Policy*, change 2.03.

¹ Programs may use a "Master of Science" degree designation provided the program meets the relevant state higher education authority's requirements. All master's-level programs must meet the same ACAHM accreditation standards' requirements regardless of whether the name incorporates a "Science" designation or not.

² Programs may choose to not include the "specialization" designation. All entry-level programs addressing Chinese herbal medicine must meet the same ACAHM accreditation standards' requirements regardless of whether the name incorporates a "specialization" designation or not.

³ Programs may choose to not include the "Chinese" descriptor. All entry-level programs addressing Chinese herbal medicine must meet the same ACAHM accreditation standards' requirements regardless of whether the name incorporates a "Chinese" descriptor or not.

⁴ Advanced practice doctoral title will be revised as part of the 2022-23 standards revision process.

Revision History

Date Revised	Summary of Revisions	Approved By
200306	Adopted by the Commission at its' Feb 2020 meeting in response to public comments received regarding ACAOM <i>Degree Structure and Naming Convention Policy</i> (policy now retired)	ACAOM Commission
200522	Changed order of words in CHM specialization; removed "master's-level" from certificate name	ACAOM Commission
210219	Effective date extended one year to 1 Jan 2023	ACAOM Commission
211001	Added distinct acronyms for each program; added "Science" designation option for master's programs; moved CCHM from "entry-level" heading to "certificate" heading; adjusted Commission name to ACAHM	ACAHM Commission
220204	adjusted terminology throughout for ACAHM name change and removal of "Oriental" term except DAOM degree title; no material revisions made	ACAHM Executive Director
220901	"specialization" designation and "Chinese" descriptor made optional; certificate in Asian medical bodywork added; effective date extended one year to 1 Jan 2024	ACAHM Commission
240123	Reviewed; no revisions	ACAHM Executive Director