Council on Podiatric Medical Education

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STATEMENT OF ACCREDITATION STATUS

College:	University of Texas Rio Grande Valley School of Podiatric Medicine
Address:	2102 Treasure Hills Boulevard Harlingen, TX 78550
Telephone:	(956) 665-5898
President:	Guy Bailey, PhD
Academic Dean:	Javier La Fontaine, DPM, MS, MEd
Date of Initial Accreditation:	2025
Accreditation:	CPME: November 2025 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools: 2020
Maximum Enrollment:	40
Date of Previous Evaluations:	January 24-25, 2022 (Candidacy) December 11-14, 2023 (Preaccreditation site visit) January 6, 2025 (Focused site visit to determine Preaccreditation) May 19-22, 2025 (Comprehensive site visit to determine Accreditation) November 10, 2025 (Focused site visit to determine Accreditation)
Next Scheduled Site Visit:	CPME: Winter/Spring 2029 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools: 2027

Brief History since the Last Comprehensive Evaluation:

On-site Evaluation to determine candidacy status: January 24-25, 2022

June 2022 Council Meeting

Based on the review of the comprehensive report of the evaluation team, the school's written responses to the team report, the presentation to the Accreditation Committee (Committee) on April 21, 2022, the follow-up responses received on May 11, 2022, and the presentation to the Committee on June 6, 2022, the Council on Podiatric Medical Education accepted the Committee's recommendation and elected to **grant candidacy status** of the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) School of Podiatric Medicine (SOPM) on June 8, 2022**.** On-site re-evaluation to determine preaccreditation status may be expected during the late fall 2023/early winter 2024. The maximum first-year class enrollment is 40.

On-site Evaluation to determine preaccreditation status: December 11-14, 2023

April 2024 Council Meeting

Based on review of the comprehensive report of the onsite evaluation team, the school's written response to the team report, and the school's presentation to the Accreditation Committee on April 18, 2024, the Council **did not grant preaccreditation** and instead **determined that candidacy will extend for one additional year** as there are substantial noncompliance issues that the Committee and Council determined could be resolved within a relatively limited period of time. Note that candidate status may extend for no longer than three years (initially granted June 2022).

The Committee and Council determined that a focused site visit should be scheduled. This will allow the school to demonstrate progress with the issues identified during the onsite visit, the posting of the Part I APMLE scores, and the build out of the newly acquired physical space. The school may admit students for the fall 2024 semester as progress has been demonstrated. A focused on-site evaluation to assess progress and compliance with the CPME accreditation standards may be expected in fall/early winter 2024. The maximum first-year class enrollment for the school is 40.

January 2025

Focused On-site Evaluation to determine preaccreditation status: January 6, 2025

Based on review of the focused on-site team report of the onsite evaluation team, the school's written response to the team report, and presentation to the Accreditation Committee on January 21, 2025, the Council on Podiatric Medical Education accepted the Committee's recommendation and elected to **grant preaccreditation status** to the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) School of Podiatric Medicine. A comprehensive on-site evaluation to assess accreditation and compliance with the CPME accreditation standards will be scheduled for May 19-22, 2025. The maximum first-year class enrollment for the school is 40.

On-site Evaluation to determine initial accreditation status: May 19-22, 2025.

October 2025

Based on review of the comprehensive report of the on-site evaluation team, the school's written response to the team report, and the school's presentation to the Accreditation Committee on October 15, 2025, the Council **did not grant accreditation** and instead **determined that preaccreditation status will extend for up to one additional year** as there are substantial noncompliance issues that the Committee and Council believe can potentially be resolved within a relatively limited period of time.

The Committee and Council determined that a focused site visit should be scheduled. This will allow the school to demonstrate that it complies with all accreditation requirements to secure initial accreditation status. The focused on-site visit will be scheduled in winter 2025/very early 2026 for an accreditation decision in April 2026, unless the Council determines that an earlier special meeting of the Accreditation Committee and Council will take place. Students should be made aware of the potential impact of the initial accreditation decision on the ability to graduate and engage in the residency match. The maximum first-year class enrollment for the school is 40.

Focused On-site Evaluation to determine initial accreditation status: November 10, 2025

November 2025

Based on review of the focused on-site team report of the on-site evaluation team, the school's written response to the team report, and presentation to the Accreditation Committee on November 25, 2025, the Council **granted accreditation status** to the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) School of Podiatric Medicine through October 2029. An on-site reevaluation may be expected during the winter or spring of 2029. The maximum first-year class enrollment for the school is 40 students.

The school is in compliance with all accreditation standards.

Last updated 12.1.2025