

Basic Information on ACS BSCN Accreditation Levels for Applicants

Level	Description	Center Volume Requirement	Surgeon Requirement	Other
Level 1 (Level 1A and 1B)	Level 1 centers have demonstrated the capacity to manage high surgical volumes. These centers have comprehensive resources to provide surgical care for patients at all levels of obesity, ages and co-morbid conditions, including care for the most challenging and complex patients.	At least 125 or more weight-loss operations annually.	At least two credentialed and experienced bariatric surgeons who have each performed at least 100 weight-loss operations in the previous 24 months.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 1A are NSQIP sites, or are in active negotiations to become NSQIP sites, at the time of application. • Facility must have provided surgical services for more than one year • Once provisional approval is granted, the center has six months to conduct a site visit.
Level 2 (Level 2A and 2B)	Level 2 centers possess expert resources to deliver high-quality surgical care to a lower volume of patients than Level 1 centers. Level 2 centers may only serve patients who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are younger than 60 years of age • have a Body Mass Index of less than, but not equal, to < 55 for males and < 60 for females • have an absence of significant cardiac or pulmonary comorbid conditions 	At least 25 or more weight-loss operations annually.	At least one credentialed and experienced bariatric surgeon who performed at least 50 weight-loss operations in the previous 24 months.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 2A are NSQIP sites, or are in active negotiations to become NSQIP sites, at the time of application. • Facility must have provided surgical services for more than one year • Once provisional approval is granted, the center has six months to conduct a site visit.
Level Outpatient	Level Outpatient centers successfully provide the application and adjustment of laparoscopic adjustable gastric bands. At this time, this is the only procedure approved for outpatient center accreditation.	At least 50 or more weight-loss operations annually.	At least one credentialed and experienced bariatric surgeon who performed or supervised at least 100 weight-loss operations in the previous 24 months.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facility must have provided surgical services for more than one year • Once provisional approval is granted, the center has six months to conduct a site visit
Level-New	To support newly-established surgical programs, two accreditation levels are offered: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Level 2-New 2) Outpatient-New 	Level 2-New: A bariatric surgery center is eligible to apply for Level 2-New once it performs 25 weight-loss operations	Level 2-New: The center must still meet all other ACS BSCN Accreditation Program criteria for Level 2 centers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facility not subject to requirement of providing surgery for more than one year (see Center Volume Requirement column) • Level-New centers have three months to complete a site visit, if provisional approval is granted.
		Outpatient-New: A program may apply after it performs 25 laparoscopic adjustable gastric band procedures.	Outpatient-New: The center must still meet all other ACS BSCN Accreditation Program criteria for Outpatient centers.	