In this document:

1. Why participate in AIM?
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A key to success in 21st century medicine will be the ability to create learning health systems. In so doing, academic health centers have an advantage in that they are the only organizations with the ability to capture the synergy from the optimal alignment of education, research, and patient care, thus defining a new level of a learning health system. The AIM Program is intended to support this alignment on an individualized, institutional basis. To our knowledge, there is no other program like this in the world.

- **The AIM Program is tailored to your institution.** AIM participants can tailor the program to the needs and strategic goals of their institution regardless of size, finances, or stage of development. For example:
  - Participants can choose to focus on a specific part or parts of the academic health center or do a deep dive involving the entire institution (the latter is recommended.)
  - Participants can share areas they would like to focus on within the AIM Program and AAHCI will customize the program and group of consultants accordingly.
  - AAHCI will provide recommendations on how to complete a self-assessment and follow-up action plan, but will also work with each institution to create a format suitable to their needs.

- **AIM Program consultants have senior leadership experience as your peers.**
  - All AIM Program consultants are distinguished former leaders who have held a major leadership role at an academic health center. They understand in-depth the value and challenges of enhancing the alignment of research, education and patient care.
  - The AIM Program consultants come from a wide range of institutions (various regions, sizes, public/private, urban/rural, and so on.) We recommend AIM sites have at least one consultant from a different country, which offers a unique perspective and unbiased feedback.

- **AIM Site Visits provide a forum for honest, confidential discussion with leaders from all stakeholders of the academic health center** (university, hospitals, partners, etc.) to gain a better understanding of what is working well and where improvements in alignment can and/or should be made. Unlike accreditation programs, the results of the AIM Program are not graded or publicized.

- **AIM participants will receive access to a database of knowledge gained from the overall program** focused on the analysis, research, and data confidentially culled from AIM institutions involving the alignment of academic health center missions. AIM participants will be asked to share best practices throughout the three-year cycle, lessons learned from the program, and case studies where applicable. AIM participants will also have access to their peers from other institutions participating in the program.