

HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION VISIT MARCH 5-6, 2018



HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION

Frontline Professionals
February 14, 2018
Shenandoah Room, Mountainlair



IMPORTANCE OF ACCREDITATION

Types of Accreditation

- Institutional
Evaluation of the entire institution
National and regional agencies
- Specialized
Program-specific, e.g. law, business,
nursing
Often linked to a national professional
organization



IMPORTANCE OF ACCREDITATION

- Verifies institution meets standards
- Allows institution to be evaluated by peers
- Promotes institutional self-knowledge and advancement
- Provides assurance to the public about quality
- Builds and maintains confidence in higher education



IMPORTANCE OF ACCREDITATION

Institutional accreditation is essential:

- Federal financial aid
- Specialized accreditation
- Assurance of academic quality



HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION

- WVU's institutional accreditor
- One of six regional accreditors in the United States
- Accredits more than 1,000 colleges and universities in 19 states
- Ensures that universities meet and maintain standards for academics and administration
- Evaluates the entire educational institution according to the Commission's Criteria
- Recognized by US Department of Education and Council for Higher Education Accreditation



THE STANDARD PATHWAY

Cycle Year	Institutional Activities		Peer Review	HLC Decision Making ¹
Year 1	Institution may contribute documents to Evidence File	Submit interim reports and undergo visits if required	Review interim reports and conduct visits if required	Action on interim reports and visits if required
Year 2				
Year 3				
Year 4	Submit Comprehensive Evaluation Materials ²		Conduct Comprehensive Evaluation (with visit)	Action on Comprehensive Evaluation ³
Year 5	Institution may contribute documents to Evidence File	Submit interim reports and undergo visits if required	Review interim reports and conduct visits if required	Action on interim reports and visits if required
Year 6				
Year 7				
Year 8				
Year 9				
Year 10	Submit Comprehensive Evaluation Materials ²		Conduct Comprehensive Evaluation (with visit)	Action on Comprehensive Evaluation and Reaffirmation of Accreditation ⁴



CRITERIA FOR ACCREDITATION

1. Mission
2. Ethical and Responsible Conduct
3. Teaching and Learning: Quality, Resources, and Support
4. Teaching and Learning: Evaluation and Improvement
5. Resources, Planning, and Institutional Improvement



FEDERAL COMPLIANCE

- Assignment of credits, program length, and tuition
- Institutional record of student complaints
- Publication of transfer policies
- Practices for verification of student identity
- Title IV program responsibilities
- Required information for students and the public
- Advertising and recruitment materials and other public information
- Review of student outcome data
- Publication of student outcome data
- Standing with state and other accrediting agencies
- Public notification of opportunity to comment
- Competency-based programs including direct assessment programs/faculty-student engagement



CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

- Attend open forums for members of the WVU community, to be held at the Erickson Alumni Center on Monday, March 5, 2018 and Tuesday, March 6, 2018.*
- Share today's information within your organization and encourage your colleagues to attend the open forums.
- Accreditation is critical to WVU as it ensures the quality of our institution. Participation is essential to its success.

** A detailed schedule will be provided via Enews and other internal communications as the dates draw closer.*



QUESTIONS?

Thank you!

