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## ***What is Accreditation?***

Accreditation is a system (comprehensive process) of self-regulation developed by higher education institutions to evaluate overall institutional quality and encourage continual improvement. The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, ACCJC accreditation process provides assurance to the public that the accredited member colleges meet the Standards; the education earned at the institutions is of value to the student who earned it; and employers, trade or profession-related licensing agencies, and other colleges and universities can accept a student's credential as legitimate.

## ***The Accreditation Process***

ACCJC member institutions agree to undergo a comprehensive review for reaffirmation of accreditation every seven years to determine whether they are continuing to meet the established Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, including the federal requirements, and Commission policies. Member institutions are expected to engage in sustainable efforts to improve educational quality and institutional effectiveness. The review process includes four steps: internal self-evaluation, external evaluation by a team of peer reviewers, Commission review and accreditation action, and institutional response to recommendations for improvement.

## ***Upcoming Deadlines***

- ✓ November 30, 2020 – Accreditation Subcommittees finish writing and editing sections
- ✓ February 28, 2021- Accreditation Steering Task Force (ASTF) completes final report draft
- ✓ Spring 2021 – College Community reviews draft report and submits feedback to the ASTF
- ✓ Spring 2021 – ASTF finalizes report content after making updates with community feedback
- ✓ July 26, 2021 – Submit the final report to the ACCJC

**September 27-30, 2021** - Evaluation Team Site Visit

### **Subcommittee Progress Reports (September)**

#### **Standard IA, IB and IC VP of Student Services, Severo Balason**

– Currently reviewing edits and evidence. Sends thanks to Dr. Sharyn Eveland and Dr. Michelle Oja for assisting with Standards IB and IC.

#### **Standard IIA and IIB VP of Instruction, Dr. Leslie Minor**

- Standard IIB draft is completed and sub-committee members have reviewed. Standard IIA is almost complete. Finishing up the final analysis.

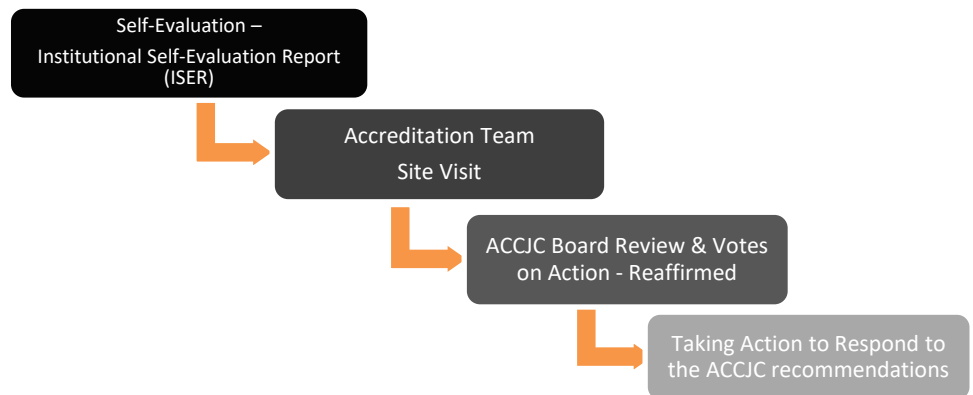
#### **Standard IIC Dean of Student Success, Dr. Windy Martinez**

-The draft is finished but there are some gaps that will be updated. Will be sent out to subcommittee for feedback.

#### **Standard IIIA VP of HR, Heather del Rosario**

- The draft has been submitted and sub-committees are still reviewing.

## **The Accreditation Process What are the Steps?**



### 1. Starts with an institutional self-evaluation

- The institution conducts an evaluation of itself against established requirements and in terms of its stated institutional mission and goals.
- The institution considers the quality of its programs and services, the institution’s effectiveness in supporting student learning and student achievement, and the degree to which the institution is meeting its own expectations (institution-set standards).
- The institution assesses the quality of its programs and services and institutional effectiveness
- Complete Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER), and to share its evidence and analysis with peers on the peer review team and on the Commission.

### 2. An external, peer reviewer team appointed by ACCJC.

- Teams include eight to ten members representing academics, administrators, and administrative
- The team examines the ISER, visits the institution, writes a Team Report that determines the institution’s compliance with the Commission’s Standards and other requirements, makes recommendations for compliance and improvement, and commends excellent practice when appropriate.

# ACCJC Accreditation Update

## ACCREDITATION STEERING TASK FORCE

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### ***Subcommittee Progress Reports Continued***

**Standard IIIB and IIID  
Executive VP of  
Administrative Services,  
Brock McMurray**  
*- Drafts are complete and  
evidence has been  
submitted.*

**Standard IIIC  
Xiaohong Li, Executive  
Director of IR & Interim  
IT Director**  
*– The draft is complete  
and subcommittee  
members are reviewing  
the document to confirm  
all the technical  
information is correct.*

**Standard IVA, IVB and  
IVC  
Dr. Debra Daniels,  
Superintendent/  
President**  
*- The draft is complete and  
submitted. Some re-  
editing will be done.*

### ***The Accreditation Process What are the Steps? (Continued)***

3. The elected members of the Commission
  - Determine the accredited status of an institution.
  - The Commission meets in January and June of each year to make a decision on the accredited status of each institution
  - The Commission sends an electronic Action Letter to the Institution and to the public through Commission announcements.
  - The Commission may provide the institution with additional “improvement recommendations”
  
4. The institution’s responses to the recommendations it receives in the Commission’s Action Letter.
  - The college also acts on its own self-identified improvement plans that resulted from its internal self-evaluation.
  - The total of the cycle of internal and external review is ongoing institutional and educational improvement. Continuous improvement is encouraged through the ACCJC’s

### ***College to Be Accredited Why Important***

- ✓ To make sure quality assurance of programs and offerings.
- ✓ To allow eligible students to receive federal financial aid assistance.
- ✓ To maintain institutions’ acceptability of transfer credits

Please visit the Taft College Accreditation Website at:  
<https://www.taftcollege.edu/iarp/accreditation/#>

For any questions or concerns please call the  
Office of Institutional Research & Planning at (661) 763-7944

Resources: ACCJC Guide to Institutional Self-Evaluation,  
Improvement, and Peer Review \*September 2018 Edition\*