

What is Accreditation & Why Should I Care?

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What do you know about Accreditation ?





Which of the following is true of Accreditation?

- A.** It compares colleges to best practices in education.
- B.** It punishes colleges based upon audits.
- C.** It grades and ranks colleges based on standards.
- D.** It guarantees the quality of education to the federal government and the public.
- E.** I don't know, ask Bill!



Who Participates In Accreditation Processes?

- A. Faculty
- B. Administration
- C. Classified Staff
- D. Students
- E. All of the above



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- Purpose of accreditation
- Importance of accreditation
- Your role in ongoing accreditation work
- Your role in accreditation reporting
- Mt. SAC accreditation next steps

Overview


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“The ACCJC accreditation process verifies that Mt. SAC meets a minimum standard. As one of California's premier community colleges, we are in the enviable position of generally exceeding the standards. Our previous work has resulted in our having a full six year accreditation and in fact we are being asked for advice from other colleges with regard to accreditation matters. Although the ACCJC standards continue to change, we have a college culture that can adapt to those changes.”

-Eric Kaljumagi
President, Academic Senate



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National Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI)
(Authorized by Higher Education Opportunity Act to *review regional accrediting agencies*)

↓

U.S. Department of Education
(*Grants recognition to regional accrediting agencies*
based on recommendation from NACIQI)



↓



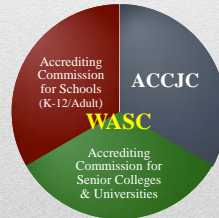
Regional Accrediting Agencies (7)
(*Grant accreditations to schools and colleges*)

U.S. Accreditation Structure

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Commission for Community and Junior College (ACCJC)

- A commission within the regional accrediting agency, Western Association of Schools & Colleges (WASC)
- Accredits associate degree granting institutions
- Establishes *eligibility requirements, Accreditation Standards, commission policies,* and *procedures* to assess institutional quality



Our Accrediting Commission

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Only accredited institutions qualify for financial aid (Title IV funds) and federal/state grants!

For Students

- Vital for international mobility
 - ✓ Transfer of credit
 - ✓ Legitimacy of degrees and qualifications

For the Public

- Assures legitimacy of institution and confidence in the quality of programs and student services
- Promotes accountability through ongoing external evaluation

What Accreditation Does

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- A. 8%
- B. 28%
- C. 48%
- D. 68%



\$4,461 was the average grant amount per Mt. SAC student in 2011

What % of 1st time, full-time students at Mt. SAC received financial aid in 2011 ?

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- Eradicate degree mills
- Taxpayers are demanding accountability for financial aid \$\$ spent on students
- Demand for documentation of student learning (outcomes)
 - ✓ Student Success Act - ARCC/Scorecard
 - ✓ Degrees - Obama

Accountability Measures

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What Does It Mean If A College Gets A Negative Accreditation Report?

- A. The college loses federal funding
- B. The college loses student financial aid
- C. The college loses the ability to transfer courses
- D. The college can no longer operate
- E. It depends on the negative report

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STUDENTS NEED MT. SAC !!

“ The poorly run City College of San Francisco has eight months to prove it should stay in business, yet must

make preparations for closure”...

San Francisco Chronicle

Mt. SAC ACCJC 2010 Evaluation Report

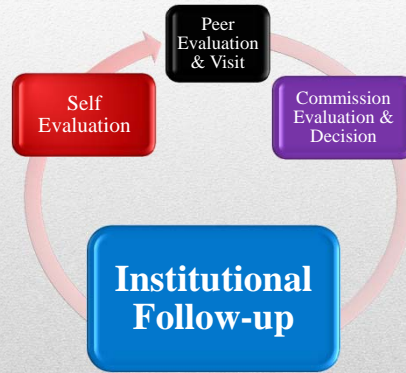
“**The team commends the college** for excellent and innovative programs that recruit, orient, and prepare students for college success.....”

Why Should I Care ?

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FEAR NOT !!

We spend the majority of our time in **Institutional "Follow-up...
Ongoing, daily accreditation work !**



Continuous Accreditation Process

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Accreditation standards, California Education Code, and Title 5 regulations all expect faculty to take a leadership role in ensuring student success.



Broad Participation is Key

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Standard I: Institutional Mission & Effectiveness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual PIE Process • Use mission statement for planning & decision-making • Academic Senate • Committees (IEC, PAC) 	Standard II: Student Learning Programs & Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching • Assessing & evaluating SLOs • Curriculum design • Counseling & information literacy support • Support services
Standard III: Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hiring committees • Facilities Advisory • Information Technology Advisory Committee • Professional Development committees • Budget Committee • President's Advisory Council 	Standard IV: Leadership & Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Committee work • Academic Senate • Faculty Association • Academic Mutual Agreement Council • President's Advisory Council

Ongoing Work of Faculty

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What Standard Or Standards Should Faculty Be Involved In?

A. Standard I
 B. Standard II
 C. Standard III
 D. Standard II and IV
 E. Standards I-IV

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How does your work help the college meet the Accreditation Standards?

Your Role in Ongoing Accreditation Work

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"I think the most important part of accreditation is the Self-Evaluation. The Self-Evaluation allows the program to compare itself to industry standards, set by our manufacturers, and experience a very positive systematic "tune-up."
- Darrow Soares

- Courses and programs are reviewed for usefulness and currency
- Student pathways to success are reviewed
- Budgeting, planning and resource allocation processes are examined

What Does Accreditation Verify ?



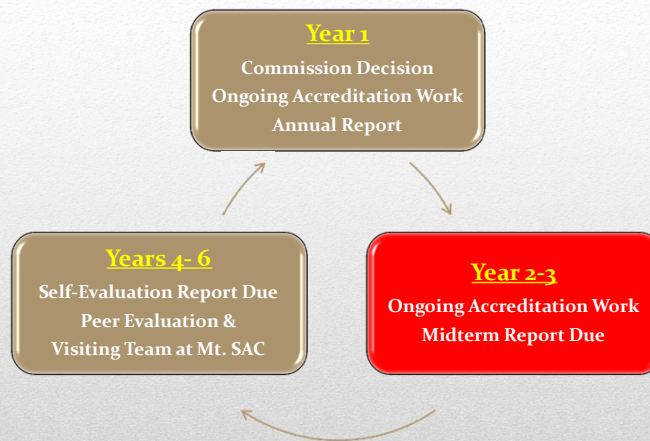
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What Role Do Faculty Play In The Accreditation Process?

- A. Ongoing, daily work of teaching and learning
- B. Assessing and evaluating SLOs to guide department planning (PIE)
- C. Validating the accuracy of reports to the student perspective
- D. Representation on committees
- E. All of the above



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Accreditation Reporting Cycle

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Already Complete

- ✓ Departments, Committees, CSEA, Cabinet, Academic Senate, & Faculty Association all provided input into the Midterm Report Update document



In Process

- ✓ Accreditation Leadership Ad Hoc Group is using the Midterm Report Update document to draft the Midterm Report

Next Steps

- ✓ In spring the Midterm Report will be sent to campus community for review and input
- ✓ Seek Board approval before end of June 2013

Where are We Now ?

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- Post Accreditation Reflection
- Academic Senate Accreditation Taskforce
- Classified Communication Summit
- Managers Survey

Lessons Learned

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- AS & PAC reviewing proposal for ongoing Accreditation Steering Committee
- Effort for inclusion of all stakeholders through accreditation training & preparation

What's the Next Step ?

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Questions & Answers

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U.S. Department of Education

<http://www2.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/index.html>

Council for Higher Education Accreditation

http://www.chea.org/pdf/fund_accred_20ques_02.pdf

Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges

<http://www.accjc.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/Feb-2011-special-edition.pdf>

Academic Senate for California Community Colleges

<http://asccc.org/directory/accreditation-committee>

Mt. SAC Accreditation websites

➤ College ACCJC Accreditation

<http://www.mtsac.edu/administration/accreditation/>

➤ Continuing Education ACS Accreditation

<http://www.mtsac.edu/instruction/continuing/accreditation/index.html>

Resources

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This presentation will be available on the
Mt. SAC Accreditation webpage:

<http://www.mtsac.edu/administration/accreditation/index.html>