

University Accreditation

Presentation to the Educational Planning and
Policy Committee, Board of Regents

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What is Accreditation?



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Types of Accreditation

- Regional Accreditation
- Specialized Accreditation



How does accreditation serve University Planning?



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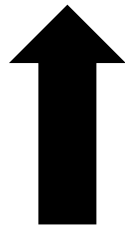
Academic Program Approval
(New, Changed, Discontinued)



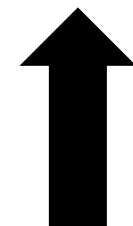
Academic Program Review



Academic Assessment
(Accountability and Improvement)



Regional and Specialized Accreditation



Assessment of Student Learning



The Accreditation Process

- Self-study
- Peer review and site visit
- Action by accrediting organization
- Monitoring and oversight



Accreditation Trends



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Regional Accreditation:

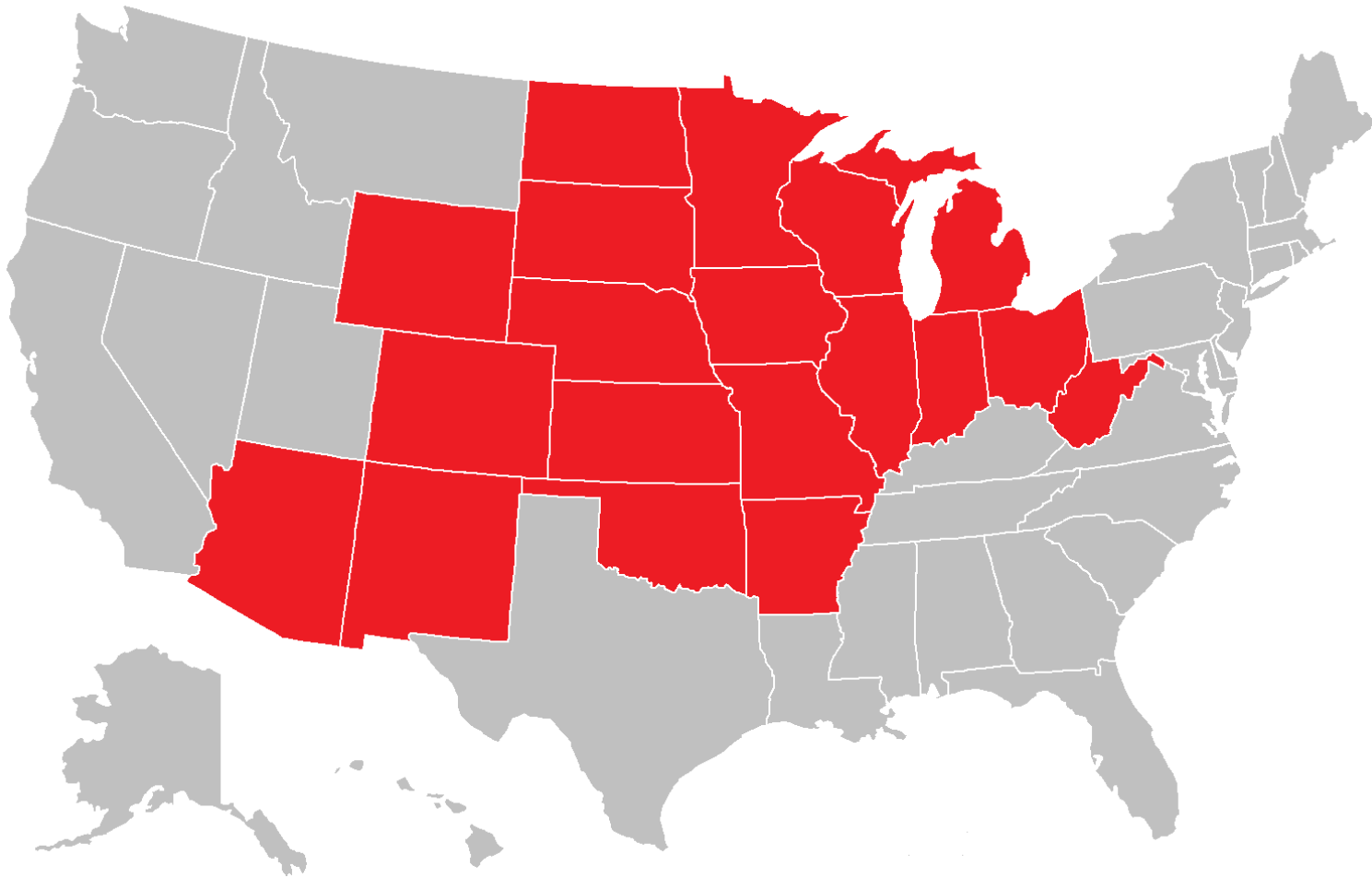
Accreditation by the Higher Learning
Commission of the North Central
Association of Colleges and Schools



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The Higher Learning Commission



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HLC Accreditation Criteria

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



Changes to HLC's Reaffirmation of Accreditation Process



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Campus Accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission

	First Accredited	Last Accreditation Visit	Next Accreditation Visit
Twin Cities Campus	1913	2005-06	2015-16
Duluth Campus	1968	2007-08	2017-18
Morris Campus	1970	2009-10	2019-20
Crookston Campus	1971	2005-06	2014-15
Rochester Campus	Currently in process		



Specialized and Professional Accreditation Academic Health Center



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Characteristics

- Programs that prepare students for professional practice
- The higher the level of specific professional knowledge, the greater the evaluation required
- Development of Standards
- Participation on Site Teams
- On-Site Discussions
- Report to Accrediting Council
- Council Decisions



Link to regulatory, legislative & funding procedures

- In health professions, state/national regulatory agencies require graduation from accredited programs to be eligible for licensure.
- Graduation from accredited programs required for most professional and specialized certifications - required to practice in a discipline.
- US Government only provides assistance to students enrolled in accredited programs (i.e., student loans).
- National accreditation allows free movement of professionals via mutual recognition between states and internationally.



Standards

- Central to accreditation
- Define minimum levels of quality
- Basis of all decisions by site teams and accrediting body
- Created by educators, regulators, practitioners, students, & general public
- Revised on a routine basis



Common Accreditation Framework for Professional and Specialized Accreditation

- Student Achievement
- Curricula
- Faculty
- Facilities, equipment & supplies
- Fiscal & administrative capacity
- Student support service
- Recruiting & admissions practices, academic calendars, catalogs, publications, grading & advertising
- Program length
- Objectives of degrees or credentials
- Student complaints



Self Study

- Central to accreditation
- Program's self-assessment of compliance to the accreditation standards
- Expect broad involvement from across program's stakeholders
- Required element for USDE recognition
- Purpose of site visit is to validate the findings of the self study



Academic Health Center Accreditations

	Professional Program	Residency/Specialty
Center for Allied Health Programs	2	
College of Pharmacy	1	1
College of Veterinary Medicine	1	17
Medical School	3	75
School of Dentistry	1	9
School of Nursing	7	
School of Public Health	1	3



Current Status – AHC School Accreditation

School /Program	Length of Accreditation
School of Dentistry	2006 to 2013
Medical School	2012 to 2019-20
School of Nursing – BSN	2010 to 2020
School of Nursing -- Masters	2010 to 2020
School of Nursing – DNP	2010 to 2015
School of Pharmacy	2010 to 2016
School of Public Health	2007 to 2014
College of Veterinary Medicine	2007 to 2014

