

The AWARE Webinar will begin momentarily.

Have questions? Submit them using the dialogue box below.
If we don't get to your question during the Q&A portion, we'll reach out to you via email.

We'll keep the dialogue going on Twitter using the hashtag #ACICSaccredits. Follow us on Twitter @ACICSaccredits.





ACCREDITING COUNCIL FOR
INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

Online Public Forum & AWARE Webinar

February 8, 2013

ACICS Webinar Announcing, Relating & Explaining
The January 2013 *Memorandum to the Field*



Welcome



Albert C. Gray, Ph.D.
Executive Director
ACICS



Outline

- **Welcome**
- **Topic I: *Changes to the Accreditation Criteria***
 - Presentation of final and proposed revisions
- **Topic II: *Student Achievement Standards***
- **Topic III: *Placement Definitions***
- **Topic IV: *Placement Verification Program***



Today's Presenters

- **Albert C. Gray, Ph.D.**, Executive Director
- **Thomas Wickenden, Ph.D.**, Deputy Executive Director
- **Anthony Bieda, M.B.A.**, Director of External Affairs
- **Susan Greer, M.B.A.**, Assistant Director of Operations
- **Terron King, M.A.**, Manager of Policy & Institutional Review



TOPIC I: Changes to the Criteria

Criteria Effective Immediately

- Extensive Substantive Changes
- Waivers
- Bylaws



Extensive Substantive Changes- *Final Revisions*

- **2-2-501. *Initiation and Evaluation of New Programs***
 - ✓ Institutions are required to receive approval to initiate new programs while undergoing review for extensive substantive changes.



Waivers- *Final Revisions*

- **Section 2-1-809. *Student Achievement Review***
- **Section 2-2-501. *Initiation and Evaluation of New Programs***
 - ✓ The Council clarifies its authority to apply requirements such as attending a workshop or participating in a consultation, to campuses and institutions which must submit student achievement improvement plans while reserving the imposition of more serious conditions, such as restrictions on offering new programs unless granted a waiver, to those that are found out of compliance with an ACICS standard.



Bylaws- *Final Revisions*

- *Section 1-Composition.*
- ✓ The number of elected members was changed from six to five.



TOPIC I: Changes to the Criteria

Proposed Criteria Revisions

- Campus Accountability Report**
- Procedures and Guidelines for Unannounced Visits**
- Standards of Satisfactory Progress**
- Requirements for English as a Second Language**
- Guidelines on Disclosure and Notification**
- Minimum Eligibility Requirements**



Campus Accountability Report- *Proposed Revisions*

- 2-1-801. Annual Accountability Reports.
- ✓ The deadline for the Campus Accountability Report is being extended to **November 1st** to provide more time for students who graduate toward the end of the reporting period, to take exams, if required, and find employment.



Procedures and Guidelines for Unannounced Visits- Proposed *Revisions*

- Appendix B

- ✓ Amendments were made to eliminate dated terminology and the use of the library as a possible location for a visiting team.



Standards of Satisfactory Progress- Proposed *Revisions*

- Appendix D
- ✓ Amendments were made to eliminate redundancy; to include information for programs that are less than one academic year and to incorporate a minimum CGPA for graduate programs.



Requirements for English as a Second Language- Proposed Revisions

- Appendix F

- ✓ Amendments were made to reflect that the information detailed in this section is required versus a guideline.



Guidelines on Disclosure and Notification – Proposed Revisions

- Appendix G

- ✓ Amendments were made to remove dated language.



Minimum Eligibility Requirements – Proposed Revisions

- Section 1-2-100. Minimum Eligibility Requirements
 - ✓ Amendments were made to the minimum eligibility requirements to allow distance education institutions to be considered on a case by case basis provided they require a residential component.



TOPIC II: Student Achievement Standards

The 2012 Student Achievement Standards have been applied to the 2012 Campus Accountability Report (CAR) data

- 2012 Standards
- Notification and Warning Letters
- Improvement and Compliance Requirements
- Mini CAR
- 2013 Modifications to standards



TOPIC II: Student Achievement Standards

The 2012 Benchmark and Compliance Standards identify campuses and programs that need to improve or comply

BENCHMARK THRESHOLDS						
	CAMPUS			PROGRAM		
	Retention 67	Placement 64	Licensure N/A	Retention 62	Placement 58	Licensure 60
IMPROVEMENT Ranges (In-Compliance)	52-66	47-63	na	52-61	47-57	40-59
COMPLIANCE STANDARDS						
	CAMPUS			PROGRAM		
	Retention 52	Placement 47	Licensure N/A	Retention 52	Placement 47	Licensure 40
NON-COMPLIANCE Ranges	51 and below	46 and below	na	51 and below	46 and below	39 and below



Student Achievement Standards

Two **types of letters** have gone out

- ❑ Student Achievement Improvement Notices to campuses within the improvement ranges at the
 - Campus level, or
 - Program level

- ❑ Student Achievement Compliance Warnings to campuses below the compliance standards at the
 - Campus level, or
 - Program level



Student Achievement Standards

Key Elements of each letter:

- ❑ Subject line – Improvement or Compliance
- ❑ Campus-level issues – Retention &/ or Placement rates below ACICS standard
- ❑ Programs with Program-level issues – Retention, Placement &/or Licensure
- ❑ Requirements (Campus R/P Improvement Plan &/or Program Improvement Plan(s), reporting, workshop/consultation/special visit)



Student Achievement Standards

Relevant requirements:

Improvement Notices

- Campus-level
 - Reporting, workshops, submit **Campus Improvement Plan**
- Program- level
 - Include **Program Improvement Plan** in CEP

Compliance Warnings

- Campus level
 - Submit **Campus Improvement Plan**
 - Reporting, workshop/consultation/visit, and waivers
 - Must be in compliance within timeframe
- Program level
 - Include **Program Improvement Plan** in CEP
 - Must be in compliance within timeframe



Student Achievement Standards

LICENSURE PASS RATES - A second report on licensure pass rates only (a “mini CAR”) will be requested as of March 1, 2013.

- Campuses may update their 2012 licensure pass rates for the 2012 calendar year
- Programs needing improvement or out of compliance will be identified again at the Council’s April meeting, based upon the 2012 calendar year data



Student Achievement Standards

HEAD'S UP! – STANDARDS FOR NEXT YEAR

- ❑ **Enhanced Standards** – Standards to be applied in 2013 have been enhanced, requiring continued improvement
- ❑ **Mitigating Circumstances** – Mitigating circumstances may be described in the 2013 CAR and will be considered by the Council in applying the 2013 standards

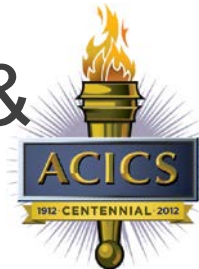


TOPIC III: Placement Definitions

ACICS Council has refined its definition for Job Placement. The position is either:

- Included on published list of job titles
- Requires use of learned skills as a predominant component of the job, or
- Student attests to benefit of training in obtaining or maintaining the position

NOTE: Operational definitions of these & other requirements will be developed



Placement Definitions

- ❑ “Placed” replaces in-field and related-field
- ❑ Length of employment – intention is that the job is continuing and/or sustainable
- ❑ Non-traditional employment includes paid practical training for international students
- ❑ Placement must be paid and includes:
 - ❑ New placement
 - ❑ Actual or possible promotion
 - ❑ Professional development (enhancing job skills)
- ❑ Waivers must be documented



TOPIC IV: Placement Verification Program

TOPIC - ACICS is developing a program for **third-party verification** of job placement data.

- Benefits
- Annual Component
- Re-accreditation Component
- Verification Process
- Implementation



Placement Verification Program

BENEFITS - In response to increased scrutiny by students, the public and policy makers, ACICS is developing a program for **third-party verification** of job placement data. The benefits include:

- More accurate placement data and rates
- Increased confidence in the ACICS placement rates published by members
- Better informed decisions about compliance
- Improved accountability for student achievement
- More effective education for students



Placement Verification Program

ANNUAL COMPONENT – Each campus is encouraged to utilize third-party verification, but ACICS will arrange it for those who do not.

- Contractor
- Process & Timing
- Sampling
- Results
- Remediation



Placement Verification Program

RE-ACCREDITATION COMPONENT

– To be provided by the campus' verifier or through ACICS

- Contractor
- Process & Timing
- Sampling
- Results
- Not Available for Placement (Waivers)



Placement Verification Program

VERIFICATION PROCESS – All verifiers will utilize the same process, stipulated in contract and explained in training

- Data transfer
- Timing
- Placement Definitions
- Discrepancy Resolution
- Benchmark
- Remediation



Placement Verification Program

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN-

- Approval of verifiers and development of Infrastructure
- Training of verifiers, members, staff and volunteers
- Beta Test of annual and re-accreditation components
- Establish “Correct Placement” benchmark and remediation requirements
- Full Implementation





ACCREDITING COUNCIL FOR INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

Available at www.ACICS.org

To view the Memo:

> Council Actions

>> Memorandum to the Field

>>> 2013, January

The screenshot shows the ACICS website interface. At the top, there is a search bar and links for 'Create an Account', 'Login', and 'Sitemap'. The main header features the ACICS logo and the organization's name. Below the header is a navigation menu with options: Home, About Us, Accreditation, Council Actions, Students, Evaluators, Events/Workshops, and News. A dropdown menu is open under 'Council Actions', listing: Memorandum to the Field, New Grant Schedule, Institutions Invited to Apply, Institution Closings, Accreditation Conditioned, and Voluntary Withdrawal. A blue arrow points to 'Memorandum to the Field'. The main content area shows a list of 'Council Actions' with links for each category. A blue arrow points to the 'Memorandum to the Field' link. Below this, the 'Memorandum to the Field' page is displayed, featuring a photo of two people on a campus and a list of dates from 2011 to 2012. A blue arrow points to the 'June 2012' entry.

Search Search our site go [Create an Account](#) | [Login](#) | [Sitemap](#)

ACICS ACCREDITING COUNCIL FOR
INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

Home | About Us | Accreditation | Council Actions | Students | Evaluators | Events/Workshops | News

Memorandum to the Field
New Grant Schedule
Institutions Invited to Apply
Institution Closings
Accreditation Conditioned
Voluntary Withdrawal

Home > Council Actions

ShareThis

Memorandum to the Field

After each Council meeting, ACICS staff will publish a memorandum to ACICS-accredited institutions and other interested parties which includes final criteria changes, proposed criteria changes, and general information for the membership on a number of topics.

2012
June 2012
April 2012
March 2012

2011
December 2011
October 2011
August 2011





ACCREDITING COUNCIL FOR INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

Available at www.ACICS.org

To view the Slides:

> Events/Workshops

>> Webinars

>>> AWARE

ACICS ACCREDITING COUNCIL FOR INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

Home | About Us | Accreditation | Council Actions | Students | Evaluators | Events/Workshops | News

Events/Workshops

ACICS Centennial

- Panel Discussion: Webcast
- About the ACICS Centennial
- Centennial News
- Stories of the Centennial
- Upcoming Events
- Community Service Project
- Resources to Download

2012 Workshop Schedule

Registration Instructions

Workshop Descriptions

Webinars

Calendar of Events

Past Annual Meetings

Visiting Washington, DC

Home > Events and Workshops > Webinars

Webinars

Webinars are free informational seminars that are accessed over the Internet. The sessions are designed for schools but will also be of interest to evaluators and others.

Available Webinars

- Evaluator Training
- AWARE
- IEP Webinar
- Self-Study Submission
- Archived Webinars

Evaluator Training Modules

Please note registration for the Evaluator Workshop has changed. For more information, visit [Step 5 of Becoming an Evaluator](#). Effective January, 2010, evaluator training consists of three pre-recorded Go-To-Webinar modules and one live two hour Go-To-Webinar. The final two hour live Go-To-Webinar is by invitation only.



Other Information

Questions?

Comments?

Please type in any questions or comments you might have! **NOTE:** You can also use the comment form at the back of the Memorandum to the Field to send in comments.

