

The AWARE Webinar Will Begin Momentarily

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- Q&A are archived on our website under Frequently Asked Questions under the Events and Workshops tab!



The AWARE Webinar Will Begin Momentarily

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ACCREDITING COUNCIL FOR
INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

AWARE Webinar

May 26, 2016
2:00-3:30pm EST

ACICS Webinar Announcing, **Relating & Explaining**
The May 2016 Memorandum to the Field



Today's Presenters

- **Anthony Bieda**, Executive in Charge
- **Susan Greer**, Vice President, Accreditation Operations
- **Ian Harazduk**, Senior Manager, Policy and Compliance



Agenda

- **Welcome**
- **Topic I: *Final Changes to the Accreditation Criteria***
- **Topic II: *Proposed Changes to the Accreditation Criteria***
- **Topic III: *For Information Only***
- **Questions and Comments**





ACCREDITING COUNCIL FOR INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

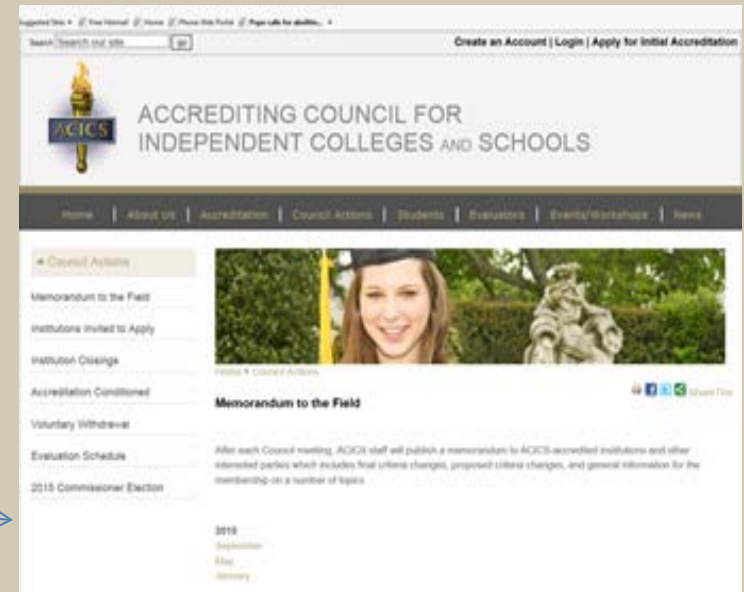
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To view the Memo:

> Council Actions

>> Memorandum to the Field

>>> 2016 May



Welcome



Anthony S. Bieda
Executive in Charge



TOPIC I:
FINAL CRITERIA
REVISIONS (EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2016)



Reminder: Final Criteria Revisions – January 2016 (Effective July 1, 2016)

- **Unannounced Visits**
- **Community Resources**
- **Teaching Loads**
- **Faculty Assignments – Applied General Education**
- **Glossary – Lecture, Laboratory, In-Service Training**
- **Faculty Preparation**
- **Admissions and Recruitment**
- **Campus Effectiveness Plan**



Final Criteria Revisions – May 2016

- **Definition of Academic Quality**
- **Data Integrity Standard**
- **Recruitment Activities Review**
- **Institutional Performance Disclosures**
- **Placement Definition**
- **Debarment Policy**
- **Admissions Requirements for Professional Master's Degree Programs**



Definition of Academic Quality

Final Revisions

Title I, Chapter 1

The Council established a formal, explicit Definition of Academic Quality in the *Accreditation Criteria*.

Key components:

- Academic quality is in the context of an institution's mission
- It is measured by the extent to which the institution achieves its student learning and student success outcomes
- Effectiveness of an institution is demonstrated by compliance with accreditation standards and continuous quality enhancement
- The final revision moves the ACICS statement of mission under Title I, Chapter I



Data Integrity Standard

Final Revisions

Section 3-1-203

The Council included a new standard on data integrity.

Key components:

- The standard provides explicit requirement for accuracy and reliability of data collected at submitted to ACICS
- All data reported to ACICS is subject to review for integrity, accuracy, and completeness
- On-site visit teams will continue to identify an evaluator with the primary role of verifying reported institutional data



Recruitment Activities Review

Final Revisions

Section 3-1-412(a)

The Council revised criteria regarding oversight of recruitment activities.

Key components:

- The language maintains the requirement that the institution must ensure that all recruiting personnel are communicating current and accurate information
- There is now an explicit requirement that any student achievement disclosures communicated are accurate
- The institution must maintain documentation that it systematically monitors recruitment activities



Institutional Performance Disclosure

Final Revisions

Sections 3-1-704 and Appendix C

The Council revised language regarding institutional performance disclosures.

Key components:

- Student achievement must be disclosed at the campus (not institutional) and program level
- At a minimum, campuses must disclose their retention, placement, and licensure exam pass rate (if applicable)
- ACICS has developed a simplified disclaimer for performance information disclosure



Placement Definition

Final Revisions

Glossary

The Council has included a definition for placement.

Key components:

- Placement is working in a field of study or acquiring a credential that directly benefits the graduate's existing employment
- Succinct definition will accompany placement rate calculation
- The Council has authorized a comprehensive review of all the definitions, reporting templates, and training support for the development, tracking, reporting, and verification of student achievement data



Debarment Policy

Final Revisions

Section 2-3-900

The Council revised the debarment policy.

Key components:

- Clarifies procedure that a person or entity that is issued an intent to bar notice receives one opportunity to appeal decision
- The appeal may occur either in writing or in person at the discretion of the person or entity



Admissions Requirements for Professional Master's Degree Programs

Final Revisions

Section 3-6-601

The Council revised criteria regarding admissions requirements at the master's degree level.

Key components:

- Clarifies the standard that a baccalaureate degree may not be required for admission for a professional master's degree program
- This provision is allowed only if master's degree is recognized by a specialized accrediting agency and leads to certification or licensure



TOPIC II: **PROPOSED CRITERIA REVISIONS**



Proposed Criteria Revisions

- Probation Standards



Probation Standards

Proposed Revisions

Sections 2-3-200 and 2-3-240 - 2-3-244

The Council proposes revisions to criteria regarding probation standards.

Key components:

- The Council may take the appropriate action in accordance with the procedures described
- Probation may be ordered when an institution has materially demonstrated that it unable to operate in compliance with the *Accreditation Criteria*
- Probation will be included in the Council Action Process
- A probation order will have a definitive time frame for when it may result in a withdrawal action or be lifted.



TOPIC III:
FOR INFORMATION ONLY



For Information Only

- **Board of Ethics**
- **Interim On-Site Evaluations**
- **Data Integrity Review**



Board of Ethics

For Information Only

- New method for reconciling conflicts of interest or perceived breaches of integrity on Council
- Bylaw Change: A commissioner will resign if they are employed with an institution deemed to be under serious scrutiny with ACICS standards
- Bylaw Change: Board of Ethics will be a standing committee of the Board of Directors, which will act upon perceived or actual conflicts of interest



Interim On-Site Evaluations

For Information Only

- While on-site, ACICS will review overall effectiveness in the areas of administrative capability, campus effectiveness planning, admissions and recruitment practices, recordkeeping (i.e. students files and CAR), and faculty qualifications, etc.
- The evaluation process has been introduced this Spring 2016 cycle and applied to at-risk institutions as determined by student achievement outcomes, complaints or adverse information, and/or financial conditions, among others
- These substantive reviews will also be incorporated into the quality assurance monitoring program beginning in the Fall 2016 cycle



Data Integrity Review

For Information Only

- Each comprehensive evaluation visit includes an evaluator with the primary role of verifying reported institutional data, specifically placement information
- ACICS will analyze the results from this review and improve efficiency, where necessary
- ACICS will be introducing procedures to further its review of all institutional data



Question & Answer



Please type in any questions or comments you might have!





ACCREDITING COUNCIL FOR INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

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The screenshot shows the ACICS website interface. At the top, the ACICS logo and name are displayed. Below the logo is a navigation menu with links: Home, About Us, Accreditation, Council Actions, Students, Evaluator, Events/Workshops, and News. The 'Events/Workshops' menu is expanded, showing a sub-menu with links: ACICS Centennial, 2012 Workshop Schedule, Registration Instructions, Workshop Descriptions, Webinars, Calendar of Events, Past Annual Meetings, and Visiting Washington, DC. The 'Webinars' link is highlighted. Below the navigation menu, the main content area displays the 'Webinars' page. The page title is 'Webinars' and it includes a description: '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.' Below the description, there is a section titled 'Available Webinars' with a list of items: Evaluator Training, AWARE, IEP Webinar, Self-Study Submission, and Archived Webinars. There is also a section for 'Evaluator Training Modules' with a paragraph of text. Red arrows from the text on the left point to the 'Events/Workshops' menu, the 'Webinars' link in the sub-menu, and the 'AWARE' item in the 'Available Webinars' list.



Comments from the Field



Thank you for attending the AWARE Webinar! Please provide your feedback to the *May 2016 Memorandum to the Field* via our electronic survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MTTF052016>

