The AWARE will begin momentarily...

- Have a copy of the Memo at-hand, an electronic version of which can be found on our web site, under the Council Action tab.

- Have questions? Submit them via the Go-to-Webinar dialogue box.

The Memo is available at www.ACICS.org

To view the Memo:
- Council Actions
- Memorandum to the Field
- September 2020
Today’s Presenters

- Michelle Edwards, President and CEO
- Michelle Bonocore, Director of Institutional Compliance
- Karly Zeigler, Director of Accreditation

Welcome!
President’s Welcome
Ms. Michelle Edwards

Agenda

- Topic I: Final Criteria Revisions
- Topic II: Proposed Criteria Revisions & Changes
- Topic III: For Information Only
- Q & A Session
Final Criteria Revisions

• Requirements for Distance Education (Appendix H)
• Requirements for English as a Second Language (ESL) Programs (Appendix F)
• Guidelines on Disclosure and Notification
• Teach-Out Plans and Agreements
• Initiation and Evaluation of Program Changes
Final Criteria Revisions

- Legal Organizations for Institutions Outside the U.S.
- Reasons for Revocation
- Campus Consolidations - Removed
- Change of Control
- Review Board Decisions
- Debarment Notification
- Adverse Actions

Requirements for Distance Education (Appendix H & Glossary)

Institutional Readiness
- Inclusion into mission objectives
- Further detail on integration into CEP

Curriculum and Instructional Delivery
- Stability of access to be maintained
- Inclusion of professional development relevant to online delivery
- Faculty evaluation
Requirements for Distance Education Cont’d
(Appendix H & Glossary)

Resources and Equipment
• Incorporation of library resources into online courses

Student Evaluation and Program Assessment
• Evaluation of effectiveness of distance learning activities

Publications
• State, federal, and other oversight disclosures requirement

Glossary
• Added definitions include: Interaction, Memorandum of Understanding, and Service Center.
Requirements for ESL Programs (Appendix F)

• Reconstruction of ESL requirements
• Clarity on stand-alone programs
• Program objectives, goals, outcomes, and levels of proficiency must be defined
• Admissions requirements include adherence to federal agency requirements, specified evaluation instruments, notice on enrollment agreements
• Removal of ESL courses as part of a program – not evaluated as a part of these standards

Requirements for ESL Programs Cont’d (Appendix F)

• Minimum faculty qualifications identified along with professional development requirements
• Instructional and community resource standards
• Addition of specific student services requirements to include satisfactory progress, as well as cultural and immigration support
• Use of same tool for entrance and exit exams as well as ongoing review of program assessments
• Evaluation of effectiveness to be included in the CEP
Guidelines on Disclosure and Notification (Appendix G)

- Language updated to reflect current notification practices and to align with the new federal regulations implemented on July 1, 2020
- Simplifies location of policies and accredited institutions – website
- Notification of Council actions within 30 days to all parties
- Notification of institutional closings, voluntary withdrawals, and expirations of accreditation all within 10 days
- Same-time notification provided to the USDE, state, and other agencies of show-cause or adverse action and public notification within 1 business day
- Institutions must notify students and prospective students within seven business days

Teach-Out Plans and Agreements (Section 2-2-303)

- Alignment with recently approved federal regulations
- Addition of conditions which may require a teach-out agreement:
  - Actions taken by the DOE to limit, suspend, or terminate Title IV participation, including HCM2.
  - Council action to deny or withdraw
  - Campus Closure
  - State agency action to revoke
Program Initiation and Changes (Sections 2-2-106, 2-2-109, 2-2-120, & 2-2-121)

• Programs no longer must be offered residentially before applying for online
• Similar to new programs, distance education mode of delivery must be initiated within 1 year of proposed start date
• Language clean-up: extensive = substantive

Legal Organization for Institutions Outside the United States (Section 1-2-100)

• Allows for consideration of other legal structures for institutions that may not fit those in Section 1-2-100(h)
• Considered on a case-by-case basis
Reasons for Revocation
(Section 2-1-801, 2-1-802, 2-1-804, & 2-3-401)

- Failure to submit CAR and financial reports no longer revocable actions, rather may result in withdrawal by suspension as failure to submit required reports.
- Removal of outdated requirement for certification by chief executive officer for CAR.

Campus Consolidations Removed
(Section 2-2-202)

- Finalized language to removing consolidation of campuses
- Process now includes closure of one campus and possible reassignment if necessary
Change of Control (Section 2-2-403)

- Distinction between change of control at not-for-profit institutions
  - Must receive approval prior to change
  - Change of Control application
  - Requires a QAM visit
  - May require ACICS accreditation session

Review Board Decisions (Section 2-3-603, 2-3-606, & Bylaws, Article VII)

- Alignment with federal regulations
- Removal of a reversal of the action by the Council as a possible outcome
- Removal of language allowing for an indication of dissenting opinions within the board.
Debarment
(Section 2-3-900)

• Notification of intent to bar notices to be sent ONLY electronically via email

Adverse Actions
(Throughout)

• Language clean-up to use “adverse” consistently when referring to withdrawal actions
TOPIC II:

PROPOSED Criteria revision

• Additional Stipulations

Proposed Criteria Revisions
Additional Stipulations
(Chapter 1 Introduction, 2-1-700, Chapter 3 Introduction, 2-3-220, 2-3-230, & 2-3-231)

- Language added to allow for the Council to “limit or otherwise condition” as necessary to ensure the protection of students when an institution is found to be materially out of compliance
- Assure due process but also to protect students in case of precipitous closure or loss of accreditation
- Language revised based on feedback to qualify potential actions that may be taken
Semi-Annual CAR

• Effective for the 2021 reporting year to align with the new two-cycle review year.
• CAR submitted twice annually: May 1st and November 1st.

Placement Verification Program (PVP) CIP to SOC Update

• IPEDS has released new SOC codes for 2020 and a new CIP to SOC crosswalk has been provided.
• Provided on second page of PVP spreadsheets
• Review CIP codes to ensure the most accurate reflection of program
PVP Third-Party Verification

- Third-Party verifications will be accepted for up to 10% of the campus’s placements that have already been submitted to the PVP as of October 14, 2020.
- Capability open for submission October 14th and accepted through October 23rd.
- Reviewed and validated through the 29th.
- These will only be accepted for placements classified as placed by TITLE.
- Verifications will only be accepted from The Work Number/Equifax.

Two-Cycle Review Year

Current Three-Cycle Year | 2021 Two-Cycle Year
-------------------------|-------------------------
**Council Meetings**     | April, August, December | May, November |
**IRC**                  | March, July, November | April, October |
**Policy Meeting**       | February | January |
**Memo to the Field**    | May, September, January | June, December |
**Financial Review**     | April, August, December | Ongoing |
**Student Achievement (CAR) Review** | December | December |
**Annual Meeting**       | May | January |

Two-Cycle Review Year Effective for 2021
Currently Under Review for 2020 - 2021

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>Library Resources and Services</td>
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<td>International Partnership Agreements (Appendix I)</td>
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<td>Study Abroad (Appendix J)</td>
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Systematic Review

For the 2020 CAR review, outcomes for all programs, including those with Program Enrollment/Graduates Totaling < 10, will be reviewed in accordance with Appendix L
CAR: Applying for Mitigating Circumstances

- Per Appendix L: “Consideration will be given to extenuating circumstances in relation to local, state, or national requirements or trends; student population; program length; graduates pending the completion of licensure or certification exams; economic or cultural factors; or any other reasonable circumstances impeding an institution’s ability to meet or exceed the established compliance standard. However, the institution must also submit documented evidence of student learning through other appropriate indicators.”
- The application will be available via the CAR Portal on October 1, 2020.
- Documentation must include narrative request and alternative documented evidence of student learning.
- Application must be submitted along with the CAR on or before November 1.

Workshops

- Coming Soon: CEP and Deferral workshops
  - Register at www.acics.org/workshops
Seeking Evaluators!
Play an active role in the quality enhancement of our educational institutions!

AWARE

AREAS OF NEED
INCLUDE: STUDENT
RELATIONS, DIGITAL
SCIENCES, HEALTH
SCIENCES, AND
OTHERS.

VISIT
WWW.ACICS.ORG/EVALUATORS
BECOMING

QUESTIONS SENT TO
EVALUATOR@ACICS.ORG

Call for Comment
Please provide feedback to the proposed criteria, or to recommend any changes or revisions, via the survey link provided in the September 2020 Memo to the Field. Also available on the website: https://www.acics.org/council
memorandum