



STANDARDS FOR ACCREDITATION

5.1. STANDARDS FOR ACCREDITATION

5.1.1. Establishment of Accreditation Standards

The Commission shall be responsible for the establishment of current, relevant, and appropriate standards of quality to be used to guide school improvement and accreditation decisions. Different standards may be developed for different audiences with the proviso that all member institutions shall meet high standards of quality appropriate to the type and nature of the institutions.

5.1.2. Member Input into Accreditation Standards

The Commission shall provide advance public notice of proposed new or revised criteria, giving interested parties adequate opportunity to comment on these proposals prior to the adoption.

5.1.3. Notice of Standards Revisions

The Commission shall provide advance notice of proposed new or revised accreditation standards, giving member institutions adequate opportunity to prepare to meet these standards. This notice shall be at least one year in advance of when new or revised accreditation standards go into effect.

5.1.4. Frequency of a Comprehensive Standards Review

The Commission shall conduct a comprehensive review of accreditation standards at least once every five years, unless member institution response or other factors warrant a more frequent examination. See Policy 6.2.3.1. – 6.2.3.8. for further detail on standards review processes for postsecondary institutions.

5.1.5. Acceptance of the Standards of Other Organizations

The Commission may allow the use of self-studies organized around the accreditation standards established by other organizations when those standards are well aligned and adequately address those of the Commission.

Policy # 5.1.1-5.1.5.

Initial Adoption Date: April 12, 2003

Last Revision and Adoption Date: April 12, 2003

October 17, 2003