

## COVID-19 Guidance for ACCSC-Accredited Schools (Updated 12-21-20)

As shared in the Commission's [March 19, 2020](#) and [May 27, 2020](#) memorandums regarding the impact of COVID-19 on institutional operations and accrediting procedures, ACCSC continues to provide temporary relief with regard to some accreditation requirements as a means to continue to assist schools with the challenges associated with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

### Verification of Admissions Documentation – Extension on Allowance of Signed Attestations

On March 19, 2020, ACCSC issued [guidance](#) which permits schools to obtain a signed attestation by a student to serve as “documentation” that the student has met the school’s admissions requirement (e.g., possesses a high school credential, college degree, GED, etc.). The signed attestation must indicate that the student has earned the credential required by the school’s admissions requirements but cannot provide documentation of that credential due to a school district/school closure.

Given the on-going situation surrounding COVID-19, and possible challenges with obtaining official documents from secondary and post-secondary schools and school districts, the Commission is extending this allowance until **June 30, 2021**.

This guidance contemplates that a school will support its admissions decisions with independent documentation – e.g., transcripts, proof of diplomas and GEDs, etc. – as soon as practicable after the district or school from which a student earned a credential reopens and can fulfill such requests.

- [March 19, 2020 Proof of Graduation and the Impact of COVID-19](#)

### Virtual Program Advisory Committee Meetings

In light of the ongoing impact of COVID-19, the Commission will continue to allow schools to hold Program Advisory Committee (“PAC”) meetings for each program or group of related programs via virtual meeting technologies for **all PAC meetings held in 2021**. PAC(s) should still review all items set forth in *Section II (A)(6), Substantive Standards, Standards of Accreditation*, however, the physical review of equipment and facilities may be done virtually.

.....

The Accrediting Commission continues to encourage institutions to engage in open and direct dialogue with ACCSC staff to discuss individual school needs.

- [Click Here to Access the Online Staff Directory](#)