

ACCSC ACCREDITATION ALERT

To: ACCSC Accredited Institutions and Other Interested Parties
From: Michale S. McComis, Ed.D., Executive Director
Date: September 10, 2025
Subject: Announcement and Revisions to the ACCSC *Standards of Accreditation*

Revisions to the *Standards of Accreditation*:

Chapter 1 – Rules of Process and Procedure

- Substantive Changes – *Section IV (C)*
- Time Frame to Remedy Noncompliance – *Section VII (N)*

Throughout this Accreditation Alert, new text is annotated in **red, bold, italic**; deleted text in ~~blue strikethrough~~.

These revisions are effective as of September 10, 2025. All revisions will be incorporated into the *Standards of Accreditation* at the next date of republication.

For additional information related to this Accreditation Alert, please contact Michale S. McComis, Ed.D., Executive Director, at 703.247.4520 or mccomis@accsc.org.

REVISIONS TO THE RULES OF PROCESS AND PROCEDURE, STANDARDS OF ACCREDITATION

SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES

In order to show more clearly ACCSC's alignment with federal regulations as part of the Petition for Re-recognition process with U.S. Department of Education and to show that the Commission adopts and applies the federal definitions of substantive changes related to separate facilities, the Commission has made the following clarifying revisions to its *Rules*.

SECTION IV – NON-SUBSTANTIVE AND SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE NOTIFICATION AND APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

C. Substantive Changes

2. The Commission considers the following to be substantive changes to an educational institution:
 - a. Level I – Staff Level Approval:
 - ix. The addition of ~~a satellite location or~~ a distance education facility ***that does not provide training;***
 - b. Level II – Commission Level Approval:
 - viii. An addition of a branch campus ***or other separate facility;*** and

COMMISSION ACTIONS

In order to show more clearly ACCSC's alignment with federal regulations as part of the Petition for Re-recognition process with the U.S. Department of Education and to show that ACCSC effectively and timely enforces its standards when there is a finding of noncompliance, the Commission has made the following revisions to its *Rules*.

SECTION VII – COMMISSION ACTIONS

N. Time Frame to Remedy Noncompliance

1. When the Commission has found an area in which a school is out of compliance with accreditation standards or requirements, the Commission will provide the institution with a written timeline as set forth in the Commission's notification for coming into compliance that is reasonable based on the nature of the finding(s), ***the current period of review***, the school's stated mission, and the educational objectives of the institution.
4. ~~The time frame to remedy noncompliance will begin on the date that the Commission first informs a school that a finding of noncompliance has been made but will not begin during a period when the Commission is still in a fact finding process.~~
5. If the school does not bring itself into compliance within the period specified by the Commission ~~or within the maximum time frame described above~~, the Commission will take adverse action.