Accreditation Matters! What's in it for YOU?

Skyline College

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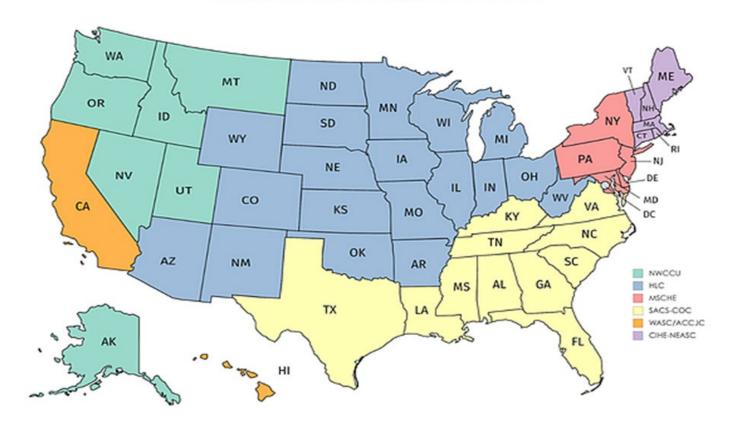
Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC)

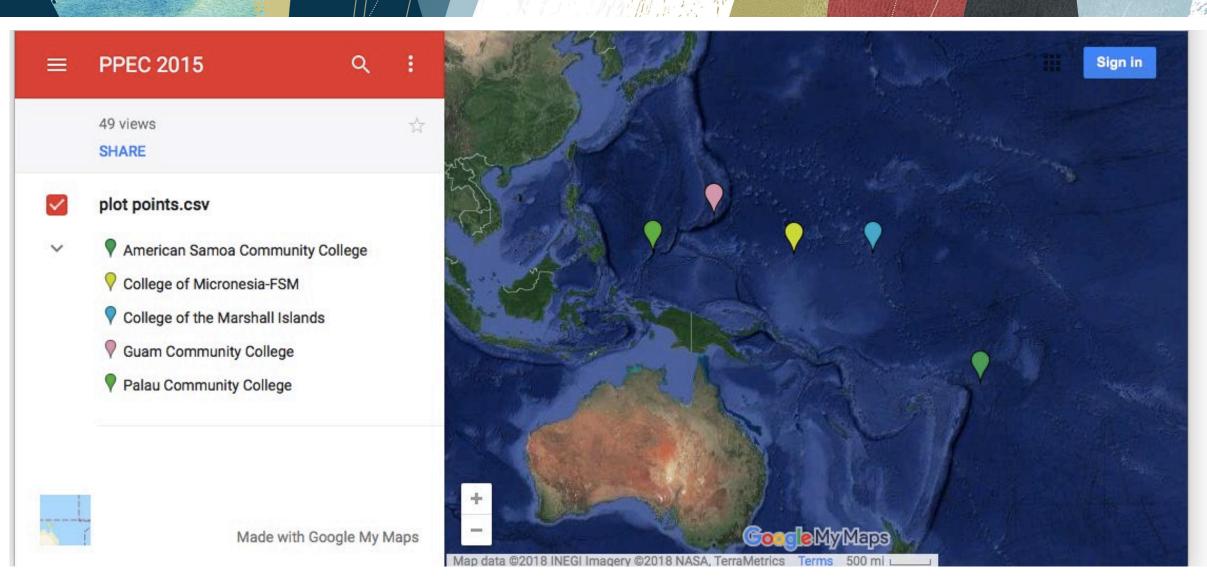


Accreditation 101

- Regional Accreditor
 - 6 regions, 7 accreditors

Geographic Scope of Regional Accreditors



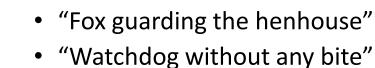


What is the Purpose of Accreditation?

- Why go through all this work?
 - Gatekeepers of federal financial aid
 - Assure quality to the public and students



- U.S. Higher Education Commitment to Peer Review
 - Unique to U.S.
 - Uses academic inquiry to inform best practices for improvement
 - Criticisms





ACCJC Updates

- More effective, More responsive:
 - Dual purpose of compliance and improvement
 - College aligns to the standards vs. looking for deficiencies
 - Help the college, support the college, celebrate the college
 - Mission centered review
- US Department of Education staff and NACIQI recommendation to the department's senior official:
 - Renew ACCJC's recognition for five years
 - Issues and Problems: None
 - Approve expansion of scope: ACCJC can approve credentials "not to exceed the bachelor's degree" (no limit on the number of bachelor's degrees ACCJC can approve)



Formative/Summative Approach

- A "Formative/Summative" model for comprehensive reviews
 - The college's self-study is submitted to the review team a semester prior to the site visit for the Team ISER Review (TIR)
 - During the TIR, peer review team conducts a formative evaluation:
 - Verifies compliance with many operational aspects, taking them "off the table" as not requiring onsite verification
 - Specifies areas where additional information is needed, or where the institution needs to further develop its processes, in anticipation of the site visit a semester later
 - Identifies focused "Core Inquiries" that will be pursued during the on-site visit
 - A smaller team (and/or a shorter visit schedule) conducts the Focused Site Visit, with the team report leading to summative findings
 - Endorsed in concept by the Commission January 2019; 3 single-institution pilots, then a district; Advisory Committee to guide development of details



Visual Representation of the Process



Other Changes on the Horizon

- Leadership Transition (Spring 2020)
- Standards Review (2021)



Questions and Comments

