

Accreditation 2026

Karen Wong

Coordinator of Institutional Effectiveness

What is accreditation?

“Accreditation' is review of the quality of higher education institutions and programs. In the United States, accreditation is a major way that students, families, government officials, and the press know that an institution or program provides a quality education.”

– [Council for Higher Education Accreditation](#)

Why is accreditation important?

- Ability to Operate a Higher Education Institution
- Self-Assessment to Ensure Student Success
- Accredited Degrees and Certificates
- Transferable Units and Degrees
- Financial Aid



Skyline College is accredited by the

ACCJC

ACCREDITING COMMISSION FOR
COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES

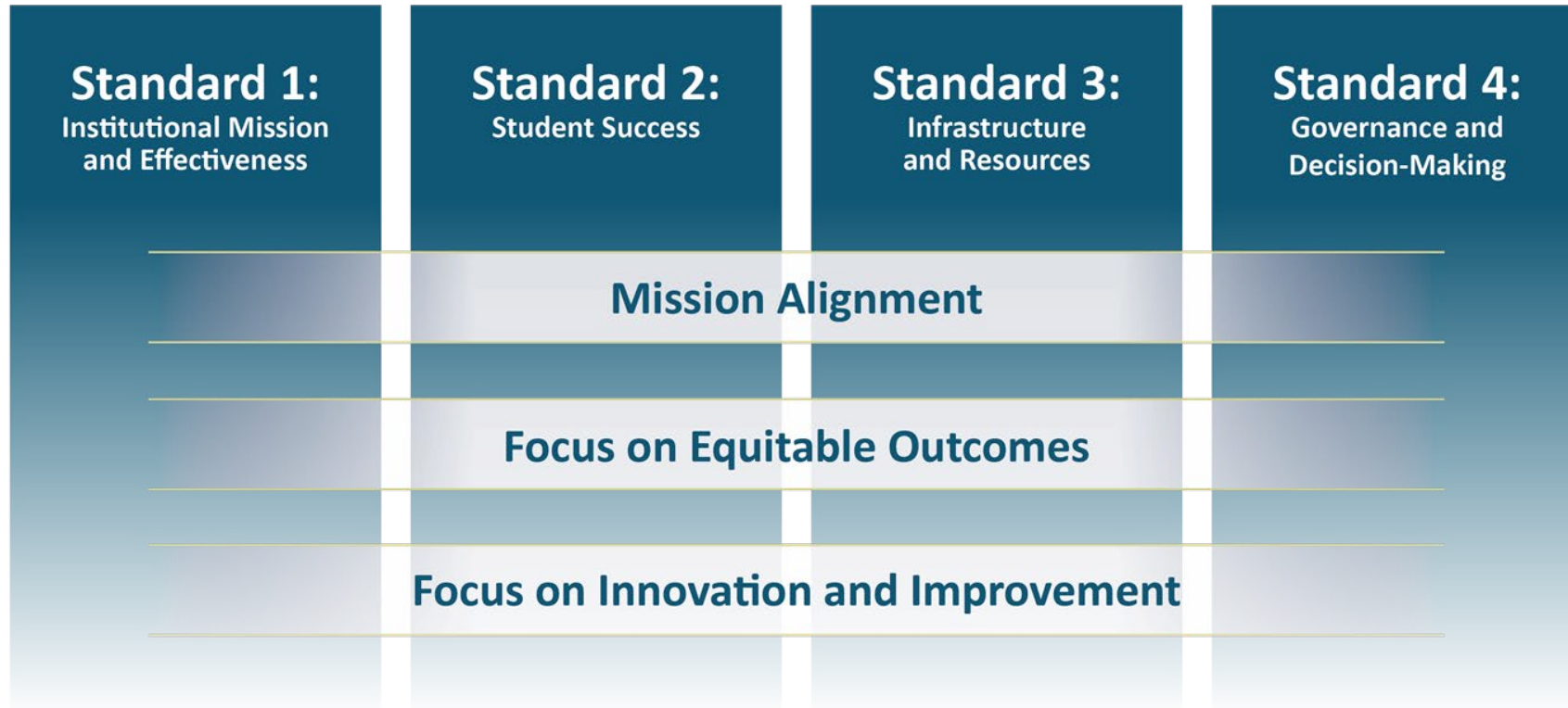
Outcomes | Innovation | Improvement

Quiz: What four main standards are used by the ACCJC to evaluate institutions?



- 1) Leadership, Curriculum, Resources, and Student Success
- 2) Mission, Programs, Governance, and Innovation
- 3) Mission, Student Success, Resources, and Governance
- 4) Programs, Faculty, Facilities, and Technology

New Standards and Philosophical Approach



Quiz: What document does a college submit to explain whether it meets the ACCJC standards?



- 1) Narrative Evaluation Report
- 2) Institutional Self-Evaluation Report
- 3) Accreditation Proposal
- 4) Compliance Certification Review



The ISER is an opportunity:

- **to reflect on our mission,**
- **to share our story,**
- **and to plan for our future.**

Quiz: What is a consequence to students of a college not being reaccredited?

- 1) Loss of financial aid
- 2) Units can't be used for transfer to another college
- 3) Degree not recognized by employers/ other colleges
- 4) All of the above

Quiz: How often does ACCJC review and reaffirm the College's accreditation status?

- 1) Every 5 years
- 2) Every 6 years
- 3) Every 8 years
- 4) Every 9 years

Overview of ACCJC's Comprehensive Review Process



Accreditation Timeline

SP 2024

**AOG Membership/Standard Co-Leads Determined
ACCJC ISER Kick-Off**

FA 2024

Evidence Gathering and First ISER Drafting

SP 2025

**Community/ Committee Feedback on First ISER Draft
Integration of Feedback into Second ISER Draft**

SU/FA 2025

**College Governance Council and Board of Trustees Approval of ISER
ISER Submission to ACCJC**

SP 2026

**ISER evaluated by ACCJC Peer Review Team
Core Inquiries Submitted to College**

FA 2026

Focused Site Visit by ACCJC Peer Review Team

How can **YOU** help?

- 1) **Spring 2025:** Continue to provide evidence requested by ISER Team.
- 2) **February- March 2025:** Provide feedback to PRIE on ISER standards most closely related to your work.
- 3) **July- September 2025:** Provide feedback to your constituent group leaders who will vote on ISER approval in the College Governance Council in September.



2025 ISER Development Structure

Accreditation Oversight Group – Constituent Group reps + Standard Co-Leads + Cabinet meets monthly, provides direction and approves drafts

Accreditation Standard Co-Leads are responsible for determining evidence needed, collecting evidence, creating narrative outlines

1. Institutional Mission and Effectiveness (**Karen Wong** and **Zahra Mojtahedi**)
2. Student Success (**Kristy Lisle**, **Ellen Murray** (Fa) and **Will Minnich** (Sp))
3. Infrastructure and Resources (**Joe Morello**)
4. Governance and Decision-Making (**Cherie Colin** and **Ingrid Vargas**)

PRIE staff responsible for:

- Evidence management (**Becky Threewit**)
- Reviewing ISER narrative and evidence across all standards (**Karen**, **Zahra** and **Ingrid**)

Campus community provides key information/evidence and feedback on drafts

Faculty editor (**Nancy Kaplan- Biegel**) will review final drafts and copy-edit

AY 2024-2025 AOG Membership

President's Cabinet

- Newin Orante
- Luis Escobar
- Kristy Lisle
- Joe Morello
- Cherie Colin
- Ingrid Vargas

Constituent Representation

- **Classified:** Becky Threewit
- **Faculty:** Franco Dean
- **Management Council:** Clair Yeo-Sugajski
- **ASSC:** Allan Arata Vega

Standard Co-Leads

- Kristy Lisle
- Ellen Murray (Fa)
- Will Minnich (Sp)

PRIE

- Ingrid Vargas (Accreditation Liaison Officer)
- Zahra Mojtahedi
- Karen Wong

The ISER is an opportunity to:



- **Reflect on our mission**
 - Who do we serve?
 - How well do we serve them?
 - How do we know?
- **Share our story**
 - What are our success stories?
 - How are we advancing equitable outcomes?
 - Where are we learning and innovating?
- **Plan for our future**
 - How are our students' needs changing?
 - Where can we adapt and improve?
 - What is our vision for the next cycle?

Accreditation Resources

- 2019 Skyline College [Institutional Self-Evaluation Report \(ISER\)](#)
- [2024 ACCJC Standards](#) with Review Criteria



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