

University of Alaska Anchorage
Report on Institutional and Programmatic Accreditation
Report to the UA Board of Regents—September 2014 – Revised 9/2/14

Institutional Accreditation at UAA (Regents Policy 10.02.070A)

The University of Alaska Anchorage has been accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) since 1974. This accreditation includes the Anchorage campus, Kenai Peninsula College, Kodiak College, and Matanuska-Susitna College. Prince William Sound Community College is separately accredited.

Institutional accreditation is regularly reviewed and reaffirmed by the NWCCU. This reaffirmation occurs through regular reports and site visits conducted by peer evaluators. In addition to these reports and visits, UAA also communicates regularly with the NWCCU about new programs and changes to institutional leaders and organizational structure.

UAA's institutional accreditation was last reaffirmed in 2012, as the first step in a new accreditation cycle that will run from 2011-2017. The next regular review in this cycle is a Mid-Cycle Evaluation in Fall 2014. The process has recently changed, and this Mid-Cycle Evaluation is intended to evaluate the institution's readiness for the comprehensive Year Seven Report at the end of the cycle. The report will address the recommendation below. It will be submitted in September 2014, and a team of two peer-evaluators will visit in October 2014.

Milestone	Date	Notes
Year One Evaluation	Fall 2011	Recommendation: The evaluation panel recommends that the University of Alaska Anchorage refine its indicators of achievement to ensure that the indicators are meaningful, direct measures of the objectives.
Last Reaffirmation	February 2012	None
Ad Hoc Evaluation and Site Visit	Fall 2013	Granted accreditation at the doctoral degree-granting level
Mid-Cycle Review	Fall 2014 <i>Report: 9/24/14</i> <i>Visit: 10/29-10/30/14</i>	Evaluating readiness for the more comprehensive Year Seven Evaluation in 2017. "A formative and collegial evaluation with the institution in conversation with the evaluators."

Doctoral Degree-Granting Status Change

In 2014, based on an ad hoc self-evaluation report and site visit in Fall 2013, the Commission granted accreditation at the doctoral degree-granting level to UAA. This followed the Commission's approval in 2012 to grant candidacy at the doctoral level and include the Joint Ph.D. degree in Clinical-Community Psychology (a joint program with the University of Alaska Fairbanks) in UAA's accreditation.

Prince William Sound Community College

The Regents approved a proposal to bring together the separate accreditations of UAA and PWSCC in June 2014. UAA leadership is working with the NWCCU to obtain approval to implement that change.

Websites

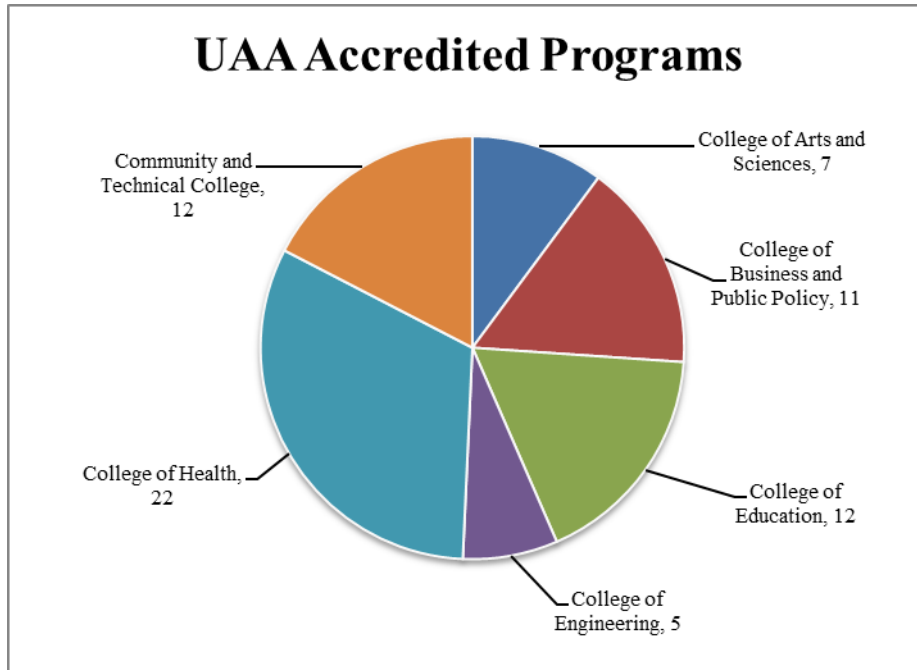
UAA Accreditation: <http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/undergraduate-academic-affairs/Accreditation/index.cfm>

PWSCC Institutional Accreditation: <http://www.pwsc.edu/administration/accreditation/>

Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities: <http://www.nwccu.org/>

Program Accreditation at UAA (Regents Policy 10.02.070B)

More than 60 UAA degree and certificate programs hold accreditation or approval by external agencies. Many of these programs are in disciplines with professional certification or registration requirements, such as health programs, engineering, and education. The figure below shows the relative distribution of accredited programs in the institution's academic units.



Please note that this chart only includes programs which have received candidacy or accreditation from an external agency. Programs which are developing candidacy materials or awaiting approval for candidacy are excluded, as are collaborative programs where the partner holds the accreditation (e.g., the WWAMI medical program). The table at the end of this report provides a more complete status update of programs with special approval or accreditation, including those excluded programs.

Proposals to seek new program accreditation are evaluated based on criteria including the agency, eligibility requirements, benefits to the institution and students, and available resources and capacity to maintain ongoing accreditation. The Office of Academic Affairs assists programs in preparing self-studies and other accreditation communication to external agencies.

Websites

UAA Program Accreditation: <http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/undergraduate-academic-affairs/program-accreditation.cfm>

UAA Program Accreditation Catalog Copy:

<http://catalog.uaa.alaska.edu/aboutuniversity/institutionalaccreditation/#programaccreditationtext>

UA Accreditation Definitions & Format

Institutional Accreditation: The status of public recognition that a recognized accrediting agency grants to an institution or educational program that meets its qualifying requirements and accreditation criteria. The process involves initial and periodic self-evaluation followed by an evaluation by peers.

Types of Accreditation: Each type of accreditation is awarded by a non-governmental agency recognized by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education. The essential purpose of the accreditation agency is to provide a professional judgment regarding the quality of the educational institution or program offered and to encourage continual institutional improvement.

Regional: Accreditation of an institution as a whole for institutions within a prescribed geographic region of the United States.

National: Accreditation of an institution as a whole for institutions that are single purpose in nature, such as business or information technology institutes, or that have a clear thematic mission, such as faith-based institutions or liberal arts colleges.

Program/Specialized: Accreditation of a unit or educational program within an institution with regard to program-specific standards. The unit may be a school, department, program, or curriculum.

University of Alaska Anchorage Program Accreditation

The following programs have approval and/or accreditation from agencies external to UAA. Programs are sorted by their most recent review.

Programs which have upcoming reports and/or site visits in AY15 are marked in **bold text**.

Collaborative programs for which the partner holds the accreditation are included and identified.

Programs which are considering pursuing accreditation but which have not begun the candidacy process are excluded.

Unit	Program	Accrediting Agency	Last Review	Next Scheduled	Accreditation Status	Summary of Significant Findings
CoEng	Project Management MS	Project Management Institute Global Accreditation Center for Project Management Education Programs	2007	2014	Ongoing, report and visit in AY15	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
COH	Dental Assisting Certificate, AAS; Dental Hygiene AAS	Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association	2008	2014	Ongoing, report and visit in AY15	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
COH	Human Services AAS, BHS	Council for Standards in Human Services Education	2009	2014	Ongoing, report and visit in AY15	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
COH	Public Health Practice MPH	Council on Education for Public Health	2009	2014	Ongoing, report and visit in AY15	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
CTC	Automotive Technology AAS & Cert	National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation for National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence	2011	2014	Ongoing, mid-term report in AY15	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
CTC	Construction Management AAS and BS	American Council for Construction Education	2012	2014	Ongoing, progress report in AY15 with next full review in 2017	Asked to include in regular reports information about impact of faculty being represented by two unions

Unit	Program	Accrediting Agency	Last Review	Next Scheduled	Accreditation Status	Summary of Significant Findings
CTC	Dietetics BS	Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics	2010	2014	Ongoing, report and visit in AY15	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
CTC	Heavy Duty Transportation & Equipment AAS	National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation for National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence	2011	2014	Ongoing, mid-term report in AY15	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
CBPP	BBA in Accounting, Economics, Finance, Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management, Management Information Systems, and Marketing; Economics BA; General Management MBA; Global Supply Chain Management MS	Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business - International	2010	2015	Ongoing, report and visit in AY15	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
CoEng	Computer Science BS	Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET	2013	2015	Ongoing, granted retroactive to 2011	Awaiting response on 2014 report on assessment of student outcomes and curriculum coverage of ethics and societal impacts in the discipline
COH	Occupational Therapy OTD	Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education	2010	2015	Ongoing (Held by Creighton University)	N/A – Held by another institution
CTC	Aviation- Flight School Professional Piloting: AAS & emphasis in the BS Aviation Technology	Federal Aviation Administration	2013	2015	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
CTC	Dietetics Internship Graduate Certificate	Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics	2010	2015	Ongoing, report and visit in AY15	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review

Unit	Program	Accrediting Agency	Last Review	Next Scheduled	Accreditation Status	Summary of Significant Findings
COH	Legal Studies BA; Legal Nurse Consultant Undergraduate Certificate; Paralegal Studies AAS and Post-Baccalaureate Certificate; Paralegal Studies Undergrad Cert	American Bar Association	2011	2016	Ongoing approval (only law programs are accredited), undergraduate certificate being phased out	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
COH	Medical Assisting AAS	AAMAE Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs	2008	2016	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
CAS	Journalism and Public Communications BA	Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication	2014	2016 or 2017	Ongoing (provisional reaccreditation for issues which can be corrected within two years)	Revisit in AY16 to address student services (advising for retention/graduation) and assessment of learning outcomes
CAS	Art BA, BFA	National Association of Schools of Art and Design	2008	2017	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
CBPP	Small Business Development Center	Association of Small Business Development Centers	2013	2017	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
COE	Early Childhood BA and post-baccalaureate certificate	National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education; AK Department of Education and Early Development	2014	2017	Ongoing	Revised report planned in 2015 to disaggregate data for BA/PBC and revise assessments
COE	Early Childhood Special Education MEd	National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education; AK Department of Education and Early Development	2014	2017	Ongoing	Response to report planned by 2016 to clarify rubrics and revise assessments
COE	Ed Leadership MEd and grad cert (principal)	National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education; AK Department of Education and Early Development	2014	2017	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
COE	Elementary Education BA and post-baccalaureate certificate	National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education; AK Department of Education and Early Development	2014	2017	Ongoing	Revised report planned by 2016 to disaggregate data for BA/PBC and revise assessments

Unit	Program	Accrediting Agency	Last Review	Next Scheduled	Accreditation Status	Summary of Significant Findings
COE	MA in Teaching, Secondary emphases (English/Lang Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies)	National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education; AK Department of Education and Early Development	2014	2017	Ongoing	Revised report planned by 2016 to modify rubrics and revise assessments
COE	Special Education Grad Cert	National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education; AK Department of Education and Early Development	2014	2017	Ongoing	Revised report planned by 2015 to modify rubrics and revise assessments
CoEng	Civil Engineering BS	Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET	2013	2017	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
CoEng	Engineering BSE (Computer Science Engineering; Electrical Engineering; and Mechanical Engineering emphases)	Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET	2013	2017	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
CoEng	Geomatics BS	Applied Science Accreditation Commission of ABET	2013	2017	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
COH	Nursing: AAS, BS, MS, Grad Certs (3)	Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing; Alaska Board of Nursing	2009	2017	Ongoing	No recent evaluations
CAS	Clinical-Community Psychology	American Psychological Association	2012	2018	Ongoing (joint program with UAF, accreditation jointly held)	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
COH	Biomedical (WWAMI) Program	Liaison Committee on Medical Education, Assoc. of Amer. Med. Colleges	2010	2018	Ongoing (Held by Univ. of Washington)	N/A – Held by another institution
COH	Social Work BSW & MSW	Council on Social Work Education	2010	2018	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
CAS	Music: BA in Music, BM emphasis in Music Education, BM Performance	National Association of Schools of Music	2013	2021/ 2022	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
CTC	Aviation- Maintenance School AMT Programs - Cert & AAS	Federal Aviation Administration	1993	Continuous	Ongoing	None identified

Unit	Program	Accrediting Agency	Last Review	Next Scheduled	Accreditation Status	Summary of Significant Findings
PWSC	Industrial Technology AAS Millwright Emphasis	National Center for Construction Education and Research	2014	Continuous	Ongoing, audited annually (Training sponsor is Alyeska Pipeline)	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
COE	Early Childhood Development AAS	National Association for the Education of Young Children Commission on Early Childhood Associate Degree Accreditation	2015 Projected	Pending	Planning initial report and visit in 2015	N/A – Seeking initial accreditation
COH	Medical Laboratory Science BS	National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences	2014 Pending	Pending	Ongoing, awaiting notification from AY14 report and visit	Awaiting results
COH	Medical Laboratory Technology AAS	National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences	2014 Pending	Pending	Ongoing, awaiting notification from AY14 report and visit	Awaiting results
COH	Physical Therapist Assistant AAS	Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education	2014 Pending	Pending	Awaiting results of 2014 initial report and visit	Awaiting results
CTC	Culinary Arts AAS	American Culinary Federation Education Foundation	2014 Projected	Pending	Planning initial report and visit in AY15	N/A – Seeking initial accreditation
MSC/ KPC	Paramedical Technology AAS	Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the EMS Professions	2014 Pending	Pending	Awaiting results of 2014 initial report and visit	Awaiting results
COE	Ed Leadership grad cert (superintendent)	National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education; AK Department of Education and Early Development	2014	See notes	Program suspended in 2014 due to loss of program accreditation. Undertaking revisions to align with standards. Current students grandfathered in for state certification.	Aligning assessments and curriculum to provide evidence of meeting standards