

University of Alaska Anchorage  
 Report on Institutional and Programmatic Accreditation  
*Report to the UA Board of Regents – August 1, 2016*

**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. UAA’s accreditation includes UAA Anchorage, Kenai Peninsula College, Kodiak College, Matanuska-Susitna College, and Prince William Sound College.

Institutional accreditation is regularly reviewed and renewed (or “reaffirmed”) by the NWCCU. This occurs through regular reports and site visits. UAA’s institutional accreditation was last reaffirmed in early 2012, as a result of the Year One Evaluation report in September 2011. The Year One Evaluation report began a new seven-year accreditation cycle that runs from 2011-2017.

UAA commenced its self-study process, which will culminate in the comprehensive Year Seven Evaluation report and peer evaluation site visit, scheduled for Fall 2017. The report will address all Eligibility Requirements and Standards.

<b>Milestone</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Synopsis of Recommendations</b>
Last reaffirmation	February 2012	Based on Year One Evaluation report submitted in September 2011	Refine indicators to ensure they are meaningful, direct measures of the objectives
Mid-Cycle Evaluation report and visit	Fall 2014	Reviews institutional readiness to demonstrate mission fulfillment and sustainability in the Year Seven Evaluation report	Define mission fulfillment in the context of the institution’s purpose, characteristics, and expectations
Year Seven Evaluation report and visit	Fall 2017	Summative evaluation of mission fulfillment addressing all Eligibility Requirements and Standards	

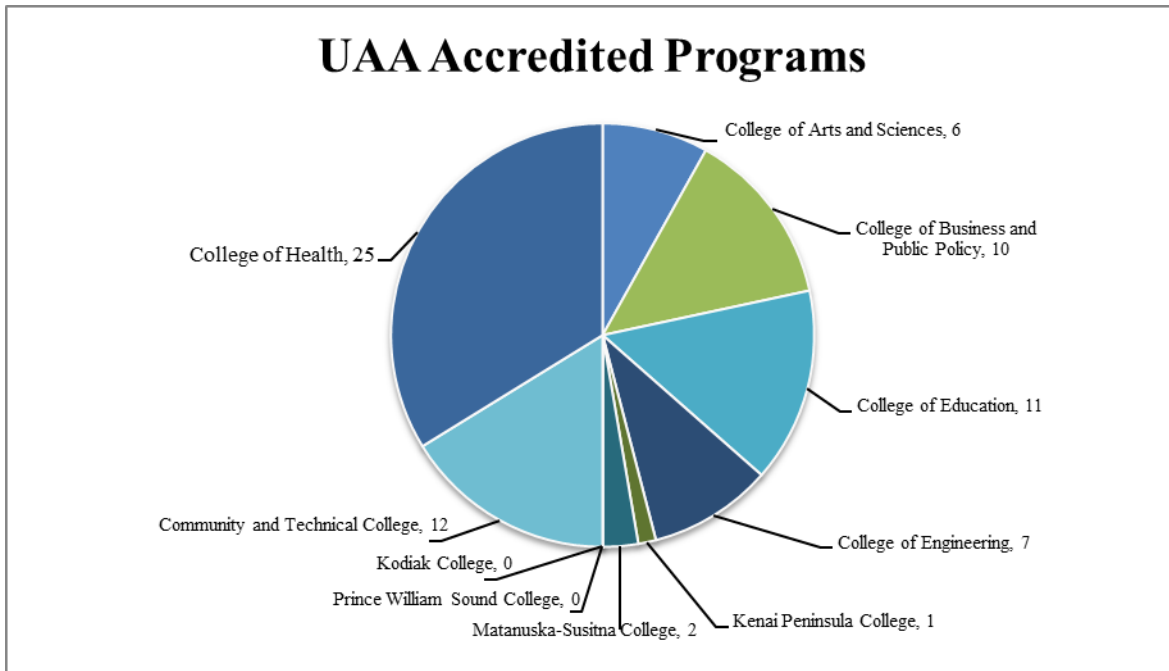
**Websites:**

UAA Accreditation: <https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/academics/office-of-academic-affairs/institutional-accreditation/index.cshtml>

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

## Specialized Program Accreditation at UAA (Regents Policy 10.02.070B)

More than 70 UAA degree and certificate programs hold specialized 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 programs with specialized accreditation delivered by the institution's colleges and campuses.



The chart includes only academic 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 (such as the WWAMI School of Medical Education). The table at the end of this report provides a more complete status update of programs with special approval or accreditation, including those programs excluded in the chart above.

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: <https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/academics/office-of-academic-affairs/program-accreditation.cshtml>

UAA Program Accreditation Catalog Copy:

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

## UA Accreditation Definitions & Format

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**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 Specialized Program Accreditation Status 2016

The following programs have accreditation and/or approval from agencies external to UAA. Programs which have not begun the candidacy process are excluded.

**Programs which completed reports or site visits in AY16 are marked in bold text.**

Program	Accrediting Agency	Last Review	Next Scheduled	Accreditation Status	Summary of Significant Findings
Accounting BBA; Economics BA, BBA; Finance BBA; General Management MBA; Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management BBA; Global Supply Chain Management MS; Management BBA; Management Information Systems BBA; Marketing BBA	Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business - International	2015	2020	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
Art BA, BFA	National Association of Schools of Art and Design	2008	2017	Ongoing, report and visit in AY17	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
<b>Automotive Technology AAS, UC; Diesel Power Technology AAS, UC (program name change in AY17)</b>	<b>National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>Ongoing, continued based on report and visit in AY16</b>	<b>No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review</b>
<b>Aviation Flight School: Professional Piloting AAS &amp; Aviation Technology BS emphasis</b>	<b>Federal Aviation Administration</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>Ongoing, continued in AY16; applies to flight school rather than specific programs</b>	<b>Format does not include recommendations</b>
Aviation Maintenance School: Aviation Maintenance Technology AAS; Aviation Maintenance Technology, Airframe UC; and Aviation Maintenance Technology, Powerplant UC	Federal Aviation Administration	1993	Continuous	Ongoing; applies to aviation maintenance school rather than specific programs	Format does not include recommendations
Civil Engineering BS	Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET	2013	*Not published	Ongoing, report and visit in AY17	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
<b>Clinical-Community Psychology PhD</b>	<b>American Psychological Association</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>Ongoing, jointly held with UAF, mid-cycle review in AY16</b>	<b>Response to site visit report due in AY17</b>
Computer Science BS	Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET	2015	*Not published	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
Computer Systems Engineering BS	Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET	2013	*Not published	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review

Program	Accrediting Agency	Last Review	Next Scheduled	Accreditation Status	Summary of Significant Findings
Construction Management AAS, BS	American Council for Construction Education	2012	*Not published	Ongoing, report submitted in AY16	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
Culinary Arts AAS	American Culinary Federation Education Foundation	2014	2017	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
Dental Assisting UC; Dental Hygiene AAS	Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association	2015	2021	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
Dietetics BS; Dietetics Internship GC	Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics	2015	2022	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
Early Childhood Education BA; Early Childhood PBCT	National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education/Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation	2010	2017	Ongoing, report planned in AY17	Revised report planned in 2017 to disaggregate data for BA/PBCT and revise assessments
Early Childhood Special Education MEd, Minor	National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education/Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation	2010	2017	Ongoing, report in AY16	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
Education MAT, Secondary (English/Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies)	National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education/Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation	2010	2017	Ongoing, report planned in AY17	Revised report planned by 2017 to modify rubrics and revise assessments
Educational Leadership (Principal) GC	National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education/Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation	2010	2017	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
Educational Leadership (Principal) MEd	National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education/Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation	2010	2017	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
Educational Leadership (Superintendent) GC <i>(Suspended)</i>	National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education/Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation	See notes	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

Program	Accrediting Agency	Last Review	Next Scheduled	Accreditation Status	Summary of Significant Findings
Electrical Engineering BS	Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET	2013	*Not published	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
Elementary Education BA, PBCT	National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education/Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation	2010	2017	Ongoing, report planned in AY17	Revised report planned in AY17 to disaggregate data for BA/PBCT and revise assessments
Geomatics BS	Applied Science Accreditation Commission of ABET	2013	*Not published	Ongoing, report and visit in AY17	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
Human Services AAS, BHS	Council for Standards in Human Services Education	2014	2018	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
<b>Journalism and Public Communications BA</b>	<b>Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>Ongoing, continued based on report and visit in AY16</b>	<b>No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review</b>
<b>Legal Studies BA, Minor; Legal Nurse Consultant Paralegal UC; Paralegal Studies AAS, PBCT</b>	<b>American Bar Association</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>Ongoing approval; report in AY16, visit in AY17</b>	<b>No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review</b>
Mechanical Engineering BS	Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET	2013	*Not published	Ongoing, report and visit in AY17	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
<b>Medical Assisting AAS</b>	<b>AAMAE Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>Ongoing, continued based on report and visit in AY16</b>	<b>2017 progress report planned on adjunct faculty training, syllabi documentation, and documentation of one psychomotor competency</b>
Medical Laboratory Technology AAS; Medical Laboratory Science BS	National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences	2014	2021	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
Music BA; Music BM (merged Music Education and Music Performance into single program in AY17)	National Association of Schools of Music	2013	2022	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
Nursing Practice, DNP	Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education	See note	2017	Accepted for new applicant status pursuing initial accreditation; report and site visit in AY17	Seeking initial accreditation

Program	Accrediting Agency	Last Review	Next Scheduled	Accreditation Status	Summary of Significant Findings
Nursing: Family Nurse Practitioner GC; Nursing AAS; Nursing Education GC; Nursing Science BS, MS; Psychiatric and Mental Health Nurse Practitioner GC	Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing	2009	2017	Ongoing, report and visit in AY17	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
Paramedical Technology AAS	Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the EMS Professions	2015	2020	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
<b>Physical Therapist Assistant AAS</b>	<b>Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>Ongoing, granted accreditation based on report and visit in AY16; report in AY17</b>	<b>Preparing report on assessment data and faculty development</b>
Project Management MS	Project Management Institute Global Accreditation Center for Project Management Education Programs	2015	2021	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
Public Health Practice MPH	Council on Education for Public Health	2015	2022	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
Social Work BSW & MSW	Council on Social Work Education	2010	2018	Ongoing	No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review
<b>Special Education MEd, GC</b>	<b>National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education/Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>Ongoing, report in AY16</b>	<b>No current recommendations requiring response before next regular review</b>

**Notes on the Specialized Program Accreditation Table**

- \* ABET (which accredits most of UAA’s engineering programs) and ACCE (which accredits the Construction Management programs) prohibit public disclosure of the length of the period of accreditation.
- The following programs are collaborative programs for which the partner institution holds the accreditation:
  - Health Sciences BS, Physician Assistant Track (held by University of Washington)
  - Occupational Therapy OTD (held by Creighton University)
  - Pharmacy PharmD (held by Creighton University and Idaho State University)
  - WWAMI School of Medical Education MD (held by University of Washington)

- The following programs have received national recognition or endorsements which are similar to accreditation:
  - Fire and Emergency Services Technology AAS (recognition from the United States Fire Administration)
  - Industrial Technology AAS, Millwright Emphasis (National Center for Construction Education and Research accreditation training sponsor is Alyeska Pipeline)
  - Process Technology AAS (endorsement from the North American Process Technology Alliance)
  - Small Business Development Center (accredited by America's SBDC *[not an academic program]*)