



*The Road to*  
**STATE'S REAFFIRMATION**  
 2015



## WVSU's Quality Faculty

As we learn more about the reaffirmation of accreditation each week in The Road to State's Reaffirmation 2015, we will examine how select elements of West Virginia State University (WVSU) campus life and culture interact with the Self-Study Report. It is essential that the University has the faculty and staff needed for effective, high-quality programs and student services. As a result, let us briefly examine the high-quality of faculty at West Virginia State University.

WVSU has a low student-to-faculty ratio (15:1) that enables direct and frequent contact between students and faculty to help students achieve their academic goals. The University has procedures and processes in place to ensure effective and ethical recruiting, hiring and review of faculty and staff. Sufficient numbers of faculty and staff exist to support high-quality programs and student services.

In the fall 2014 semester, the University had 194 total faculty members, with 112 full-time and 82 part-time. The table below lists the student-to-faculty ratio from a number of the University's selected peer institutions. This data demonstrates WVSU's student-to-faculty ratio is aligned with its peer institutions and supports the claim that the University's numbers of faculty are sufficient to carry out its mission.

Student-to-Faculty Ratios of Selected Peer Institutions			
13:1	<a href="#">Lewis-Clark State College</a>	20:1	<a href="#">University of N. Carolina at Asheville</a>
20:1	<a href="#">Eastern New Mexico Univ.-Main Campus</a>	14:1	<a href="#">University of Wisconsin-Parkside</a>
14:1	<a href="#">Elizabeth City State University</a>	23:1	<a href="#">University of Wisconsin-Platteville</a>
20:1	<a href="#">Fort Valley State University</a>	18:1	<a href="#">Alcorn State University</a>
14:1	<a href="#">Kentucky State University</a>	16:1	<a href="#">Lincoln University</a>
16:1	<a href="#">Lake Superior State University</a>	16:1	<a href="#">SUNY at Purchase College</a>
21:1	<a href="#">Lock Haven University</a>	14:1	<a href="#">Delaware State University</a>
17:1	<a href="#">Mansfield University of Pennsylvania</a>	15:1	<a href="#">University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff</a>
17:1	<a href="#">Missouri Western State University</a>	16:1	<a href="#">University of Maryland Eastern Shore</a>



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All persons appointed to the faculty of WVSU are expected to hold, at the minimum, a master's degree from a regionally accredited institution. However, in emergency situations and in the instance of highly talented and experienced persons in certain professional and technical areas, someone without a master's may be considered with appropriate written justification. Honorary degrees and those awarded from non-accredited institutions are not generally recognized for employment purposes.

The table below details the credentials of the full-time faculty.

### Full-Time Faculty Credentials (Source: HEPC Personnel Fall 2014)

Highest Degree Earned	Percentage of Faculty	Total Number of Faculty
Doctorate	75.0%	84
Professional or Terminal Master's	3.6%	4
Other Master's	21.4%	24
<b>Total</b>	100%	112

One of the elemental ways in which WVSU is able to provide high-quality, affordable education to students is by ensuring there are sufficient numbers and continuity of faculty to carry out both the classroom and the non-classroom roles of faculty, including oversight of the curriculum and expectations for student performance; establishment of academic credentials for instructional staff; and, involvement in the assessment of student learning.

For more information about The Road to State's Reaffirmation 2015, please click [here](#) to discover in-depth information about the process, read the University's Self-Study Report, and more!

For questions or comments regarding the University's reaffirmation of accreditation process or the self-study report, please send all inquiries and information to [reaffirmation@wvstateu.edu](mailto:reaffirmation@wvstateu.edu) or call (304) 204-4300.