



The Road to STATE'S REAFFIRMATION 2015



Accreditation Criteria

As we move along *The Road to State's Reaffirmation 2015*, there are several key criteria which West Virginia State University (WVSU) will be scored on. The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) will evaluate WVSU according to five criteria:

1. **Mission:** The institution's mission is clear and articulated publicly; it guides the institution's operations.
2. **Integrity: Ethical and Responsible Conduct:** The institution acts with integrity; its conduct is ethical and responsible.
3. **Teaching and Learning: Quality, Resources and Support:** The institution provides high quality education, wherever and however its offerings are delivered.
4. **Teaching and Learning: Evaluation and Improvement:** The institution demonstrates responsibility for the quality of its educational programs, learning environments and support services, and it evaluates their effectiveness for student learning through processes designed to promote continuous improvement.
5. **Resources, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness:** The institution's resources, structures and processes are sufficient to fulfill its mission, improve the quality of its educational offerings and respond to future challenges and opportunities. The institution plans for the future.

Each criterion includes core components, which identify areas of focus within the criterion. Sub-components further elaborate some core components. You can see each criterion's components by visiting the HLC's [website](#).

Federal Compliance

As a federally recognized accreditor, the HLC is required to assure the federal government that WVSU meets its Title IV program responsibilities. For more information, please visit: HLC's [Federal Compliance Program](#).

WVSU must provide evidence for its compliance with regulations on:

- Credits, program length and tuition;
- Student complaints;
- Transfer policies;
- Verification of student identity;
- Title IV program and related responsibilities;
- Institutional disclosures and advertising recruitment materials;
- Relationships with other accrediting agencies and with state regulatory bodies; and
- Public notification of the comprehensive evaluation visit and third party comment.

Additional Information About Accreditation

Great resources for understanding accreditation in the United States are:

[The Fundamentals of Accreditation: What Do You Need to Know?](#) (PDF) by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation;

[Institutional Accreditation: An Overview](#) (PDF) by the Higher Learning Commission.

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 or call (304) 204-4300.