



Accreditation Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is accreditation?

Accreditation is a voluntary peer-review process that assists colleges to improve the quality of education and the effectiveness of its processes. Cerritos College is reviewed every six years and is accredited by the [Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges \(ACCJC\)](#). Accreditation ensures that the quality of education meets the standards determined by the Commission.

Q: Is Cerritos College currently accredited?

Yes. **Cerritos College remains fully accredited.** The College was placed on *Warning*. *Warning* is the least severe of the four sanctions that ACCJC can issue when an institution has not met or partially met standards. The College remains fully accredited and all student course work toward a degree, transfer, and certificate are valid and fully transferrable. The *Warning* sanction does not affect financial aid or other student resources.

Q: What does *Warning* mean?

When the accrediting commission finds that an institution has not met or partially met the standards, the ACCJC may issue a sanction and require the institution to make improvements. The college must file a report and undergo a site visit. During this period, the institution remains accredited.

The Commission requires Cerritos College to address recommendations that focus on ensuring that the College assess student learning outcomes for degree and certificate programs, maintain proper leadership roles and governance standards, and address responsibilities of the Board of Trustees.



Q: What is Cerritos College doing to remove this sanction?

With the Commission's report findings, the College will work with administrators, Board of Trustees, staff and faculty to develop a plan to address the recommendations.

Q: What happens next?

Cerritos College will submit a follow-up report to the Accrediting Commission by March 2015 that will detail progress towards addressing all of the issues cited.

Q: Where can I find out more information about accreditation?

For more information about the Commission visit www.accjc.org. Additional information about Cerritos College can be found at www.cerritos.edu/accreditation.