Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU)

President and CEO: Sonny Ramaswamy
8060 165th Avenue, NE, Suite 200, Redmond, WA 98052
Phone: 425-558-4224 • Fax: 425-376-0596 • president@nwccu.org
• http://www.nwccu.org

PROFILE OF ACCREDITING ORGANIZATION

Accreditor types: Institutional
Recognition Status: Recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the U.S. Department of Education
Range of Accreditation Activity: NWCCU is incorporated as a legally established, private 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation and accredits institutions of higher education in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and British Columbia, along with other domestic and international geographic areas.
International Accreditation Activity:
3 Non-U.S. institutions or programs operating outside the U.S.
n/a U.S. institutions or programs operating outside the U.S.
Yes Organization evaluates credentials or degrees from outside the U.S.
Sponsoring Organization: n/a
Composition of Decision-Making Body:
The Board of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities consists of up to twenty-six Commissioners. Commissioners are elected for staggered three-year terms and serve without compensation. A majority of the Commissioners represents institutions accredited by the Commission with consideration given for diversity of institutions and geographical distribution, including at least one person from the region’s tribal colleges. One-seventh (1/7th) of the commissioners must be persons representing the general public. In addition, the board may have up to two persons from higher educational institution(s) of a region or regions outside of the commission’s region. Such persons must be actively employed by an institution that is accredited by an agency recognized for accreditation purposes by the United States Department of Education.
3,400,000 Operating Budget for Accrediting Unit Only
n/a Direct support from any sponsoring organization
n/a In-kind support from any sponsoring organization
Employees: 14 Full-time 2 Part-time
Volunteers: 450 – served 2020-2021

PROFILE OF ACCREDITED INSTITUTIONS

154 Accredited U.S and non-U.S. Institutions
154 Degree-Granting:
106 Public
46 Private Nonprofit
2 Private For-Profit
0 Non-Degree-Granting:
0 Public
0 Private Nonprofit
0 Private For-Profit

3,324,978 Students

PROFILE OF ACCREDITATION ACTIVITIES

Frequency of Comprehensive Reviews and Required Follow-Up: Seven-year cycle with annual reporting; a mid-cycle review; and a year six policies, finance, and regulations off-site review.
Frequency of Comprehensive Review of Accreditation Standards: 8 Years

Summary of Formal Actions 2020-2021

2 Initial Candidacy or Preaccreditation Granted
1 Initial Candidacy or Preaccreditation Denied
1 Initial Accreditation Granted
0 Initial Accreditation Denied
28 Accreditation Continued Following Comprehensive Review
26 Accreditation Continued Following Comprehensive Review with Required Follow-up
2 Notice or Warning
0 Probation
0 Show Cause
1 Accreditation Terminated or Removed
0 Actions under Appeal
n/a Other

Summary of Additional Actions

879 Substantive Changes Reviewed
72 Site Visits
1 Voluntary Discontinuance or Expiration of Accreditation

© Council for Higher Education Accreditation | CHEA Almanac of External Quality Review