



Outcomes | Innovation | Improvement

ACCREDITING COMMISSION FOR
COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES

Dear ACCJC Members,

I am writing to provide an update on the Commission's consideration of a potential transition from an eight-year to a ten-year comprehensive review cycle.

As previously shared, 93% of the member CEOs responding to our initial survey supported the proposed change. ACCJC subsequently invited broader feedback from faculty, staff, administrators, and other institutional stakeholders, with 81% of respondents supporting a ten-year cycle.

The feedback identified several potential benefits, including:

- more time to implement and assess meaningful institutional improvements;
- better alignment with institutional strategic planning cycles;
- reduced administrative burden and accreditation fatigue; and
- a greater emphasis on continuous improvement rather than preparation for a single comprehensive review.

Respondents also emphasized that any longer cycle should be accompanied by strong annual monitoring, a more meaningful midterm review, continued engagement with ACCJC staff, and timely intervention when institutional risks are identified. Questions regarding implementation, transition timelines, and the treatment of institutions' current accreditation schedules will also require further consideration.

The Commission will continue to solicit feedback from the membership, including during preconference forums at **the 2026 Partners in Excellence Conference on November 17–18** in Riverside, California. I hope you will join us for these discussions and for the opportunity to connect with colleagues from across our member institutions. Your feedback will help inform the Commission's consideration of the proposal and the safeguards that should accompany any potential transition.

If you have not already registered, I encourage you to join us:

<https://accjc-conference.org/>

Thank you to everyone who has shared feedback. Your engagement strengthens our work and helps ensure that any future changes reflect the needs of our member institutions. We look forward to continuing this important conversation with you.

Best,
Mac

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Mac Powell', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mac Powell, MBA, PhD

President

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