



## **International Accreditation: Summary and Q&A**

WSCUC initiated international accreditation in 2011 and currently accredits eleven institutions of higher education based outside of the United States of America. WSCUC members (international or domestic) form a global community dedicated to student achievement and institutional excellence based on the exchange of ideas and best practices. International institutions must meet the same standards as all other WSCUC members and participate in institutional improvement activities, including educational programming and peer review.

### **Q: Is WSCUC now accepting applications for eligibility from international institutions?**

A: Currently, WSCUC is not entertaining applications from new international institutions. In 2014, WSCUC suspended international accreditation to allow us to review our international activities. In fall 2018, WSCUC decided to lift the moratorium and develop an implementation plan for considering a limited number of international institutions for eligibility and potential accreditation. That planning is in its early stages and WSCUC expects to share additional information by late 2019.

### **Q: How will plans be announced and expressions of interest be solicited?**

A: WSCUC will announce its plans and timetable on this website and to the international accrediting community. We will allow plenty of time for institutions to understand the process and criteria for consideration, ask questions, and submit expressions of interest.

### **Q: Have you set the requirements for consideration and fees?**

A: The standards for accreditation are the same standards that apply to all WSCUC-accredited institutions. Some special requirements (such as financial statements that conform to U.S. accounting and audit standards and peer review team travel) may apply as well. Requirements, procedures, and fees will be part of the implementation planning.

### **Q: Does WSCUC accreditation of international institutions confer eligibility for U.S. Title IV federal student financial aid?**

A: No, students at such institutions do not qualify for U.S. federal aid unless the institution is covered by a program participation agreement with the U.S. Department of Education or the students attend the school through an eligible arrangement with a qualifying institution.