

Accreditation Institutional Self-Evaluation Report

Presented to the Academic Senate

October 9, 2025



ACCJC Accreditation

- Accrediting Commission for Community & Junior Colleges
- 7-year cycle now, but when we are reaccredited, **it will be for 8 years**
- 128 standards prior to 2024 → **30 standards** as of 2024/2025
- **Revised standards in 2024** to streamline and focus on equity and social justice
 - While standards were **again revised in June 2025** to remove references to equity and social justice after consulting the Department of Education, **Social justice and equity remain central to our college mission and our ISER is centered on that**
- Current peer review process is a formative, then summative, evaluation that spans **approximately 1 year**
- Accreditation reaffirmation process starts with an institutional self-evaluation

Our Accreditation Process

- **Started with the self-evaluation**
- Accreditation Core Evaluation (ACE) teams
 - Faculty, classified professionals, administrators on each team
- College intro to accreditation workshops in 2023
- Initial analysis started in Spring 2024
- Accreditation co-chairs took what the ACE teams found and did additional research to flesh out narratives
- Accreditation Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER) is due on **December 15, 2025**
- The ACCJC peer review team will visit us **September 23-25, 2026**

4 Our Self-Evaluation Findings: Standard 1

Overall, we are meeting the standard

- Our mission/vision/values guide all the work that do
- We evaluate our progress annually in achieving our strategic goals
- College-wide plans (e.g., strategic plan, equity plan) are developed with broad campus input and discussion

But we could do better at...

- **Telling Our Story:** Creating more community-minded communication on college performance, achievements, and data story
- **Building a Stronger Planning Culture & Closing the Loop:** Improving integration of strategic and other college-wide plans/initiatives, including evaluations of progress and connections to college goals

5 Our Self-Evaluation Findings: Standard 2

Overall, we are meeting the standard...

- We have a robust, curriculum review process that relies on faculty expertise
- We have a defined GE program and Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs)
- We regularly evaluate our programs and services using disaggregated data (program review, outcome assessment)
- We have a variety of services to support student sense of belonging and overall student success

But we could do better at...

- **Student-Centered Scheduling:** Strengthening enrollment management processes to ensure students can complete degree requirements within 2 years
- **Sense of Belonging:** Strengthening and continually assessing student sense of belonging

6 Our Self-Evaluation Findings: Standard 3

Overall, we are meeting the standard...

- We have documented hiring processes and a robust faculty professional development program; we are striving for timely employee evaluations
- We have a robust, well documented district-wide budget development process and processes in place to maintain fiscal integrity and accountability
- We have adequate facilities to support student learning and are working to improve facilities through a new facilities bond
- We have technology processes and policies to guide technology planning, appropriate use, and data security

But we could do better at...

- **Strengthening Budget Processes:** Improving college budget-related communication, processes, and process documentation

7 Our Self-Evaluation Findings: Standard 4

Overall, we are meeting the standard...

- We have an established governance structure and processes with regular assessment and accountability mechanisms
- We have established board policies that guide board member conduct, board evaluations, and board goal-setting and evaluation processes
- We have established board policies that specify duties delegated to the Chancellor and the College President

But we could do better at...

- **Governance Infrastructure:** Improving and updating college governance handbook/website, training materials, and member onboarding

How will the ACCJC team be evaluating our adherence to the standards?

2.4. The institution communicates clear, accurate, and accessible information regarding programs, services, and resources that foster success in students' unique educational journeys. (ER 20)

Review Criteria:

- The institution provides students with accurate, current, and consistent student learning outcomes for the courses and programs in which they are enrolled.
- The institution has mechanisms for ensuring effective communication with its students in multiple modalities regarding the programs, services, and resources available to support the student journey.
- The institution regularly reviews its communication practices, policies, procedures to ensure clarity, consistency, accuracy, and relevance.

Possible Sources of Evidence Could Include:

- Program information (from catalog, website, etc.) showing program learning outcomes for degree and certificate programs
- Documents outlining institution's processes for communicating learning outcomes to students
- Sample syllabi and corresponding course outlines
- Information (from catalog, website, etc.) regarding available student support services and learning support resources
- Samples of student-facing communications in multiple formats, modalities, and (if applicable) languages, tailored to meet the needs of specific student populations
- Examples of how the institution evaluates the effectiveness of its student-facing communications (communication survey results, website/social media analytics, processes for ensuring consistency of messages across multiple communication platforms, etc.)
- Examples of changes/improvements in communication--in messaging, format, or modality resulting from evaluations

ACCJC Standards & Review Criteria



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Celebrating Our Success & Forging a Brighter Future Together

Cuyamaca College is accredited 365 days per year. However, the College undergoes a comprehensive evaluation on a regular cycle, which is currently seven years and will soon move to eight years. As part of the comprehensive review process, the College engages in a rigorous self-evaluation, which is shared and discussed with the campus community and then submitted to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC). Cuyamaca College's Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER) is due to be submitted to ACCJC by December 15, 2025. Following the submission of the ISER to ACCJC, a peer review team will review the ISER and associated evidence as well as host an open forum with the Cuyamaca College campus and community.

Cuyamaca College's accreditation reaffirmation efforts will culminate in a Focused Site Visit, which will take place **September 23-25, 2026**.

Opportunity for Public Comments on Cuyamaca College's Accreditation

Cuyamaca College invites students, employees, and community members to submit third-party comments relating to the College's compliance with **ACCJC Eligibility Requirements**, **Accreditation Standards**, or Commission Policies.

To submit a Third-Party Comment, please complete the **ACCJC Third-Party Comment Form**.

Third-Party Comments may be submitted to ACCJC at any time. However, to ensure evaluation by the ACCJC Peer Review Team, Third-Party Comments must be submitted by Monday, August 17, 2026 (or at least 5 weeks before the Focused Site Visit).

Thank you for supporting Cuyamaca College's continuous improvement efforts and commitment to institutional excellence.



Accreditation Timeline

<i>Summer 2025</i>	<i>Report/Evidence Refining</i>
<i>September 2025</i>	<i>Fall Workshops: ISER Review</i>
<i>October 2025</i>	<i>Constituent Group Vetting</i>
<i>November 2025</i>	<i>Board Review/Approval</i>
<i>December 2025</i>	<i>Submission to ACCJC</i>
<i>February 2026</i>	<i>ACCJC Team Review</i>
<i>March 2026</i>	<i>Team Meeting & Open Forum</i>
<i>April-May 2026</i>	<i>Core Inquiry Notification</i>
<i>September 2026</i>	<i>Team Site Visit</i>
<i>January 2027</i>	<i>ACCJC Decision</i>



Questions?

