

Accreditation



What is accreditation?

- Accreditation is a self-evaluation process to determine if the institution meets with standards of good practice regarding mission, goals, and objectives.
- Merced College is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC).



Why is accreditation important?



- Accreditation allows institutions to “improve academic quality, institutional effectiveness and student success”.
- Being accredited assures the public of the institution’s, integrity, effectiveness, and educational quality.
- Enables MC to provide federal financial aid to students. In 2021-22 over \$15,000,000 of federal financial aid, grants, and work study was provided to Merced College Students.

What is the ISER?

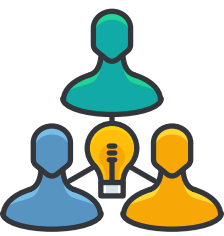
- The Institutional Self-Evaluation Report, ISER, is the document Merced College submits to the ACCJC where it addresses the standards and eligibility requirements for accreditation.



Timeline

Time frame	Task
October-November 2021	ISER Standards tasks assigned and training provided.
November 2021-June 2022	ISER Standards tasks completed by responsible parties.
June 2022-October 2022	ISER writer begins working on draft 1. Additional ISER tasks may be assigned accordingly.
October 31, 2022	Draft 1 due.
November 2022	Draft reviewed by Standing Accreditation Committee, Editing Teams, and Cabinet.
December 2022	Draft reviewed by Merced College Staff and Faculty and the community.
January-February 2023	Corrections/additions/deletions to ISER.
March 2023	Draft 2 due. Reviewed by Accreditation Liaison Officer, OIE, and Cabinet.
April-May 2023	Draft 3 ready for dissemination to Academic Senate, Classified Senate, ASMC, and EMPC for approval.
June 2023	Final Draft to Board of Trustees for approval.
August 1, 2023	ISER due to ACCJC.
Spring 2024	Focused Accreditation Visit.

How can I get involved?



- Attend the campus forum on accreditation in October.
- In December a copy of the ISER draft will be made available to the College for review and feedback.

Where can I find more information about the accreditation process?



- Merced College’s Accreditation Page gives information on Self-Evaluation Reports, Midterm Reports, Annual Reports, Commission Reports, and available Resources.
- <http://www.mccd.edu/about/accreditation.html>
- The ACCJC has Accreditation Educational Series’ that provide information on topics such as “Accreditation Basics” and “Preparing the ISER”.
- <https://accjc.org/educational-series/>
- https://accjc.org/educational-series/#accreditation_basics