

Status Report: Institutional Accreditation, Program Accreditations and Academic Programs in Development or Review

INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION

Oregon State University is accredited by the Northwest Commission on College and Universities (NWCCU), one of seven institutional accreditation agencies in the U.S. recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. The accreditation process is designed to build a culture of evidence, promote a commitment to continuous institutional improvement, validate institutional integrity, and provide opportunities for feedback that improves the accreditation process.

Accreditation Evaluation Schedule

The following is OSU's institutional accreditation evaluation schedule, based on NWCCU's 2020 Standards for Accreditation and Eligibility Requirements:

- Annual Report – due August 15 of each year
- Progress Report – submitted Fall 2020
- Mid-Cycle Evaluation (Year Three Report) – April 25 & 26, 2022
- Ad Hoc Report with site visit – Spring 2023
- Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review (PRFR – Year Six Report) – Spring 2025
- Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness (EIE – Year Seven Report) with visit: April 7-10, 2026. Cascades visit April 7, 2026; Corvallis visit April 8 – 10, 2026.

Institutional Accreditation Activities

1. Annual Report (focused on enrollment and financial data)
 - Submitted July 25, 2025
2. Year Six Report (policies, regulations and financial review)
 - Institutional Kickoff event: March 20, 2024
 - Steering Committee formed: July 2024
 - Drafted Six Year Report: spring and summer 2024
 - Reviewed Six Year Report: Fall 2024
 - Submitted Six Year Report: Feb. 2025
 - Received Six Year Report results: Aug. 2025
3. Year Seven Report (evaluation of institutional effectiveness)
 - Report Planning and Kickoff: Fall 2024
 - Evidence Gathering and Content Development: Winter 2025
 - Key Performance Indicators Development: Winter and Spring 2025
 - Drafting Year Seven Report: Spring and Summer 2025
 - Reviewing Year Seven Report: Fall 2025
 - Accreditation Campaign, Site Visit Logistics and Planning: Fall 2025
 - Year Seven Report Submitted: Feb. 8, 2026

March 12 – 13, 2026, Board of Trustees Meetings

PROGRAM ACCREDITATIONS

In addition to institutional accreditation, individual academic and administrative programs may hold a specialized or professional accreditation that is evaluated on a regular cycle by the respective accrediting body.

Reviews scheduled for AY 2026 are listed below, with changes since the January 2026 report indicated.

Accreditation Reviews and Site Visits in Progress or Scheduled AY 2025-26

1. Division of Student Affairs: **Student Health Services**
 - Accrediting body: Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc. (AAAHC)
 - **Change since the Oct. 2025 report:** Student Health Services was granted an additional three years of accreditation until Oct. 30, 2028.
2. Division of Student Affairs: **Student Health Services Laboratory**
 - Accrediting body: Commission on Office Laboratory Accreditation (COLA)
 - **Change since the Oct. 2025 report:** Granted an additional two years of accreditation until Dec. 16, 2027.
3. College of Agricultural Sciences: **Food Science and Sustainable Technologies**
 - Accrediting body: Higher Education Review Board of the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT)
 - **Change since the Oct. 2025 report:** Granted an additional year of accreditation. The next review will be Oct 2026.
4. Carlson College of Veterinary Medicine: **Lois Bates Acheson Veterinary Teaching Hospital**
 - Accrediting body: American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA)
 - **Change since the Oct. 2025 report:** Review expected 2026 but may be pushed back to 2027. Still waiting to hear from the AAHA contact about scheduling.
5. College of Forestry: **Forest Engineering and Civil Engineering**
 - Accrediting body: Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET
 - Review expected fall 2026 or winter 2027
6. College of Health: **Nutrition (Dietetic Option); Nutrition (Dietetic Internship)**
 - The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND)
 - Review expected June 2026

ACADEMIC PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW

Proposals for new academic programs are initiated by academic units with the knowledge and approval of academic leadership. Program proposals go through approval processes involving the Faculty Senate, the Provost's Office, the Board of Trustees, and externally with the Statewide Provosts Council, the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, and the NWCCU.

New program proposals that are in early stages of the curricular approval process

1. College of Agricultural Sciences – BS and BA in Agricultural and Natural Resources Communication

2. College of Health – BS in Early Childhood Leadership, Policy, and Practice
3. College of Engineering – BS in Artificial Intelligence

New program proposals for review by the Academic Strategies Committee

- None

Newly approved program proposals en route to the SPC, HECC or NWCCU

1. College of Business – MS in Business Analytics and Applied AI
2. College of Business – MS in Information Systems

Significant Changes to Existing Programs

1. College of Liberal Arts - Rename International Studies to Global Studies

ACTIONS FROM NWCCU RELATED TO ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

New certificates approved by NWCCU since the last report to the committee:

- None