

Revised Decision Framework for Periods of Accreditation

10 Years

The institution is in substantial compliance with the Standards and has no consequential issues that affect the institution's ability to carry out its mission at a high level of quality. Institutions that receive ten years may also have follow-on requirements to address focused issues.

The evidence gives the Commission confidence that the institution can and will maintain ongoing substantial compliance with all Standards for a 10-year period and that it has a commitment and the capacity to maintain ongoing quality improvement for the duration of this period.

8 Years

The institution is in substantial compliance with the Standards but has one or more identifiable issues that may affect the institution's ability to carry out its mission at a high level of quality. Institutions that receive eight years will in all likelihood have follow-on requirements to address focused and/or systemic issues.

The evidence gives the Commission confidence that the institution can and will maintain ongoing substantial compliance with all Standards for an eight-year period and that it has a commitment and the capacity to maintain ongoing quality improvement for the duration of this period.

6 Years

The institution is receiving Initial Accreditation or coming off of Sanction. In rare cases of reaffirmation where there is evidence that raises more significant concerns regarding its ability to carry out its mission at a high level of quality, possibly because of a particularly acute issue or issues, the period of reaffirmation will be six years. Institutions receiving Initial Accreditation may also have follow-on requirements to address focused issues. Institutions coming off of Sanction or regarding which significant concerns were raised during reaffirmation will have follow-on requirements to address issues of concern.

The evidence gives the Commission confidence that, with follow-on requirements as necessary, the institution's ongoing substantial compliance with all Standards during the six-year period can be confirmed and that the institution has a commitment and the capacity to maintain ongoing quality improvement for the duration of this period.