

Accreditation FAQ-3

September 2018



Lawrence is preparing for an accreditation review by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) (see <http://go.lawrence.edu/accredfaq1> to find out more about what accreditation is and why it matters). Below are answers to questions about our accreditation materials and the site visit on October 1-2.

What materials did Lawrence provide for the accreditation review?

The Accreditation & Assessment Committee submitted the materials described below. These can be found on the campus website at <http://www.lawrence.edu/faculty/accreditation-resources>.

Assurance Argument: This argument addresses the HLC's criteria for the following areas: (1) Mission; (2) Integrity: Ethical & Responsible Conduct; (3) Teaching & Learning: Quality, Resources, and Support; (4) Teaching & Learning: Evaluation and Improvement; and (5) Resources, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness. The argument links to over 500 evidence documents.

Federal Compliance Filing: This document describes how Lawrence meets federal requirements for institutions of higher learning. Supporting materials are provided in 25 appendices.

Quality Initiative Report: Lawrence's quality initiative report discusses the final two years of our Title III project to improve the success and retention of first-year students and to reduce the gap in persistence and graduation rates between students from groups at a historically higher risk of attrition and the general student population.

The peer review team will also review student comments and third-party comments submitted directly to the HLC.

What will happen during the site visit by the HLC peer review team?

A team of five peer reviewers from public and private universities have reviewed our materials and will be on campus to meet with administrators, faculty, staff, students, and trustees on **October 1-2**. The team will hold meetings on the criteria in our assurance argument, on federal compliance, and on the topics of assessment, planning, and diversity and campus climate.

The peer reviewers will also have an open meeting with students and a drop-in meeting with anyone from the campus community. The times and locations of these meetings will be announced prior to the visit.

How can I help?

We will be inviting administrators, faculty, staff, and students to site visit meetings that relate to their work or experiences at Lawrence, as well as issuing open calls to interested members of our community. Please attend so that we have a range of participants present who can answer questions from the peer review team, who will be trying to verify information in our materials and identify areas where they can recommend improvement.