

ACCREDITING COMMISSION FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES

WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Date: June 5, 2019

To: Commissioners and Other Interested Parties

From: Gohar Momjian, ACCJC Vice President

Subject: Spring 2019 Annual Report Summary

Purpose of the Annual Report

In accordance with <u>ACCJC Policy on Monitoring Institutional Performance</u>, the Commission applies a set of annual monitoring and evaluation approaches that assess an institution's continued compliance with the Commission's Standards, and that take into account institutional strengths and stability.

Based on college self-reported data from the prior year, the Annual Report collects headcount information to monitor institutional growth, growth in distance and correspondence education, key indicators of student achievement and institution set standards, licensure exam pass rates, employment rates. The Annual Report, along with the Annual Fiscal Report, is the primary reporting tool for annual monitoring during the review cycle.

Reporting Changes from 2018 Report to the 2019 Annual Report

Following the Commission's extensive discussion during the Spring 2018 Commission Development Workshop to re-examine effective monitoring of student achievement, ACCJC added a few questions in the 2019 report to better inform the Commission on improvement of student achievement outcomes. Specifically, we asked colleges to list the Graduation Rate per the US Education Department College Scorecard and identify other sources they rely upon to report success metrics per their mission. While previous reports required reporting on the institution-set standards (minimum or floor measure) for degrees, certificates, transfer, we also asked colleges to report on institution-set standard aspirational goals. This year's report removed the question on percentage of student learning outcomes assessed, and now will begin requiring colleges to further elaborate on student learning outcomes assessment per the accreditation standards in their Midterm Reports in order to provide more meaningful information to the Commission and to assist colleges in the improvement process.

The narrative below highlights some of the key findings from the Annual Report.

Headcount Enrollment: percent change from 2017 to 2018

- 1 college experienced a decline greater than 50%;
- 3 colleges reported declines greater than 10% up to 25%;
- 39 colleges reported declines up to 9%
- 28 colleges reported minimal changes
- 58 colleges reported enrollment increases up to 9%
- 5 colleges reported enrollment increases greater than 10% up to 28%

Headcount Enrollment in Distance Education: percent change from 2017 to 2018

- 7 colleges do not offer distance education;
- 1 college reported a decline greater than 50%
- 5 colleges reported declines of 10% or greater up to 28%
- 16 colleges experienced no major changes or declines up to 10%
- 50 colleges reported increases up to 10%
- 53 colleges reported increases greater than 10% up to 47%
- 2 colleges reported increases greater than 50%

Headcount Enrollment in Correspondence Education: percent change from 2017-2018

- 6 colleges offer correspondence education
- 4 colleges reported declines up to 16%
- 2 colleges reported increases up to 34%

Student Achievement:

Course Completion:

- Compared to the previous year, 28 colleges raised their institution set standard (floor); 6
 colleges lowered their institution set standard (floor); others remained the same (floor).
- Actual average course completion rates have been increasing slightly each year (72.5% in 2016; 73.2% in 2017; 73.9% in 2018).

Certificates:

- Compared to the previous year, 48 colleges raised their institution set standard (floor); 9 colleges lowered their institution set standard (floor); others remained the same (floor).
- 84 colleges reported an increase in the number of certificates awarded, with an average increase of 48%.
- 42 colleges reported a decrease in the number of certificates awarded, with an average decrease of 16%.

Degrees:

- Compared to the previous year, 49 colleges raised their institution set standard (floor); 3
 colleges lowered their institution set standard (floor); others remained the same (floor).
- 103 colleges reported increases in the number of degrees awarded, with an average increase of 16% over the prior year.

- 27 colleges reported decreases in the number of degrees, with an average decrease of 8%.
- 18 colleges from ACCJC's membership offer a Baccalaureate degree, and collectively graduated 124 students in 2017-18.

Transfer:

- Compared to the previous year, 30 colleges raised their institution set standard (floor); 13 colleges lowered their institution set standard (floor); others remained the same (floor).
- 58 colleges reported increases in the number of students who transferred to 4-year institutions, with an average increase of 14%.
- 59 colleges reported decreases in the number of students who transferred to 4-year institutions, with an average decrease of 9%.

Licensure Pass Rates:

• Out of 531 programs reported by colleges which lead to license examination, 457 had pass rates of 70% or higher and 296 programs had over 90% licensure pass rates; 30 programs did not have data available for the prior year.