



TIMELINE: THE HISTORY OF ACCREDITATION



1912. The National Association of Accredited Commercial Schools (NAACS), comprised of 22 private career schools, founded to establish and advance quality of education and standards of excellence at private business schools and colleges.



1949. NAACS merges with National Council of Business Schools (NCBS), renamed the National Association and Council of Business Schools (NACBS).



1965. Federal Higher Education Act signed into law. ACBS accredited institutions fulfill all requirements and regulations under Act.

150,000 students enrolled in accredited member institutions.



1980. U.S. Department of Education (ED) is formed.

2010. ACICS scope: assuring the quality of institutions providing applied professional, technical and occupational education. ACICS' standards among strongest in career education accreditation. Agency accredits nearly 800 institutions, serving more than 700,000 students in 46 states and 11 countries.

2012. ACICS celebrates its Centennial Anniversary.

1912

1950

1970

1990

2012

1920s. NAACS develops code of ethics, educational policies required of all members.

NAACS develops standards of practice, creates system of inspection for new members and schools with financial, managerial or educational hardship.

1921. NAACS grows to 228 members.



1950s. NACBS becomes Accrediting Commission of Business Schools (ACBS).

Commission adopts new policies, standards of practice, including general requirements for entrance to private career schools, catalogs and minimum degree requirements. Standards become the ACICS Accreditation Criteria.

Commission is recognized by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (now the U.S. Department of Education) only four years after recognition process is established. Agency is continuously recognized through present day.

1972. ACBS changes name to the Association of Independent Colleges and Schools (AICS) to better reflect increased diversity of member institutions.



1991. AICS is renamed the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS).

The Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) is formed; ACICS is one of only two national accreditors recognized by both ED and CHEA.

