

# The AWARE Webinar Will Begin Momentarily

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- Q&A are archived on our website under Frequently Asked Questions under the Events and Workshops tab!



# The AWARE Webinar Will Begin Momentarily

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ACCREDITING COUNCIL FOR  
INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

# AWARE Webinar

April 21, 2016

2:00-3:30pm EST

ACICS Webinar Announcing, **Relating & Explaining**  
*The April 2016 Memorandum to the Field*



# Today's Presenters

- **Anthony Bieda**, Executive in Charge
- **Perliter Walters-Gilliam**, Associate Vice President, Quality Enhancement and Training
- **Ian Harazduk**, Senior Manager, Policy and Compliance



# Agenda

- **Welcome**
- **2016 ACICS Professional Development Conference**
- **Topic I: *Proposed Changes to the Accreditation Criteria***
- **Topic II: *For Information Only***
- **Questions and Comments**



# Annual Meeting – May 11-13, 2016

- 2016 ACICS Professional Development Conference: **Wednesday, May 11 through Friday, May 13** at the Worthington Renaissance in Fort Worth, Texas.
- **Online Registration** still available!





# ACCREDITING COUNCIL FOR INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

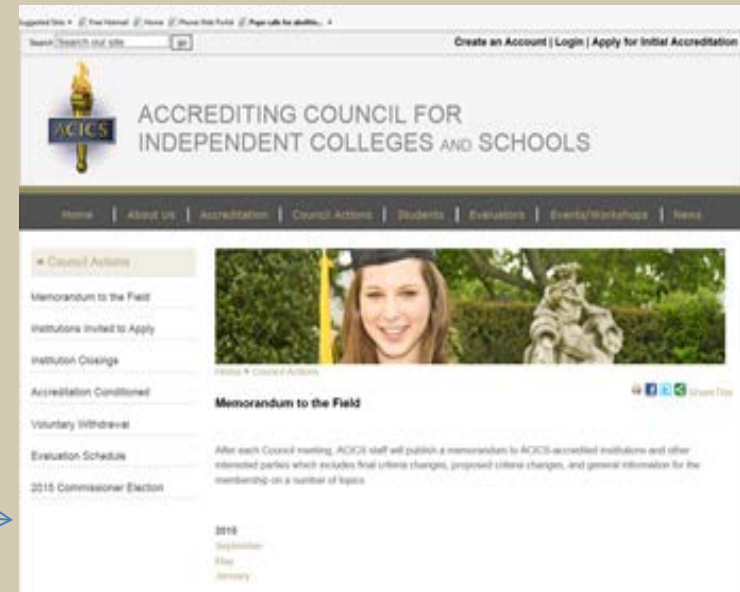
Available at [www.ACICS.org](http://www.ACICS.org)

To view the Memo:

> Council Actions

>> Memorandum to the Field

>>> 2016 April



# Welcome



**Anthony S. Bieda**  
Executive in Charge





# TOPIC I: **PROPOSED CRITERIA REVISIONS**



# Proposed Criteria Revisions

- **Definition of Academic Quality**
- **Data Integrity Standard**
- **Probation Standards**
- **Recruitment Activities Review**
- **Institutional Performance Disclosures**
- **Placement Definition**



# Proposed Criteria Revisions

- **Debarment Policy**
- **Admissions Requirements for Professional Master's Degree Programs**



# Definition of Academic Quality

## *Proposed Revisions*

### *Title I, Chapter 1*

The Council proposes establishing a formal , explicit Definition of Academic Quality in the *Accreditation Criteria*.

Key components:

- Academic quality is in the context of an institution's mission
- It is measured by the extent to which the institution achieves its student learning and student success outcomes
- Effectiveness of an institution is demonstrated by compliance with accreditation standards and continuous quality enhancement
- The proposal also moves the ACICS statement of mission under Title I, Chapter I



# Data Integrity Standard

## *Proposed Revisions*

### *Section 3-1-203*

The Council proposes to include a new standard on data integrity.

Key components:

- The standard provides explicit requirement for truthfulness, reliability, and accuracy of data collected at submitted to ACICS
- The Council has the discretion to independently review performance data any time, any reason, and require its verification
- On-site visit teams will identify an evaluator with the primary role of verifying reported institutional data



# Probation Standards

## *Proposed Revisions*

### *Sections 2-3-240 through 2-3-244*

The Council proposes revisions to criteria regarding probation standards.

Key components:

- Probation may be ordered when an institution has demonstrated that it cannot consistently operate in compliance with the *Accreditation Criteria*
- Probation will be included in the Council Action Process
- A probation order will have a definitive time frame for when it may result in a withdrawal action or be lifted.



# Recruitment Activities Review

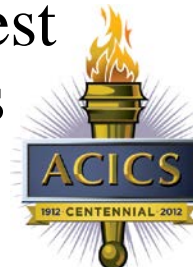
## *Proposed Revisions*

### *Section 3-1-412(a)*

The Council proposes revisions to criteria regarding oversight of recruitment activities.

Key components:

- Institutions must have a documented process for ensuring admissions and recruiting personnel are communicating current and accurate information
- This will require institutions to maintain documentation of its review and oversight measures
- ACICS will conduct additional research and issue a best practices guide for admissions and recruiting practices



# Institutional Performance Disclosure

## *Proposed Revisions*

### *Sections 3-1-704 and Appendix C*

The Council proposes revisions to institutional performance disclosures.

Key components:

- Student achievement must be disclosed at the campus (not institutional) level
- At a minimum, campuses must disclose their retention, placement, and licensure exam pass rate (if applicable)
- ACICS has developed a disclaimer for performance information disclosure





# Placement Definition

## *Proposed Revisions*

### *Glossary*

The Council proposes including a definition for placement.

Key components:

- Placement is working in a field of study or acquiring a credential that directly benefits the graduate's existing employment
- Succinct definition will accompany placement rate calculation



# Debarment Policy

## *Proposed Revisions*

### *Section 2-3-900*

The Council proposes revisions to the debarment policy.

Key components:

- Clarifies procedure that an individual or entity that is issued an intent to bar notice receives one opportunity to appeal decision
- The appeal may occur in writing or in person



# Admissions Requirements for Professional Master's Degree Programs

## *Proposed Revisions*

### *Section 3-6-601*

The Council proposes revisions to criteria regarding admissions requirements at the master's degree level.

Key components:

- Clarifies the standard that a baccalaureate degree may not be required for admission for a professional master's degree program
- This provision is allowed if master's degree is recognized by a specialized accrediting agency and leads to certification or licensure



**TOPIC II:**  
**FOR INFORMATION ONLY**



# For Information Only

- **Board of Ethics**
- **Interim On-Site Evaluations**
- **Outreach to ACICS Institutions**



# Board of Ethics

## *For Information Only*

- New method for reconciling conflicts of interest or perceived breaches of integrity on Council
- Bylaw Change: A commissioner will resign if they are employed with an institution deemed to be under serious scrutiny with ACICS standards
- Bylaw Change: Board of Ethics will be a standing committee of the Board of Directors, which will act upon perceived or actual conflicts of interest



# Interim On-Site Evaluations

## *For Information Only*

- While on-site, ACICS will review an institution's overall effectiveness in the areas of administrative capability, effectiveness planning, admissions and recruitment practices, recordkeeping, and faculty qualifications, etc.
- These substantive reviews will be incorporated into the quality assurance monitoring program and applied to at-risk institutions as determined by student achievement outcomes, complaints or adverse information, and/or financial conditions, among others
- The evaluation process will be introduced in the upcoming Spring 2016 cycle



# ACICS Re-recognition by the Department of Education/NACIQI

*For Information Only*

- Outreach to member institutions to produce letters and in-person testimony
- Identify and contact students and graduates
- Identify and contact employers of graduates
- Outreach letters and instructions will be coming soon





# Question & Answer



Please type in any questions or comments you might have!





# ACCREDITING COUNCIL FOR INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

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The screenshot shows the ACICS website interface. At the top, the ACICS logo and name are displayed. Below is a navigation menu with links for Home, About Us, Accreditation, Council Actions, Students, Evaluator, Events/Workshops, and News. The 'Events/Workshops' menu is expanded, showing a list of options: ACICS Centennial, 2012 Workshop Schedule, Registration Instructions, Workshop Descriptions, Webinars, Calendar of Events, Past Annual Meetings, and Visiting Washington, DC. The 'Webinars' option is highlighted. Below the navigation, the main content area shows the 'Webinars' page. The page title is 'Webinars' and it includes a description: 'Webinars are free informational seminars that are accessed over the Internet. The sessions are designed for schools but will also be of interest to evaluators and others.' Under the heading 'Available Webinars', there is a list of items: Evaluator Training, AWARE, IEP Webinar, Self-Study Submission, and Archived Webinars. Below this, there is a section for 'Evaluator Training Modules' with a paragraph of text. Red arrows from the left text point to the 'Events/Workshops' menu, the 'Webinars' menu item, and the 'AWARE' item in the 'Available Webinars' list.



# Comments from the Field



Thank you for attending the AWARE Webinar! Please provide your feedback to the *April 2016 Memorandum to the Field* via our electronic survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MTTF042016>

