

WHY IS

ACCREDITATION

IMPORTANT?

ACCREDITATION IS THE MARK OF A QUALITY EDUCATION

If you're planning to invest time, money and energy toward earning a degree, you want to be sure you're receiving the best education possible. Accrediting organizations establish operating standards for educational or professional institutions or programs and then evaluate the extent to which those standards are met.¹ Accreditation confirms that an institution or program meets specific educational standards and provides insights about its approach.²



WHY IT MATTERS TO YOU

1. Accreditation assures students that a college or university meets and maintains acceptable levels of quality.³



2. It ensures an education that is continually being upgraded. Accreditors require schools to conduct periodic self-evaluations to identify what they do well, determine what needs improvement and develop plans to achieve positive change.

3 KEY ASPECTS OF ACCREDITATION

01 Colleges and universities voluntarily seek accreditation, opting to undergo an intense process to earn it, thus demonstrating their commitment to quality education.



02 There are two main types of accreditation:

TYPE 1: **INSTITUTIONAL**⁴

Institutional accreditation normally applies to an entire institution.



TYPE 2: **PROGRAMMATIC**

Programmatic accreditation, on the other hand, refers to accreditation of specific programs, professions and freestanding schools, such as law, medicine, engineering and health professions.

03 The rigorous process to achieve accreditation typically involves:



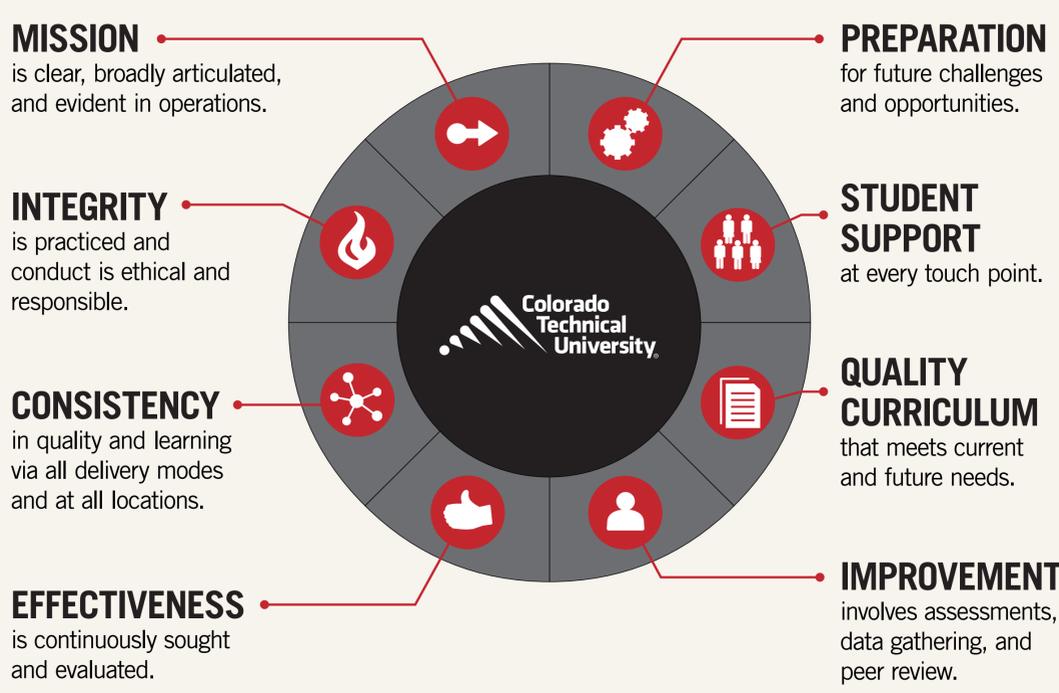
DID YOU KNOW?

Colorado Technical University was first accredited by the Higher Learning Commission in 1980.⁵ In January 2013, CTU received reaffirmation of its accreditation.⁶

WHAT ACCREDITATION TAKES

Accreditation is awarded based on the standards of the accrediting body and the school's own stated philosophy and objectives.

Below are some examples of the standards that are evaluated by various accreditation bodies.



VISIT: <http://www.coloradotech.edu/About-CTU/Accreditation>



ARE YOU IN?

Sources:
¹ <http://ope.ed.gov/accreditation/faqaccr.aspx>
² <http://www.coloradotech.edu/resources/blogs/july-2013/accreditation-why-you-should-care>
³ An overview of US Accreditation, published by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), Revised Aug. 2012.
⁴ <http://ope.ed.gov/accreditation/faqaccr.aspx>
⁵ <http://www.ncaahc.org>; Phone: 800.621.7440 / 312.263.0456
⁶ <http://www.coloradotech.edu/about/accreditations>

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