



Self-Study Preparation Visit

Utica University

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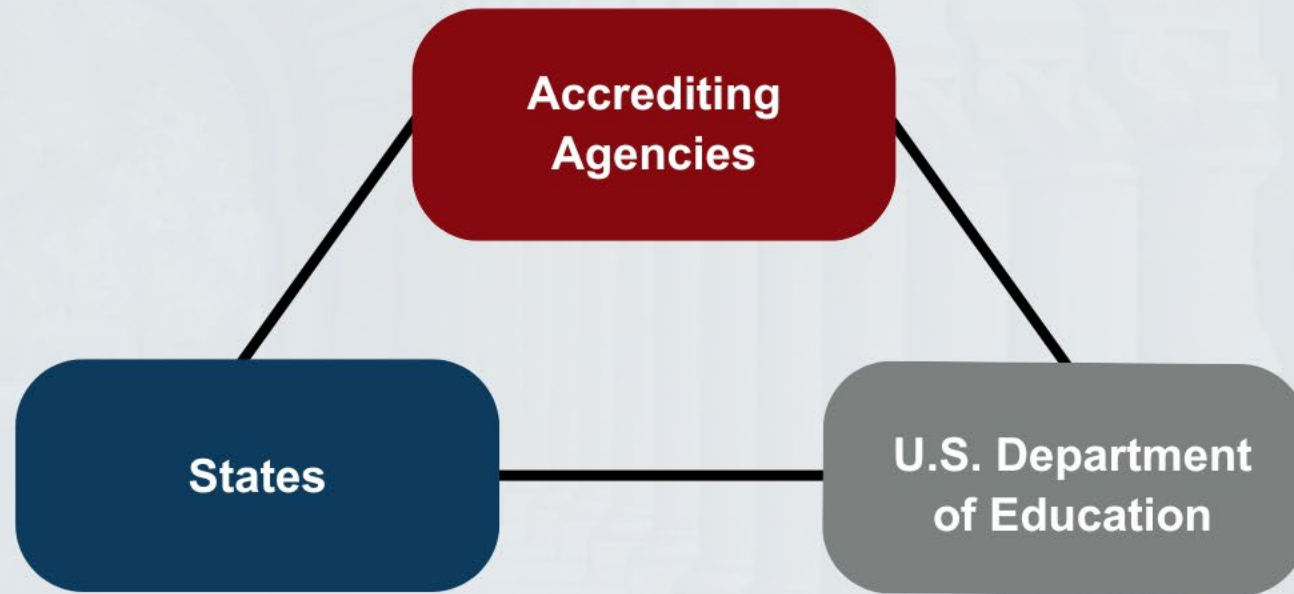
Why Accreditation?

- To reevaluate and monitor institutions to ensure compliance with:
 - Standards for Accreditation
 - Requirements of Affiliation
 - Policies and Procedures
 - Applicable federal regulatory requirements in accordance with federal regulation

Why Accreditation?

- To strengthen and sustain higher education, making it worthy of public confidence, and minimizing the scope of external control.
- To demonstrate institutions' commitment to continuous self-assessment

REGULATORY TRIAD





What is MSCHE?

MISSION

The Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) promotes educational excellence through innovation across diverse institutions.

VISION

To be a prominent voice and champion in higher education to leverage accreditation for our member institutions and students.

VALUES

Protecting the Future

We ensure that member institutions meet rigorous and comprehensive standards to protect educational quality.

Guiding for Good

We fuel discovery and progress for our community and society as an independent voice in higher education.

Setting the Standard

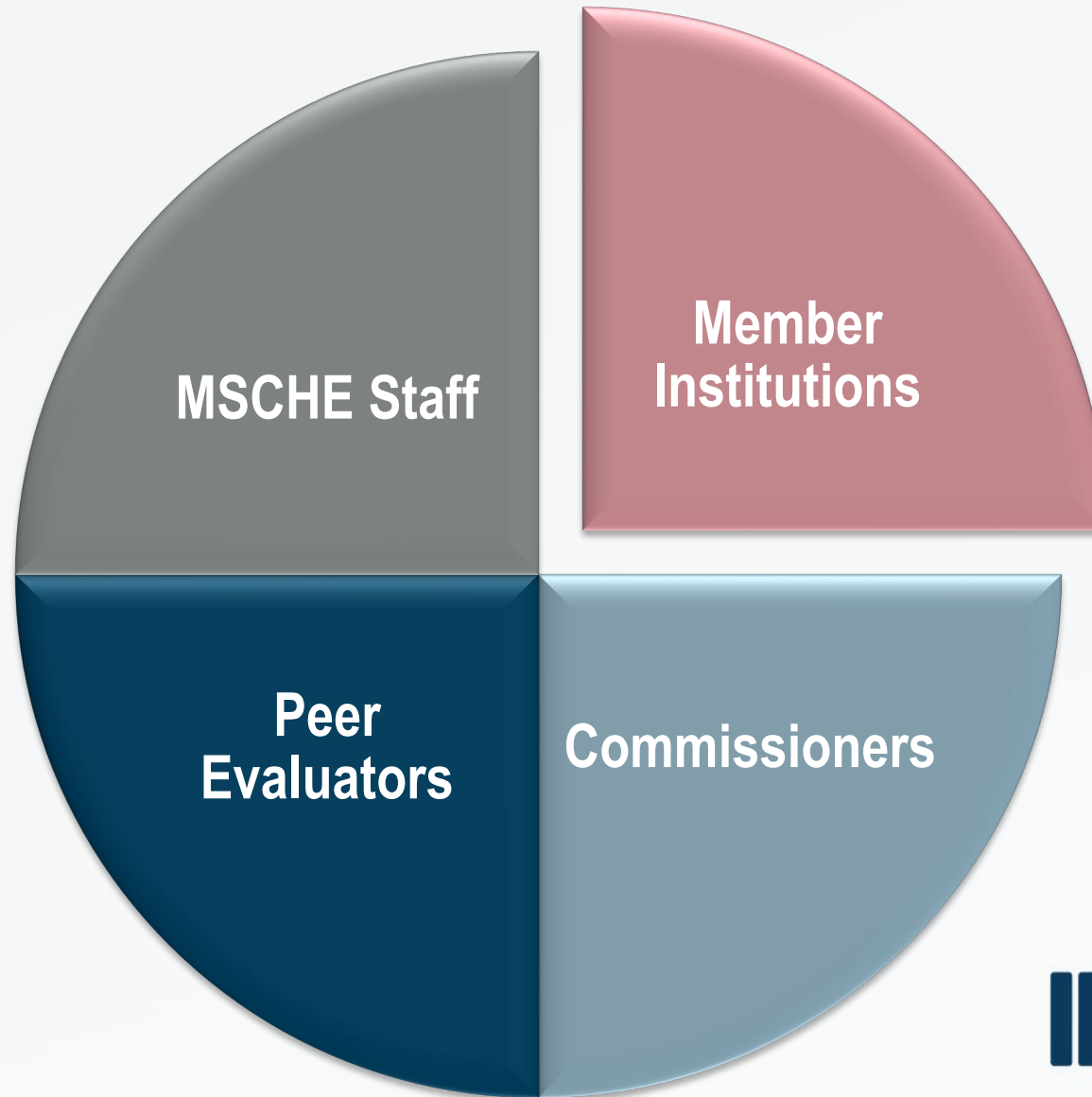
We promote quality through honest reflection, institutional growth, and meaningful change.

THE COMMISSION

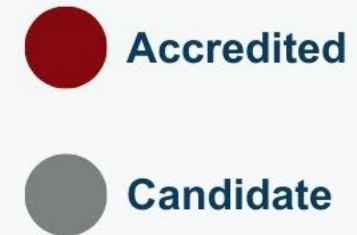
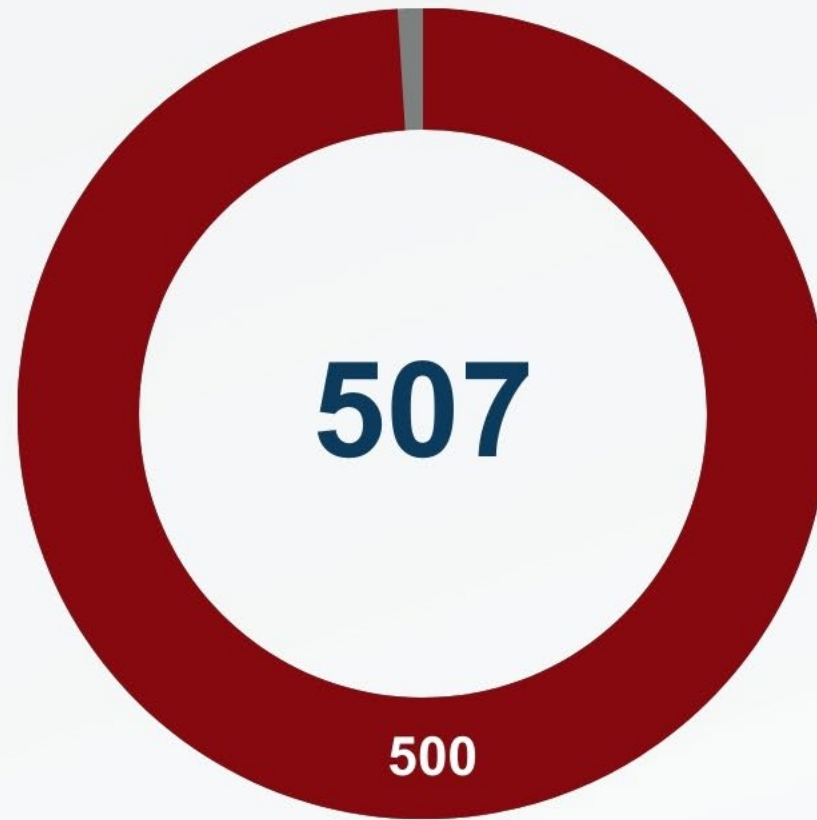
- At least 27 voting members
- Representation:
 - Public representatives (1/7)
 - Administrative or academic representatives, employees of higher education organizations



Who is the Commission?

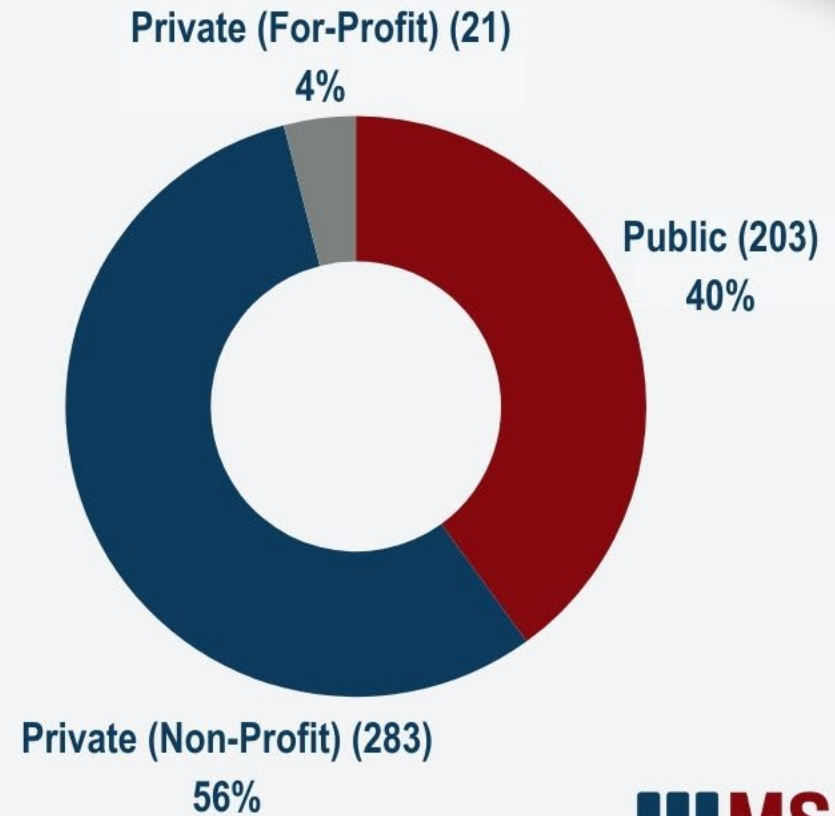
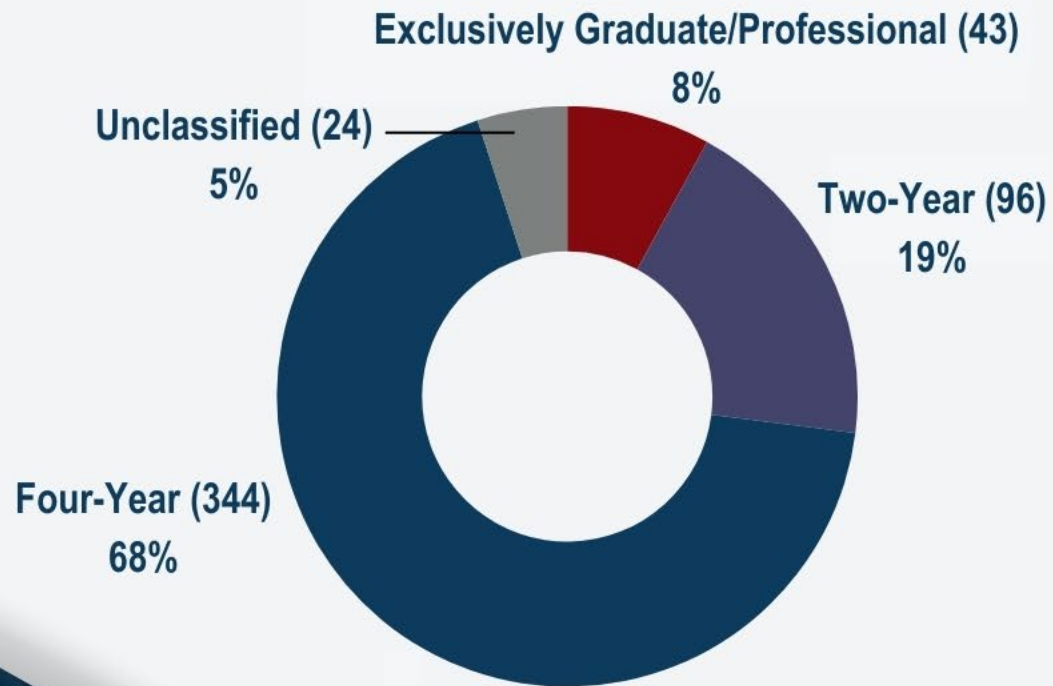


MSCHE INSTITUTIONS



As of January 2025

MEMBERSHIP BY CARNEGIE CLASSIFICATION



As of January 2025



GLOBAL FOOTPRINT



**MSCHE ACCREDITS INSTITUTIONS IN 46
STATES, 2 TERRITORIES, THE DISTRICT OF
COLUMBIA, AND 97 COUNTRIES**



MSCHE
MIDDLE STATES COMMISSION
ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Accreditation Review Cycle and Monitoring

For Institutions Seeking Grant of Accreditation or Reaffirmation



For a full description of the *Accreditation Review Cycle and Monitoring Policy and Procedures*, visit go.msche.org/Accreditation-Review-Cycle-and-Monitoring

Multi-Level Accreditation Decision-Making



Team Visits and Findings



Committee Review



Commission Action

Expectations for Accreditation

Requirements of Affiliation

Standards for Accreditation

Federal compliance requirements

MSCHE policies and procedures

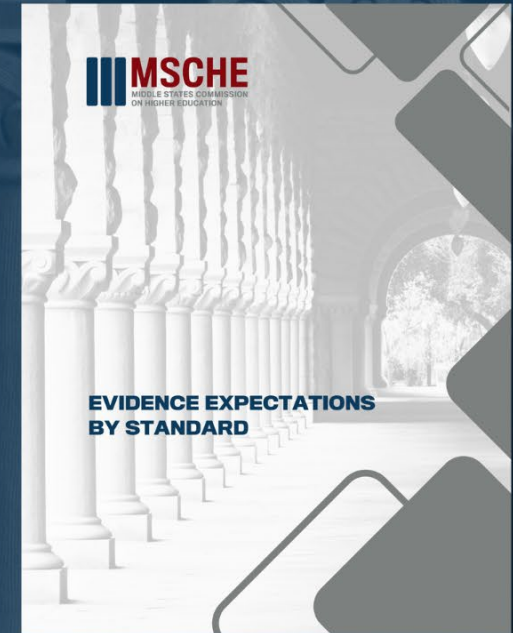
***Standards for Accreditation and
Requirements of Affiliation
(Fourteenth Edition)***

and

***Evidence Expectations
by Standard***

Effective July 1, 2023

MSCHE.ORG/STANDARDS



Standards for Accreditation (Fourteenth Edition)

Standard I – Mission and Goals

Standard II – Ethics and Integrity

Standard III – Design and Delivery of the Student Learning Experience

Standard IV – Support of the Student Experience

Standard V – Educational Effectiveness Assessment

Standard VI – Planning, Resources, and Institutional Improvement

Standard VII – Governance, Leadership, and Administration





Requirements of Affiliation (Fourteenth Edition)

- 1. Authorization to Operate**
- 2. Operational with Students Actively Enrolled**
- 3. Graduated at Least One Class**
- 4. Communicate with MSCHE in English**

MSCHE Policies, Procedures, Guidelines, and Templates

- [MSCHE.ORG/POLICIES-GUIDELINES](https://msche.org/policies-guidelines)
- [MSCHE.ORG/EVALUATORS/RESOURCES](https://msche.org/evaluators-resources)

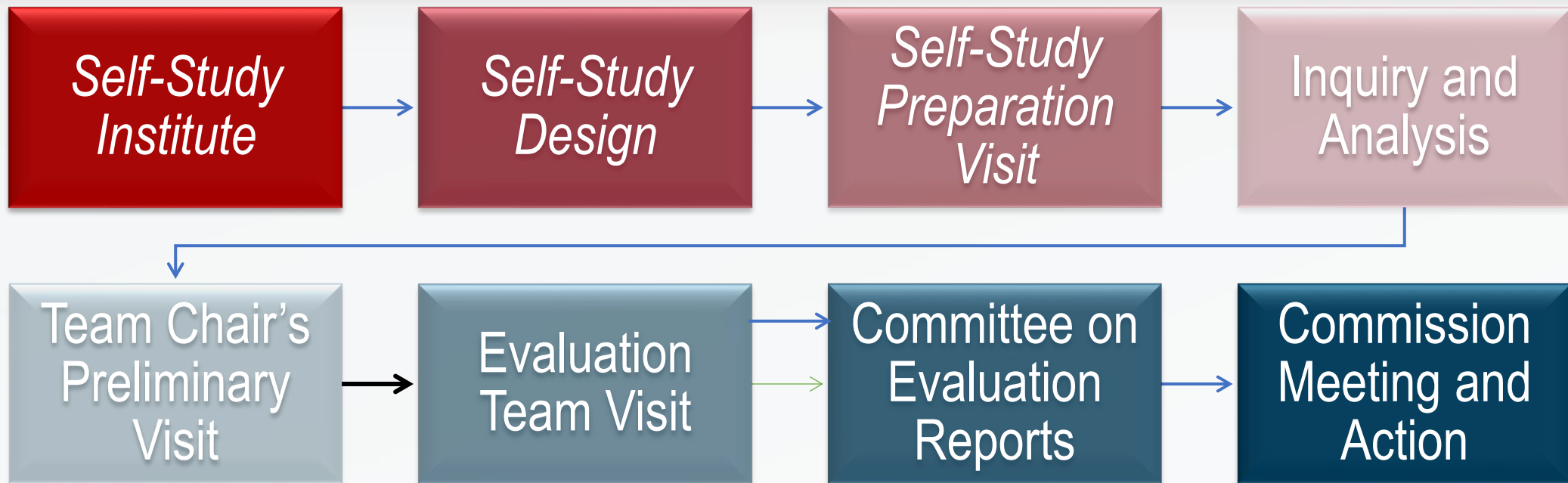
The screenshot shows the MSCHE website's 'POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES' page. The header includes the MSCHE logo, navigation links (Annual Conference, News, Events, About Us, Contact Us), a LOGIN button, and a search bar. A secondary navigation bar lists: Institutions, Peer Evaluators, Policies, Standards, Student Resources, Commission Actions, Substantive Change, and Complaints. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains a 'POLICIES' section with links for 'BROWSE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES', 'POLICIES UNDER REVIEW', and 'DISTANCE EDUCATION REGULATORY CHANGES UPDATE - 11/4/2021'. Below this is a 'POLICY NEWS' section with two items: 'Advocacy Alert: USDE Issues Dear Colleague Letters Regarding Prison Education Programs' (dated October 25, 2024) and 'Myth-Busting: Degree in Three and Other Accelerated Credentials' (dated October 23, 2024). The right column features the title 'POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES' followed by an introductory paragraph and a photograph of a person writing. Below the photo is a paragraph explaining the Commission's document types and a paragraph describing the systematic process for reviewing standards and policies. At the bottom, it states 'The Commission accepts comments for feedback on... through policy@msche.org.'

The screenshot shows the MSCHE website's 'PEER EVALUATORS' and 'RESOURCES' page. The header is identical to the previous screenshot. The secondary navigation bar is the same. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column has a 'PEER EVALUATORS' section with links for 'BECOME A PEER EVALUATOR', 'EVALUATORS WHO HAVE SERVED', 'RESOURCES', and 'TRAVEL WARNINGS AND ADVISORIES'. The right column has a 'Peer Evaluators > Resources' section with the title 'RESOURCES' and a link to 'Standards for Accreditation and Requirements of Affiliation Evidence Expectations by Standard'. Below this is a 'Self-Study' section with three bullet points: 'Self-Study Team Report', 'Self-Study Team Chair's Confidential Brief', and 'Report Due Dates for Fall 2024 Visits'.



Self-Study Process

Self-Study Process 24-36 months



Institutional Priorities

1. Relevance and distinctiveness of academic programs and experiences

2. Equitable outcomes and improved student success

3. Quality of student life and the student experience

Most Common Institutional Priorities 2020-2023

Percentage of Self-Study Documents, Cohorts A,B,C



n=175, 79% of all coded self-study reports

Types of Findings

- **Significant Accomplishments,
Significant Progress or
Exemplary/Innovative Practices**
- **Collegial Advice**
- **Recommendations**
- **Requirements**

Possible Commission Actions

Reaffirmation of Accreditation

Reaffirmation with Follow-up

Non-Compliance

- **Warning / Probation / Show Cause**
- Monitoring Report / Follow-up team visit
- Time limit

Re-Affirmation Elevator Speech

- We are an accredited institution of higher education that
- has an appropriate *mission* (Standard I),
- lives it with *integrity* (Standard II),
- delivers an effective *student learning experience* (Standard III),
- supports the *student experience* both inside and outside the classroom (Standard IV),
- assesses its own *educational effectiveness* (Standard V),
- uses *planning and resources to ensure institutional improvement* (Standard VI), and
- is characterized by effective *governance, leadership, and administration* (Standard VII).

Resources at MSCHE

Vice President Liaison

Dr. Ryan Hartnett rhartnett@msche.org

Your Self-Study Leadership Team
Other Commission Staff
Your Team Chair

The MSCHE website:
www.msche.org



QUESTIONS



THANK YOU

msche.org | [@mscheorg](https://twitter.com/mscheorg)

