

MSCHE
MIDDLE STATES COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Self-Study Preparation Visit to William Paterson University

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Institutional Field Relations, MSCHE
November 2026

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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

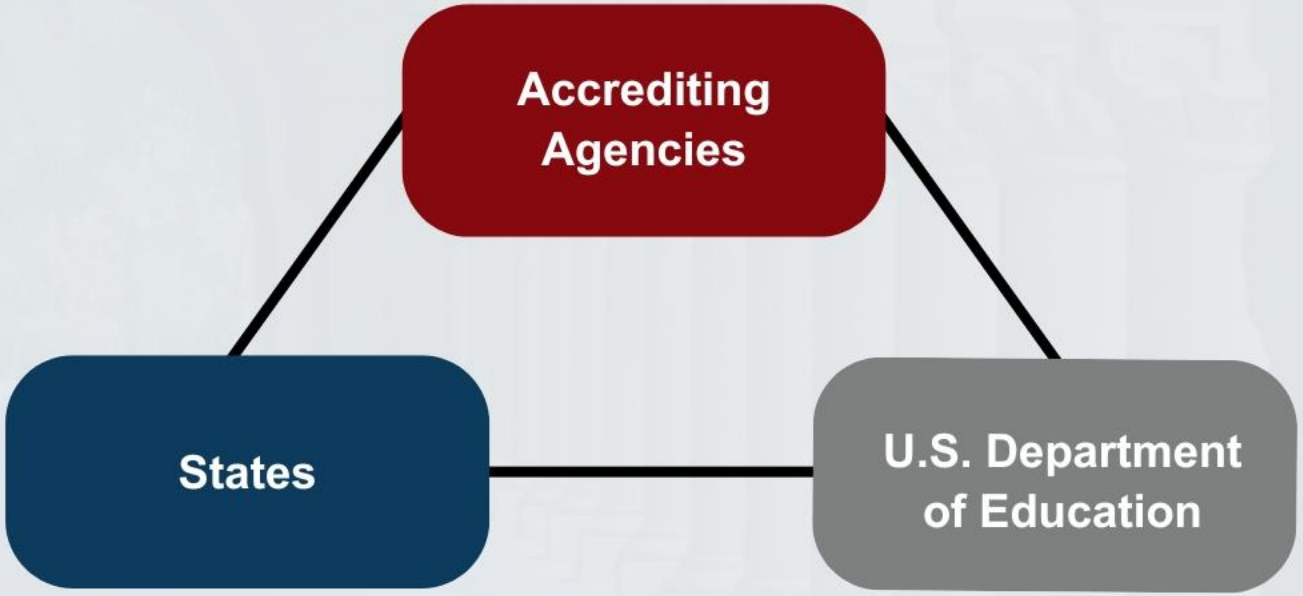
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Why Accreditation?

- 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

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REGULATORY TRIAD



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What is MSCHE?

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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.

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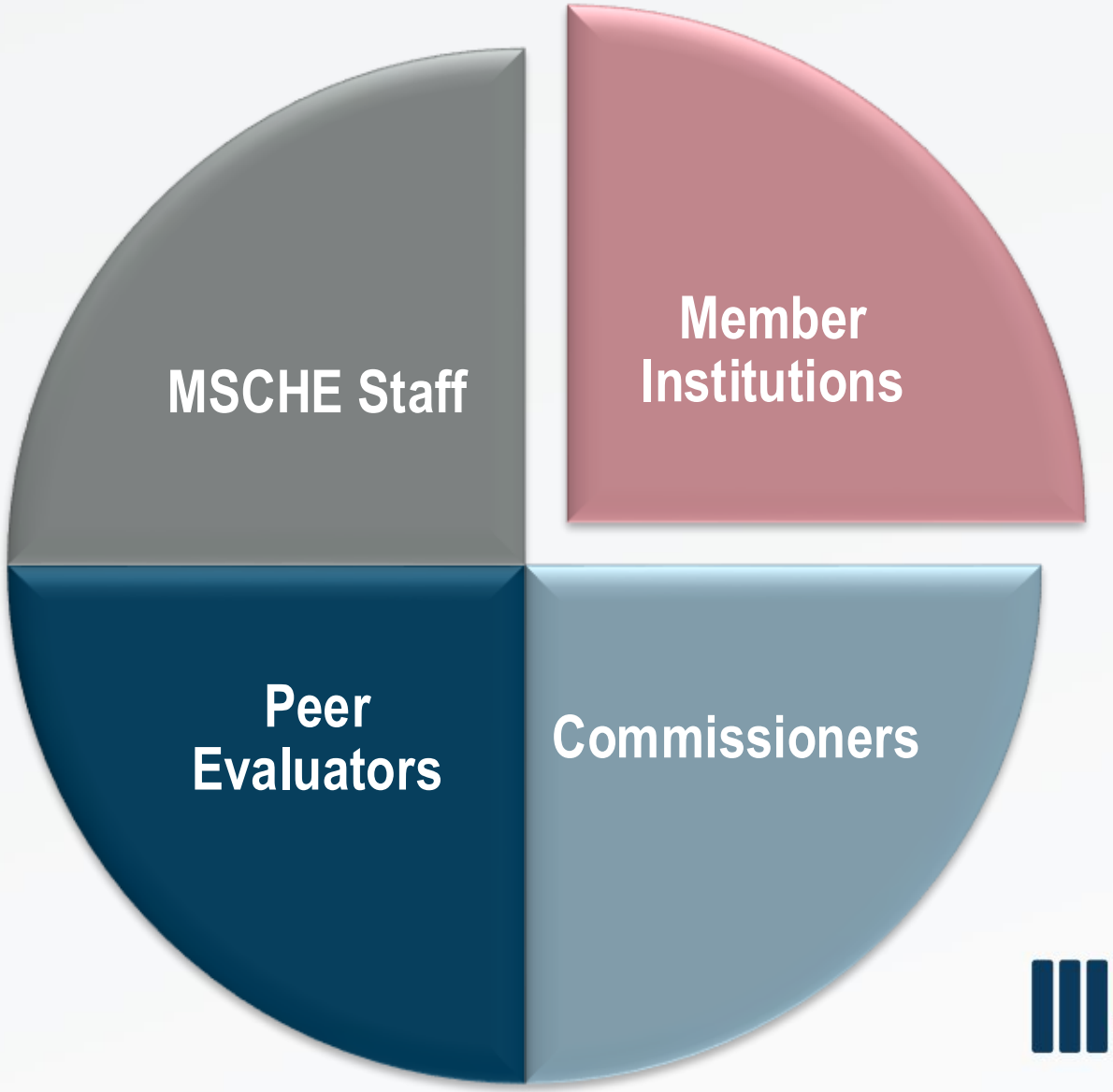
THE COMMISSION

- At least 25 voting members
- Representation:
  - Public representatives (1/7)
  - Administrative or academic representatives, employees of higher education organizations



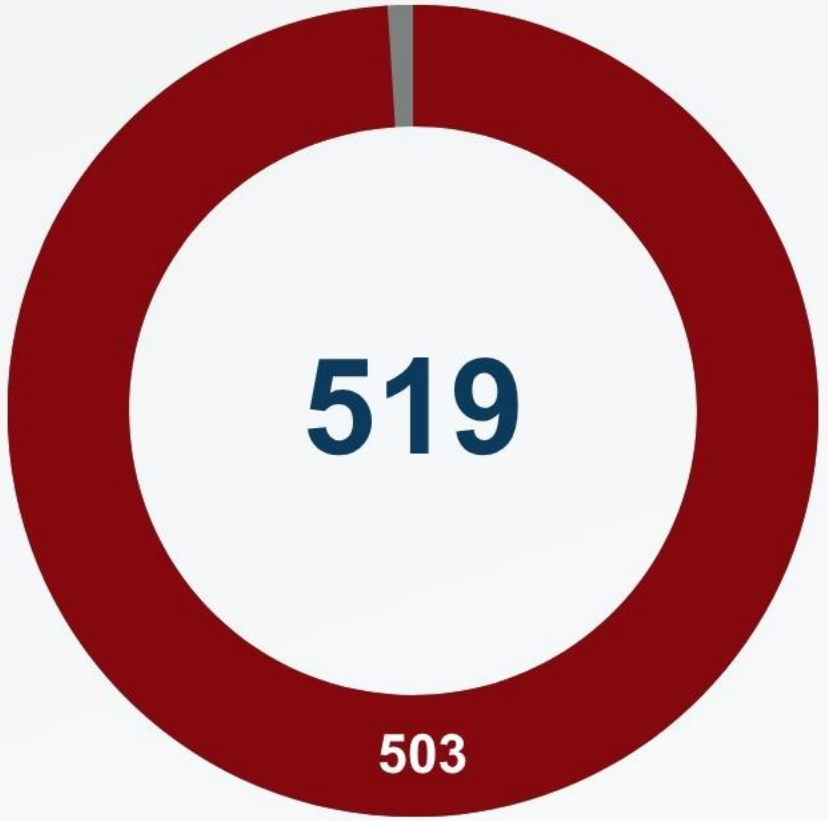
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Who is the Commission?



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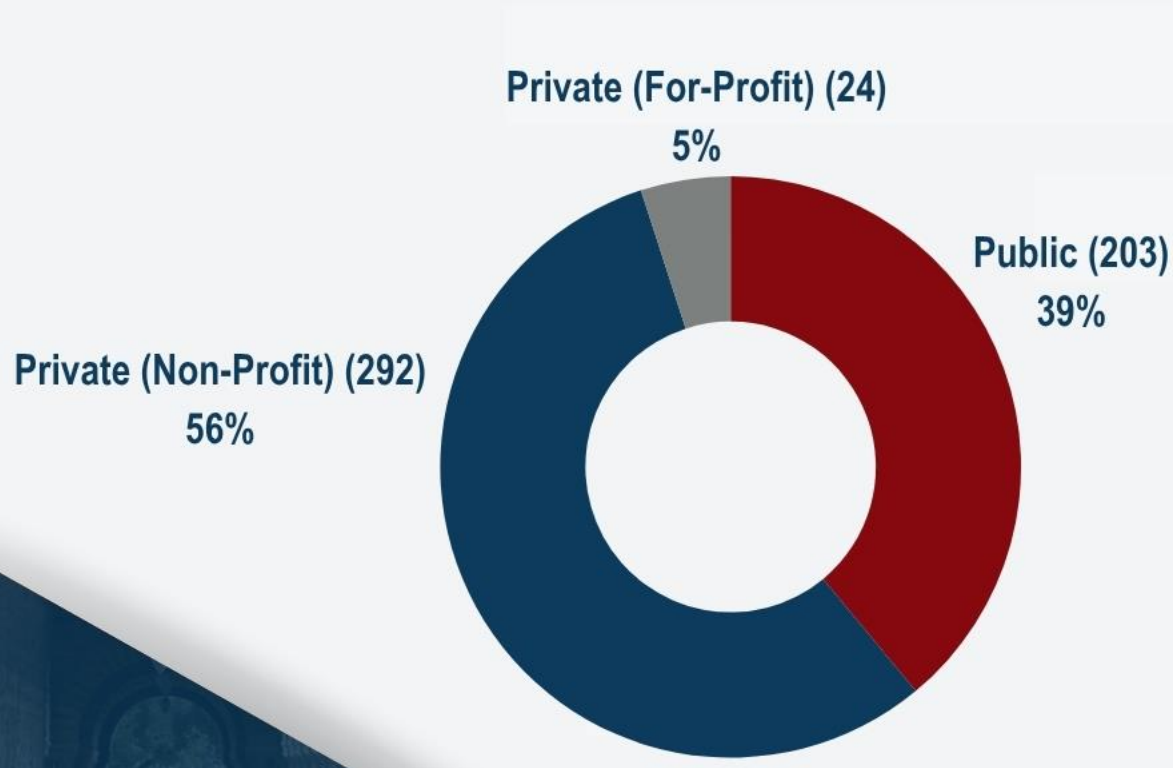
MSCHE INSTITUTIONS

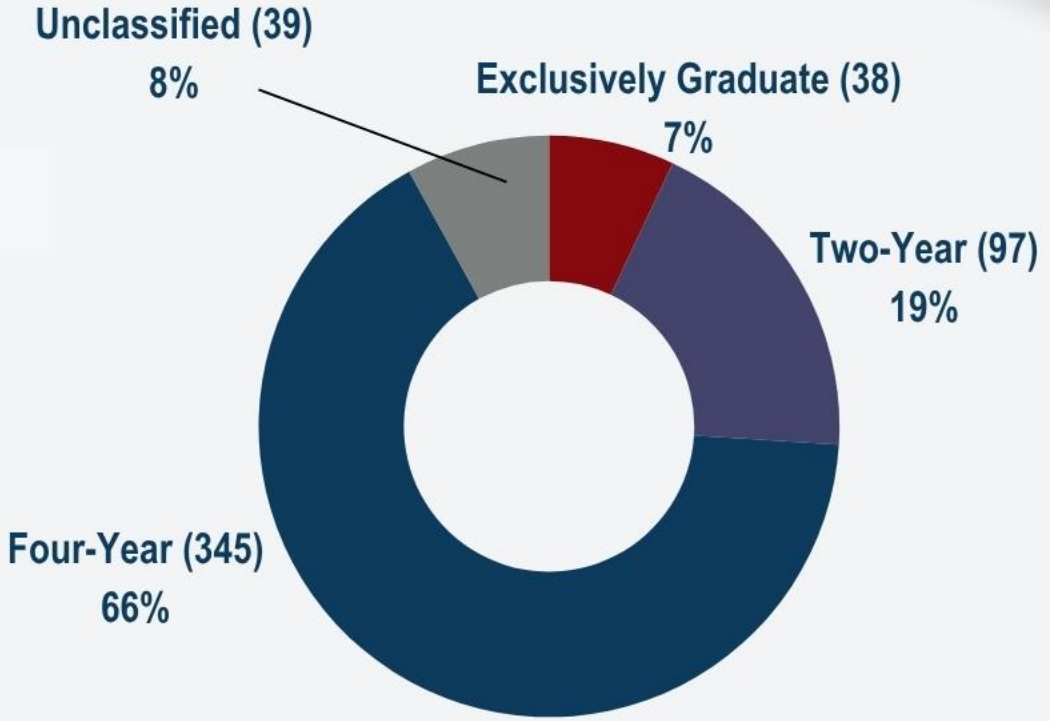


As of July 2026

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MEMBERSHIP BY CONTROL TYPE AND CLASSIFICATION





As of July 2026

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GLOBAL FOOTPRINT



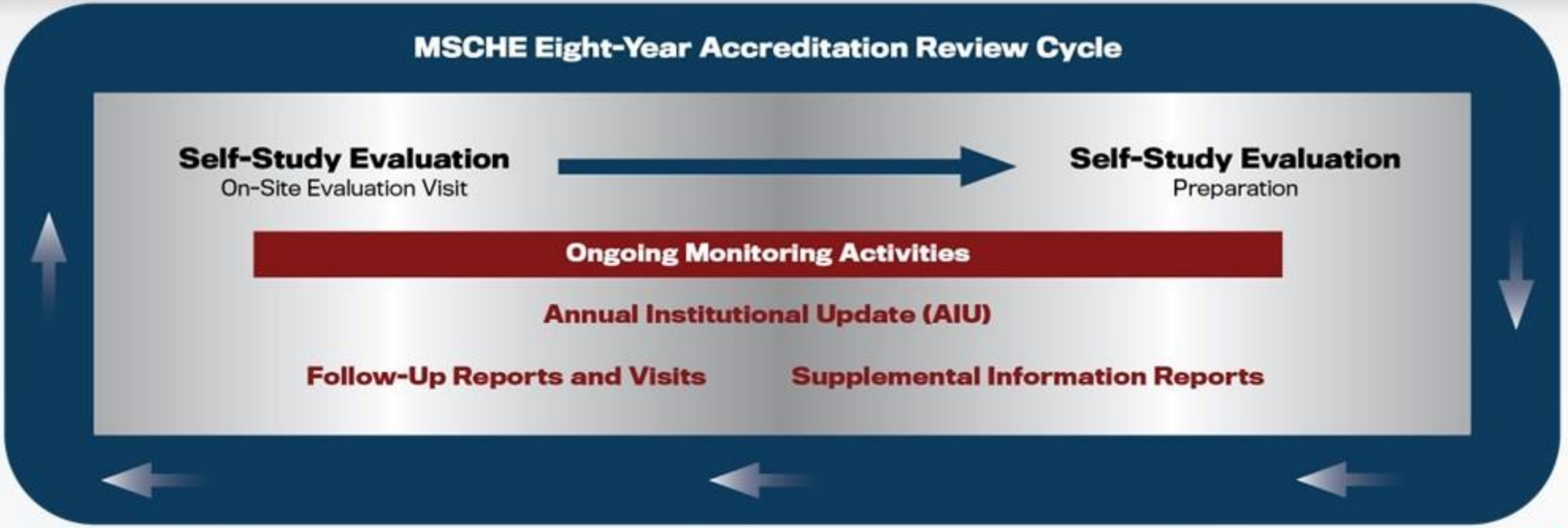
MSCHE ACCREDITS INSTITUTIONS IN 46 STATES, 2 TERRITORIES, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AND 97 COUNTRIES



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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

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Multi-Level Accreditation Decision-Making

Team Visits and Findings

Committee Review

Commission Action

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Expectations for Accreditation

- Requirements of Affiliation
- Standards for Accreditation
- Federal compliance requirements
- MSCHE policies and procedures

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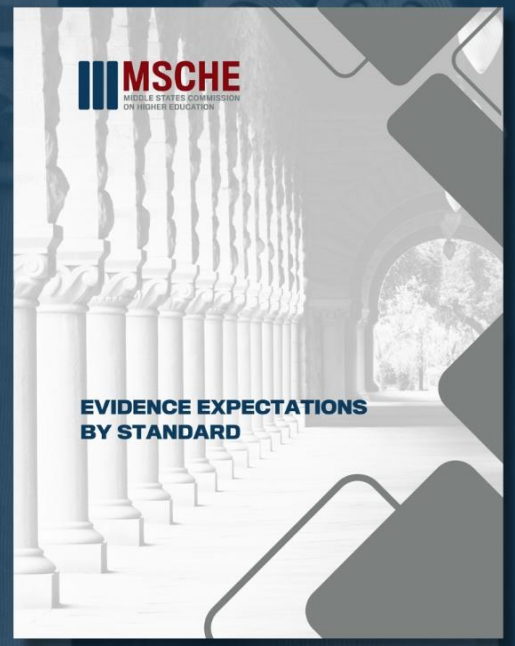
Standards for Accreditation and Requirements of Affiliation (Fourteenth Edition)

and

Evidence Expectations by Standard

Effective July 1, 2023
MSCHE.ORG/STANDARDS





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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



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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

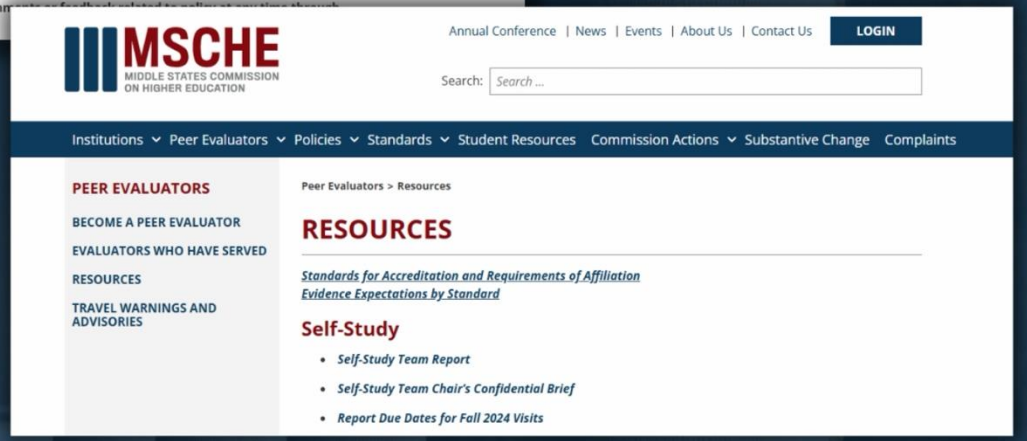
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MSCHE Policies, Procedures, Guidelines, and Templates

- MSCHE.ORG/POLICIES-GUIDELINES

- MSCHE.ORG/EVALUATORS/RESOURCES





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Self-Study Process

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Self-Study Process
24-36 months



Institutional Priorities

1. Campus Community
2. Academic Innovation
3. Student Support
4. Technology and Infrastructure

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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

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We are all MSCHE

- *How can you participate?*



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Resources at MSCHE

Vice President Liaison

Michael C. Sachs, JD msachs@msche.org

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

The MSCHE website:
www.msche.org

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QUESTIONS

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THANK YOU

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