Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is accreditation?
A: Accreditation is a voluntary peer review process that assists colleges to improve the quality of education and the effectiveness of its processes. Los Angeles Mission College (LAMC) is reviewed every six years and its accredited status re-evaluated by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Accreditation assures that the quality of education meets the standards determined by the Commission.

Q: Is LAMC currently accredited?
A: Yes. LAMC remains fully accredited.

Q: What is the college's current accreditation status?
A: LAMC was placed on warning status on July 3, 2013.

Q: What is warning status?
A: When the accrediting commission finds that an institution has not responded adequately to previous recommendations from past evaluations or they do not feel that they have enough evidence to determine if the college meets every accreditation standard, the ACCJC may issue a sanction such as warning status and require an institution make improvements within two years. The college must file periodic reports and undergo site visits. During this period, the institution remains accredited.

LAMC’s warning status stems from recommendations that the college’s research and evaluation process needs to reflect an on-going cycle of systematic evaluation, integrated planning, resource allocation, implementation, and re-evaluation, and that the process needs to be made clear to college constituencies. Furthermore, the team recommended that the District evaluate its collegiality efforts and address a couple of compliance and audit issues.

Q: What is LAMC and the District Office doing to remove this sanction?
A: Since receiving the Accreditation Commission report findings, everyone at the college – administrators, staff, and faculty – has been working together to address the ACCJC’s recommendations. The District has pledged support to obtain the resources necessary that will address the recommendations.

Q: What happens next?
A: LAMC will submit a follow-up report to the Accrediting Commission by March 15, 2014 that will detail progress towards addressing all of the issues cited. This will be followed up with a visit probably in April 2014. In June 2014, we will be informed by the ACCJC about the college’s status.

Q: Where can I find out more information about accreditation?
A: The accrediting commission, ACCJC, provides information on the topic at www.accjc.org.
Q. Where can I view the letter sent by the ACCJC to LAMC regarding the college’s accreditation status?
A: The college has posted the Commission letter on the college’s website, along with its self-evaluation and the visiting team report. Additionally, the college website has a response from the College President regarding the college’s warning status.