



Unique Context



Peer Accreditation Model

"The United States employs a unique approach for ensuring quality in its institutions of higher learning...In the U.S., private, non-governmental accreditors fulfill this quality assurance role through a complex, decentralized system that reflects the diversity of American higher education institutions. U.S. accreditors make accreditation decisions based on the professional judgment of trained peers from member institutions."

The federal government depends on accrediting agencies to ensure quality of higher education institutions receiving federal dollars through financial aid to students.

Accrediting agencies are "recognized" by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council of Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) through a process similar to institutional accreditation creating two layers of accountability.

Types of Accreditation



Programmatic (60+ accrediting agencies accrediting 40,000 programs)

National

Career (6 accrediting agencies accrediting thousands of institutions)

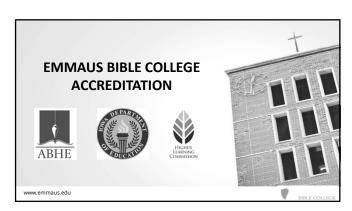
Faith-based (4 accrediting agencies accrediting about

500 institutions)

(7 accrediting agencies accrediting more than 3000 institutions)







Institutional Accreditation





Regional and national accreditation bodies approve institutions, not programs

- A. Professional Studies programs
- B. Ministry Studies programs
- C. Biblical Studies programs

State Approval for **Teacher Licensure**



Teacher education programs

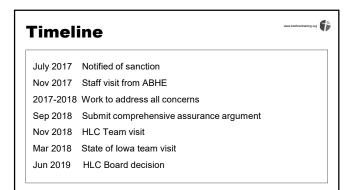
- A. Elementary Education
- B. Secondary Education C. K-12 ESL Education

Accreditation History



- 1948 Charter member of ABHE
- 1963 Withdrew from ABHE
- 1986 Again accredited by ABHE
- 1996 Approved by State of Iowa for teacher licensure
- 2006 Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission
- 2017 Sanction by the Higher Learning Commission





Benefits of Accreditation



- · Access to federal and state financial aid for students
- Requirement for state approval of teacher licensure programs
- · Opportunities for partnership with other accredited institutions
- · Credibility with students, parents, and donors
- Greater access to graduate programs for Emmaus graduates
- · Contributes to culture of continuous improvement

"I was always taught this analogy of the goldfish and the catfish in the same bowl. The accreditor is the catfish; it keeps chasing the goldfish, making sure they are thin, making sure they are active, they don't grow big and fat and slow. So I really think it's a benefit. When we're working, at least for me, in the back of my mind, I think, okay, our accreditor is coming soon...



