



Wheeling Jesuit University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, a regional accrediting organization recognized by the United States Department of Education. As part of its federal recognition, the Higher Learning Commission is required by the United States Department of Education to assure that Wheeling Jesuit University is complying with expectations of specific **federal regulations**, including **Title IV** program responsibilities. Compliance with these requirements is necessary to ensure that Wheeling Jesuit University is eligible for **federal financial aid**.

The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) offers three pathways for accreditation/reaffirmation of accreditation. Wheeling Jesuit University is currently pursuing **Reaffirmation of Accreditation** via the **HLC Standard Pathway**.

The HLC Standard Pathway follows a **10-year cycle**. **Quality assurance and institutional improvement are integrated into comprehensive evaluations conducted during the cycle, as well as through interim monitoring, as required.**

Federal Compliance Monitoring, intended to ensure compliance with federal regulations and Title IV requirements **occurs during years 4 and 10 of the HLC Standard Pathway**. In addition, Institutions are also evaluated based on the HLC's **Five Criteria for Accreditation and Assumed Practices**, which are the standards of quality by which HLC determines whether an institution merits accreditation or reaffirmation of accreditation. The Criteria have been designed to seek evidence of continual improvement on the part of member institutions rather than to define minimum qualifications.

An institution must adequately demonstrate and provide supporting evidence that it meets federal requirements and HLC's **Five Criteria for Accreditation**. A team of peer reviewers evaluates the institution to validate its argument and determine if each federal requirement and core component associated with each criteria is met.

The **Five Criteria for Accreditation** are as follows: **Mission, Integrity: Ethical and Responsible Conduct, Teaching and Learning: Quality, Resources, and Support, Teaching and Learning: Evaluation and Improvement**, and Resources, Planning, and Institutional Effectiveness

A team of **peer reviewers** from the HLC will visit Wheeling Jesuit University on March 11-12, 2019 to conduct a comprehensive compliance visit. However, requisite documentation required by the HLC that supports the University's evidence for meeting federal compliance requirements and HLC's Criteria for Accreditation is due to the peer review team on or before February 11, 2019.