

# Accreditation Statement

Lower Columbia College is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU).

The NWCCU is an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.

Accreditation of an institution of higher education by the NWCCU indicates that it meets or exceeds criteria for the assessment of institutional quality evaluated through a peer review process. An accredited college or university is one which has available the necessary resources to achieve its stated purposes through appropriate educational programs, is substantially doing so, and gives reasonable evidence that it will continue to do so in the foreseeable future. Institutional integrity is also addressed through accreditation.

Accreditation by the NWCCU is not partial but applies to the institution as a whole. As such, it is not a guarantee of every course or program offered, or the competence of individual graduates. Rather, it provides reasonable assurance about the quality of opportunities available to students who attend the institution.

Inquiries regarding an institution's accredited status by the NWCCU should be directed to the administrative staff of the institution. Contact information appears below.

Name of organization: Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU)  
 Street address: 8060 165th Avenue N.E., Suite 100, Redmond, WA, 98052  
 Phone: **(425) 558-4224**  
 Website: **[nwccu.org](http://nwccu.org)**

Accreditation by the NWCCU refers to the institution as a whole. Therefore, statements like "fully accredited" or "the program is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities" or "this degree is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities" are incorrect and should not be used.

In addition to institutional accreditation, specific programs at LCC have obtained specialized accreditation, including:

- The Lower Columbia College Nursing Program is approved by the Washington State Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission and accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).
- The Lower Columbia College Medical Assisting Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs on recommendation of the Curriculum Review Board

of the American Association of Medical Assistants Endowment.

Professional/Technical programs of study at Lower Columbia College are approved by the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board's State Approving Agency (WTECB/SAA) for enrollment of those eligible to receive benefits under Title 38 and Title 10, USC.