



NORTHWEST ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES
COMMISSION ON COLLEGES

PRESS RELEASE INFO

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SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

On May 7, 1998, the Inter-Regional Accreditation Committee (IRAC) reviewed Western Governors University's Eligibility Requirements Report and determined that the evidence was sufficient to warrant the University's preparation to seek candidacy.

Eligibility is not a formal status, but signals the beginning of processes leading first to the pre-accreditation status of candidacy and, ultimately, to accreditation. The University will now prepare a self-study evaluating itself against accreditation standards as well as the eligibility requirements. A team of peer reviewers will then visit the institution.

In response to the founding of the multi-state, multi-regional Western Governors University, four regional accrediting associations collaborated in establishing IRAC, empowering it to develop an accreditation process for this unique institution. IRAC formulated the Eligibility Requirements, the Accreditation Standards, and the candidacy process for WGU.

The four participating regional associations are: North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (Commission on Institutions of Higher Education), Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges (Commission on Colleges), and Western Association of Schools and Colleges (Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities and Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges).

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