



The Accounting Accreditation Process

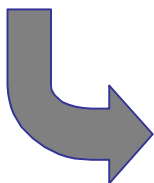


For Institutions Pursuing Business Accreditation Concurrently (See also timeline for Business Accreditation Process.)

(For institutions already holding business accreditation, see “The Accounting Accreditation Process for Institutions Holding Business Accreditation” at <http://www.aacsb.edu/accreditation/process/process-toc.asp>.)

STEP A – Accounting PreAccreditation

1. Submit Accounting PreAccreditation Eligibility Application to PreAccreditation Committee (PAC). Application can be downloaded from <http://www.aacsb.edu/accreditation/process/process-toc.asp>. (Business PreAccreditation Eligibility Application must be submitted concurrently).
2. PAC reviews application for accounting accreditation standards issues.*
3. PAC assigns a mentor to work with the applicant; mentor visits.
4. PAC forwards recommendation on eligibility criteria and scope of review to ACC for concurrence.
5. Applicant and mentor work together to address PAC issues and design an Accreditation Plan within the applicant’s Accounting Strategic Plan – applicant submits Accreditation Plan to PAC.
6. PAC reviews Accreditation Plan.*
7. PAC forwards Accreditation Plan to Accounting Accreditation Committee (AAC) along with PAC recommendations.



STEP B – Initial Accounting Accreditation



* Materials are revised and resubmitted until deviations are eliminated.

The Accounting Accreditation Process for Institutions Pursuing Business Accreditation

STEP B – Initial Accounting Accreditation

1. The Accounting Accreditation Committee (AAC) reviews the Accreditation Plan.*
2. Accreditation Plan is implemented.
3. Applicant submits Annual Reports to AAC for review; mentor submits annual recommendation.
4. When two years remain on the implementation of the Accreditation Plan, AAC and applicant appoint an Accounting Chair.
5. Accounting Chair reviews accreditation plan and annual reports, submits recommendation to AAC.
6. AAC reviews materials and recommendation.*
7. Applicant works with Accounting Chair to prepare a Self-Evaluation Report (SER) and refine the Accounting Strategic Plan.
8. Applicant, Accounting Chair and AAC select the peer review team (PRT). PRT and AAC review the SER and annual reports.*
9. PRT, with AAC concurrence, submits previsit letter to applicant at least 45 days prior to visit.
10. Visit occurs. PRT submits report to AAC and applicant with its recommendations.
11. Applicant submits a response to the PRT report (optional).
12. AAC reviews team report and recommendation and concurs or remands to the PRT.*
13. AAC forwards recommendation to accredit to AACSB Board for ratification.
14. Board ratifies or remands to AAC – when Board concurs, member is accredited. Accounting accreditation is valid for six years, with a maintenance of accounting visit in year five.



STEP C – Maintenance of Accounting Accreditation



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The Accounting Accreditation Process for Institutions Pursuing Business Accreditation

STEP C – Maintenance of Accounting Accreditation

1. Annually:
 - a. Refine Accounting Strategic Plan.
 - b. Prepare Annual Accounting Maintenance Report.
 - c. Participate in AACSB accounting accreditation data collection.
2. Year three (from last visit):
 - a. Accredited member submits accounting maintenance review application and cover letter, including list of accounting degree programs, exclusion requests, comparison groups, and catalogs.
 - b. AAC forwards copy of materials with recommendations to ACC to review accounting eligibility issues and scope of review*
3. Within two years of scheduled accounting maintenance review:
 - a. Accredited member and AAC choose peer review visit team (PRT).
 - b. Set visit date.
 - c. 60 days prior to visit, accredited member provides PRT with 5th Year Maintenance Report, annual accounting maintenance reports, policies and executive summary.
 - d. Accredited member and PRT confer to determine what additional information and/or clarification is needed prior to the visit.
4. PRT visits - submits report to AAC and accredited member with its recommendations.
5. Accredited member submits a response to the PRT report (optional).
6. AAC reviews team report and recommendation and concurs or remands to the PRT.*
7. AAC forwards recommendation to extend accreditation to AACSB Board for ratification.
8. Board ratifies or remands to AAC – When Board concurs, accounting accreditation is extended for six more years, with the next accounting maintenance visit in year five.

STEP C – Begins Again



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