Reappplication after Denial of Candidacy or Initial Accreditation Policy

A denial of Candidacy or Initial Accreditation occurs when the Commission determines that there is no possibility of an institution meeting standards at the required level within the five-year window of opportunity. This determination will be made no later than the fourth year of Candidacy to allow sufficient time for a potential appeal. This denial differs from a Commission action to proceed to an additional Seeking Accreditation Visit without granting Candidacy or Initial Accreditation. More details about this status difference are provided in the How to Become Accredited Manual.

After the Commission acts to deny Candidacy or Initial Accreditation, the institution must reapply for eligibility. In its next institutional report the institution must demonstrate that it has addressed the issues leading to denial, must address all the Criteria for Review, and must follow the review process for institutions seeking accreditation.

An institution that is reapplying for accreditation must wait at least one year before reapplying. The one-year waiting period begins on the date of the Commission action letter denying Candidacy or Initial Accreditation.

An institution denied Candidacy can appeal the decision to the Commission’s Executive Committee. An institution denied Initial Accreditation should consult the Institutional Appeals Policy.

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