

HLC Fact of the Week:*
“Why is Institutional Accreditation Important?”
(May 26, 2017)

Why is accreditation important? Here are a few reasons:

- Assures stakeholders that Lindenwood offers a high quality educational experience (public accountability)
- Affords our institution an opportunity to engage in the soul-searching process of internal evaluation and institutional improvement
- Self-scrutiny is a prudent and healthy practice
- Necessary for federal student financial assistance program
- Necessary to ensure transferability of credits to other institutions
- Accredited degree programs (specialized accreditation) require institutional accreditation

*In response to the May 19 HLC Fact of the Week, Michiko Nohara-LeClair was the first person to submit correct answers to all five questions in the “HLC Quiz.” She won a free “Lindenwood Like No Other” t-shirt. Others correctly answering all five questions were Comela Mathis and Lucy Cohen. The answers to the five quiz items are as follows:

1. HLC has three pathways to accreditation. Lindenwood is on which pathway?
 - Standard
2. What is one of HLC’s “Guiding Values”?
 - Focus on student learning
 - Education as a public purpose
 - Education for a diverse, technological, globally connected world
 - A culture of continuous improvement
 - Evidence-based institutional learning and self-presentation
 - Integrity, transparency, and ethical behavior or practice
 - Governance for the well-being of the institution
 - Planning and management of resources to ensure institutional sustainability
 - Mission-centered evaluation
 - Accreditation through peer review
3. When will the peer reviewer or reviewers visit the Belleville campus?
 - Sometime in the week immediately before or after the November 6-7 St. Charles visit
4. How many HLC Criteria for Accreditation are there?
 - Five
5. Which criterion addresses “Teaching and Learning: Evaluation and Improvement”?
 - Four

To learn more about accreditation and Lindenwood’s comprehensive evaluation and site visit scheduled for November 6-7, 2017, and to see the countdown clock to the visit, go to the HLC page on the Lindenwood website here: <http://www.lindenwood.edu/about/higher-learning-commission/>.

Past HLC Facts of the Week are archived [here](#).

Questions? Contact David Wilson, Associate VP for Institutional Effectiveness, at DWilson@lindenwood.edu or x4737.