



Outcomes | Innovation | Improvement

ACCREDITING COMMISSION FOR
COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES

Dear Colleagues,

As you may know, the Department of Education announced earlier this year its plan to establish a negotiated rulemaking committee on Accreditation, Innovation, and Modernization (AIM). The committee is set to meet for two weeklong sessions beginning next week: April 13-17 and May 18-22, 2026, daily from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. EDT.

To keep you informed and provide a resource you can share with your constituents, ACCJC has created an [AIM Negotiated Rulemaking Committee FAQ webpage](#), which we will update, as necessary, when more information becomes available.

Anyone interested can [register to watch the Neg Reg sessions](#). Additionally, the Department has provided draft and summary documents you may like to review:

- [Initial Draft Regulations for Discussion](#)
- [Summary and Discussion of Initial Draft Regulations](#)
- [AIM Committee Member List](#)

More information is also available on the [Department's Neg Reg for Higher Education website](#).

Background

Negotiated Rulemaking (or "neg reg") process is used to develop Higher Education Act regulations. Department representatives and negotiators from affected interest groups participate on neg reg committees to negotiate proposed rules on various regulations. Following negotiations, the public is provided an opportunity for comment before regulations are finalized by the Department.

ACCJC, along with its Council of Recognized Accrediting Commissions (C-RAC) colleagues, nominated Dr. Heather Perfetti to represent us at this upcoming negotiation. Dr. Perfetti is chair of C-RAC and president of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. She was selected by the Department as an alternate.

ACCJC would like to assure you that we are actively monitoring, advocating, and engaging with federal partners, and we will keep you updated with any new information as it becomes available. Thank you for your continued partnership.

Kind regards,
Mac

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