GRCC remains fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association; individual programs remain accredited by their corresponding accrediting agencies where applicable.

INTRODUCTION/PURPOSE

Our goal at GRCC is to increase student success through the accomplishment of the Completion Agenda. This agenda includes a slate of specific college action projects (outlined in our Strategic Plan) as well as department-level projects directly and indirectly aimed at improving student success. Where the College is pursuing projects with indirect impact on the completion agenda, it is building infrastructure and capacity for future projects with more direct impact. We will measure the success of our efforts by monitoring student performance in three specific areas: Persistence, Completion, and Transfer.

The Higher Learning Commission of the NCA provides a pathway for colleges to assess and improve the quality of their programs and offerings, particularly through their new Accreditation Criteria adopted in early 2012. This report reviews our current accreditation status. Grand Rapids Community College has been accredited continuously since 1917 by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. (HLC/NCA).

Accreditation by NCA provides assurance to the public, in particular to prospective students, that an institution has been found to meet the general institutional requirements for Higher Education. HLC/NCA is a not-for-profit, voluntary membership organization founded in 1898 and is committed to the improvement of education through evaluation and accreditation.

Accreditation provides both public certification of acceptable institutional quality as well as an opportunity and incentive for self-improvement in the institutions accredited. A college that fails to achieve or loses their accreditation is viewed by the public and other institutions as not meeting the general requirements necessary to be an institution of higher education. Maintaining college-wide accreditation contributes to student success by ensuring quality of programs and services. In addition, the accreditation process serves as an accountability measure for the community assuring that the college meets accreditation standards. In addition to NCA/HLC college-wide accreditation, many programs also hold professional accreditations. Those programmatic accreditations are also listed in the report.

Results: College-wide Accreditation

The information below is from the Statement of Affiliation Status from the Higher Learning Commission regarding college-wide accreditation:

Current Accreditation Status: Accredited
Year of Last PEAQ Comprehensive Evaluation: 1990
Year of Last Reaffirmation of Accreditation: 2007-2008
Year of Last System Appraisal: February 2013

Accreditation Date(s): (1917- Current)
Year of Admission to AQIP: 11/20/2000
Year of Next Reaffirmation of Accreditation: 2014-2015
Year of Next System Appraisal: November, 2015

Last Action: 06/18/2012
Control: Public
Stipulations on Affiliation Status: None

Degrees Awarded: Associate’s
Approval of New Degree Locations: Prior Commission approval required.

Approval of Distance and Correspondence Courses and Programs: The institution has been approved under Commission policy to offer up to 20% of its total degree programs through distance education. (Action as of June 2012)

Reports Required: None.
Other Visits Scheduled: AQIP Quality Checkup: April 2 – 4, 2014

GRCC
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Name</th>
<th>Name/Address of Accrediting Agency</th>
<th>Most Recent Site Visit</th>
<th>Date of Accreditation or Re-accreditation</th>
<th>Anticipated Date of Next Accreditation Visit</th>
<th>Reports Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associate Degree Nursing and Licensed Practical Nursing</td>
<td>NLNAC (National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission) 3343 Peachtree Rd. NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, GA 30326</td>
<td>February 2010</td>
<td>August 2010 (8-year approval)</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Annual Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>Automotive Technology</td>
<td>NATEF (National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation) 101 Blue Seal Drive, Suite 101, Leesburg, VA 20175</td>
<td>Spring 2013</td>
<td>2018 (5-year approval)</td>
<td>Spring 2018</td>
<td>Mid point review in 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>ACBSP (Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs) <a href="http://www.acbasp.org">www.acbasp.org</a></td>
<td>Pending</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Development (ECADA— Early Childhood Associate Degree Accreditation)</td>
<td>National Association for the Education of Young Children 1313 L St. NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20005</td>
<td>Spring 2008</td>
<td>September 2008 (7-year approval)</td>
<td>Spring 2015</td>
<td>Annual reports required by September 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child Development Lab Preschool (Programs for Young Children)</td>
<td>National Association for the Education of Young Children 1313 L St. NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20005</td>
<td>July 2011</td>
<td>October 2011 (7-year approval)</td>
<td>July 2016</td>
<td>Annual reports required by July 31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice Corrections Program</td>
<td>Michigan Correction Officer’s Training Council Phone: (517) 373-2081</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>July 2010 (Annual approval)</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Annual Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culinary (Secchia Institute for Culinary Education)</td>
<td>American Culinary Federation, St. Augustine, FL 180 Center Place Way, St. Augustine, FL 32095 (904) 824-4468</td>
<td>February 2013</td>
<td>July 2013 anticipated (7-year approval)</td>
<td>February 2020</td>
<td>Annual Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene Program</td>
<td>Commission on Dental Accreditation, American Dental Association 211 East Chicago Ave, Chicago, IL 60611-2678 312 - 440 - 2500</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>2012 (7-year approval)</td>
<td>Winter 2019</td>
<td>Annual Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developmental Programs</td>
<td>NADE (National Association of Developmental Education) nade.net</td>
<td>Pending</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Arts</td>
<td>NASA (National Association of Schools of Art and Design) 11250 Roger Bacon Drive, Suite 21, Reston, VA 20190-5248</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Fall 2008</td>
<td>April 2014</td>
<td>No annual report required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radiologic Technology</td>
<td>JRCERT (Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology) 20 N Wacker Drive, Suite 2850, Chicago, IL 60606-3182</td>
<td>May 2010</td>
<td>December 2010 (8-year approval)</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Interim report due June 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Next Steps:**

**Quality Checkup Site Visit**  
GRCC’s Quality Checkup Visit from a 2-person HLC-trained review team is scheduled for April 2-4, 2014.

**Public Notice – Third-Party Comments**  
Grand Rapids Community College is seeking comments from the public about the college in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. The team will review the institution’s ongoing ability to meet the Commission’s Criteria for Accreditation.  
The public is invited to submit comments regarding the college to the HLC:  
- Public Comments on Grand Rapids Community College  
The Higher Learning Commission  
230 S. LaSalle Street Suite 7 – 500  
Chicago, IL 60604 – 1411

**Federal Compliance Requirements**  
We are currently preparing documents that address the Federal Compliance Requirements. The determination of our compliance status will be assessed during the April site visit.

**New Program Level Accreditations Planned**  
In addition, new program level accreditations have been submitted for our Developmental Education program through the National Association of Developmental Education (NADE) and the Business program through ACBSP.

**Target:**  
The target is to remain fully accredited at both the college and program levels.