



**ACCREDITING  
COMMISSION  
for COMMUNITY and  
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

*Western Association  
of Schools and Colleges*

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**CORRECTED LETTER**

July 3, 2013

Dr. Kathleen Burke-Kelly  
President  
Los Angeles Pierce College  
6201 Winnetka Avenue  
Woodland Hills, CA 91371

Dear President Burke-Kelly:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, at its meeting June 5-7, 2013, considered the Self Evaluation Report of Los Angeles Pierce College, and the report of the External Evaluation Team that visited the College March 11-14, 2013.

The Commission took action to **reaffirm accreditation**, with a requirement that the College complete a **Follow-Up Report<sup>1</sup>** by **March 15, 2014**. Reaffirmation is granted when an institution is found to substantially meet or exceed the Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, and Commission policies, but recommendations on a number of issues should be addressed. The Report should demonstrate that the institution has addressed the recommendations noted below, resolved the deficiencies, and now meets Eligibility Requirements and Accreditation Standards.

**Recommendation 1**

In order to fully comply with the Standards, the College needs to review, update, and further integrate its various institutional plans, and formalize the integration among these plans as they contribute and align to an overarching institutional plan. (I.B.3)

**Recommendation 2**

In order to meet the Standard on student learning outcomes, the team recommends that the College thoroughly assess its student learning outcomes processes and make necessary modification to ensure authentic assessments, to demonstrate student achievement, and to provide for widespread institutional dialogue. (II.A.1.c; II.A.2.i)

**Recommendation 3**

In order to fully comply with the Standard, the College should fully develop, implement, and assess internal control mechanisms for the expenditures of grants and specified funds including the Associated Student Organization trust accounts and the Foundation to ensure these activities align with the mission and goals of the college. (III.D.2.d; III.D.2.e)

Dr. Kathleen Burke-Kelly  
Los Angeles Pierce College  
July 3, 2013

I wish to inform you that under U.S. Department of Education regulations, institutions out of compliance with Standards or on sanction are expected to correct deficiencies within a two-year period or the Commission must take action to terminate accreditation. Los Angeles Pierce College must correct the deficiencies noted in recommendations above no later than March 15, 2015, or the Commission will be required to take adverse action. In its Follow-Up Report, the College must demonstrate that the institution has addressed the recommendations noted above, fully resolved each of the noted deficiencies, and now meets all Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, and recommendations identified in the External Evaluation Team Report.

The External Evaluation Report provides details of the team's findings with regard to each Eligibility Requirement and Accreditation Standard and should be read carefully and used to understand the team's findings. The recommendations contained in the External Evaluation Team Report represent the best advice of the peer evaluation team at the time of the visit, but may not describe all that is necessary to come into compliance.

Institutions are expected to take all actions necessary to comply with Eligibility Requirements, Accreditation Standards, and Commission policies. The Commission wishes to remind you that while an institution may concur or disagree with any part of the Report, the College is expected to use the External Evaluation Report to improve educational programs and services and to resolve issues identified by the Commission.

The College conducted an educational quality and institutional effectiveness review as part of its self evaluation. The Commission suggests that the plans for improvement of the institution included in its Self Evaluation Report be used to support the continuing improvement of Los Angeles Pierce College.

I have previously sent a copy of the External Evaluation Report. Additional copies may now be duplicated. The Commission requires you to give the Evaluation Report and this letter dissemination to your College staff and to those who were signatories of your College Self Evaluation Report. This group should include the campus leadership, the Chancellor, and the Board of Trustees.

The Commission also requires that the Institutional Self Evaluation Report, the External Evaluation Report, and this Commission action letter be made available to students and the public by placing a copy on the College website. *Please note that in response to public interest in disclosure, the Commission now requires institutions to post accreditation information on a page no farther than one click from the institution's home page.* If you would like an electronic copy of the External Evaluation Report, please contact Commission staff.

Dr. Kathleen Burke-Kelly  
Los Angeles Pierce College  
July 3, 2013

Finally, ACCJC staff is available to assist the College with consultation and advice on the recommendations identified above. Please do not hesitate to contact us.

On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express continuing interest in the institution's educational quality and students' success. Professional self-regulation is the most effective means of assuring integrity, effectiveness and educational quality.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.  
President

cc: Ms. Anna Davies, Accreditation Liaison Officer  
President, Board of Trustees, Los Angeles Community College District  
Dr. Adriana Barrera, Interim Chancellor, Los Angeles Community College District  
Mr. Peter Garcia, President, Diablo Valley College, Team Chair

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<sup>1</sup> Institutions preparing and submitting Midterm Reports, Follow-Up Reports, and Special Reports to the Commission should review Guidelines for the Preparation of Reports to the Commission. The Guidelines contain the background, requirements, and format for each type of report and presents sample cover pages and certification pages. The Guidelines are available on the ACCJC website under College Reports to ACCJC at: (<http://www.accjc.org/college-reports-accjc>).