



**ACCREDITING
COMMISSION
for COMMUNITY and
JUNIOR COLLEGES**

*Western Association
of Schools and Colleges*

10 COMMERCIAL BOULEVARD
SUITE 204
NOVATO, CA 94949
TELEPHONE: (415) 506-0234
FAX: (415) 506-0238
E-MAIL: accjc@accjc.org
www.accjc.org

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EL CAMINO COLLEGE

June 17, 2015

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President Tom Fallo
El Camino College
16007 Crenshaw Blvd.
Torrance, California 90506-0002

OFFICE OF THE
PRESIDENT

Dear President Fallo:

El Camino College Compton Center (Compton Center) was granted Eligibility by a vote of the Commission in March 2015. The Commission reviewed carefully the Eligibility Report submitted by Compton Center and found all Eligibility Requirements were met. Again, let me offer congratulations to Compton Center on achieving this milestone. The process toward achieving accreditation now begins.

This letter confirms the requirements for further review and the timelines for each step in the process of application for initial accreditation. We established these timelines in the discussion among you, me, and State Trustee Tom Henry at the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) office on June 16, 2015.

Compton Center will undergo the process of gaining accreditation as a second institution of El Camino College. Its review for both Candidacy and Initial Accreditation will be conducted under the current Accreditation Standards and associated practices. Compton Center understands that in applying for Candidacy, and subsequently in applying for Initial Accreditation, it must meet the requirements as described in the ACCJC's *Policy on Commission Actions on Institutions* (attached). I advise you and the staff of El Camino College and of Compton Center to read sections I and II of that policy carefully, and to remain abreast of any changes the Commission may make to that policy, to Accreditation Standards, and to other requirements in the coming years. The *Accreditation Reference Handbook* and other ACCJC manuals and guides, available on the ACCJC website, will also provide guidance as to the preparation of institutional reports to the Commission and are updated as requirements change.

The schedule going forward for review of the Compton Center is as follows:

- Compton Center will prepare a comprehensive Institutional Self Evaluation Report in preparation for a **spring 2017 comprehensive evaluation team visit**. The Institutional Self Evaluation Report will be due to the Commission office at least 60 days before the date of

the evaluation visit. Commission staff will contact the El Camino College and the Compton Center's Chief Executive Officers in 2016 to set the date for the visit, but it will be within the first three weeks of March 2017.

- The Commission will consider Compton Center's application for Candidacy, comprised of the Compton Center's letter of application and its Institutional Self Evaluation Report, and the external evaluation team report, at its June 2017 meeting. If Compton Center is granted Candidacy, it will be for a period of two years, or until June 2019.
- In spring 2019, Compton Center may apply for either a two-year extension of Candidacy, or it may apply for Initial Accreditation. Compton Center will be expected to meet all Standards in order to achieve Initial Accreditation, and should only apply for initial accreditation if it believes it does meet all Standards.
- If Compton Center wishes to request an extension of Candidacy in spring 2019, it should submit a letter of application and an update to its Institutional Self Evaluation Report from two years prior. The due date of that report will be determined in consultation between the ACCJC staff and the institution. Upon its consideration of Compton Center's application for extended Candidacy, the Commission may act to extend candidacy for a maximum of an additional two years, or until June 2021, or act to deny candidacy.
- When applying for Initial Accreditation in either 2019 or 2021, Compton Center must submit an Institutional Self Evaluation Report 60 days before the scheduled evaluation team visit. At its June meeting, the Commission will consider the Institutional Self Evaluation Report, the report of the external evaluation team, and all other information the Commission has received about the institution in concert with its policies and practices. The Commission may act to grant initial accreditation, deny initial accreditation and extend Candidacy (if the institution has not yet completed four years of Candidacy), or to deny accreditation.

As El Camino College and Compton Center move forward in this process, I urge you to ask ACCJC staff for any assistance you may need. It will be important to read carefully the newsletter, institutional advisories and other communications from the ACCJC, attend all workshops and training events that are pertinent to your efforts to gain initial accreditation, and stay abreast of any changes to ACCJC policies or requirements.

The preparation of an Institutional Self Evaluation Report provides an opportunity for an institution to engage in careful reflection about its own quality, and its ambitions for future quality and service to students. I hope that Compton Center's staff and community will enjoy the process of envisioning the future and working toward it.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Beno, Ph.D.

BAB/cms