

From: ACCJC Communications <communications@accjc.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2026 11:52 AM
To: ACCJC Communications
Subject: [EXTERNAL] IMPORTANT - Federal Changes Ahead: Three Important Events for ACCJC Members



ACCREDITING COMMISSION FOR
COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES

Dear ACCJC Members,

Over the past decade, ACCJC has continued to evolve alongside the institutions we serve. We have revised our Standards, strengthened our use of technology and data, streamlined reporting and review processes, expanded opportunities for professional learning and convening, and increased our engagement and advocacy on behalf of member institutions and the students they serve.

We are now entering another important period of change.

The federal regulatory environment for higher education is shifting significantly. Proposed new regulations have implications not only for accrediting agencies, but for colleges and universities themselves, including how institutions demonstrate student outcomes, support transfer, establish institutional policies, and ultimately deliver the educational experience to students. These changes will not reside somewhere outside our institutions. They have the potential to reach into classrooms, student support services, institutional practices, and the everyday experience of students.

In short, we will all be affected.

The timeframe for responding may also be unusually compressed. With significant regulatory changes potentially taking effect beginning in 2027, ACCJC believes it is important that our members, Commissioners, peer reviewers, and other volunteers have opportunities now to understand what is changing, consider what those changes mean for their institutions, and help shape how ACCJC responds.

For that reason, ACCJC will hold three important events between now and the end of 2026. Each approaches the changing landscape from a different perspective, but together they are intended to help ensure that no member of our community is unaware of what lies ahead, or is unprepared to respond.

- 1. The Impact of New Federal Regulations on American Higher Education Institutions (Including Yours) Webinar***
- 2. 2026 ACCJC Partners in Excellence Conference**

3. *AI Transfer Tools to Assist Institutions in Meeting the 2027 Federal Regulations for American Higher Education Institutions (Including Yours) Webinar*

Full details and registration links for each are available below.

I hope you will join us for as many of these conversations as possible. The months ahead will require all of us to learn quickly, think carefully, and in some cases act swiftly. ACCJC's commitment is to work through these changes with our members, not simply to communicate new requirements after decisions have already been made.

This is an important moment for American higher education, and an important moment for our community. **Please join us as we think about—and prepare for—the future together.**

Sincerely,
Mac



Mac Powell, MBA, PhD
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[ACCJC On the Move](#)

Webinar: Thursday, November 12 | 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. PT
The Impact of New Federal Regulations on American Higher Education Institutions (Including Yours)

The federal regulatory landscape for higher education is changing, and the new federal regulations will affect institutional policies and practices related to student outcomes, transfer of credit, academic freedom and intellectual diversity, public disclosures, accreditation, and many other areas that touch the everyday student experience.

This session will provide an accessible overview of the most significant changes, what they could mean for colleges and universities, and the timeline institutions should be watching as implementation approaches. ACCJC will also share how it is preparing to respond through changes to its own Standards, policies, practices, and member support. The goal is simple: to ensure that ACCJC institutions understand what is coming and to have time to prepare for requirements that will affect us all.

Register today at: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_DLJMrC1gRSWBTvW2qFQ-5w#/registration

2026 ACCJC Partners in Excellence Conference



November 17-18, 2026
Riverside Convention Center
Riverside, California

The [2026 ACCJC Partners in Excellence Conference](#) "Shared Vision, Shared Voice: Advancing Student Success Through Inclusive Governance," is taking place November 17-18, 2026, in Riverside, California.

As higher education navigates a rapidly changing landscape, this year's conference will feature sessions addressing both proven strategies for advancing student success and emerging challenges related to federal policy changes. Through plenaries, breakout sessions, forums, and poster presentations, participants will explore topics including governance, accreditation, AI, transfer, student outcomes, workforce alignment, and institutional leadership.

The conference offers a valuable opportunity to learn from peers, exchange ideas, and prepare for the future together.

Registration, program, and venue/hotel information is available at <https://accjc-conference.org/>.

[REGISTER TODAY](#)

Webinar: Thursday, December 3 | 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. PT

AI Transfer Tools to Assist Institutions in Meeting the 2027 Federal Regulations for American Higher Education Institutions (Including Yours)

New federal requirements concerning transfer of credit have the potential to significantly change how institutions evaluate, document, communicate, and award credit students have earned elsewhere. Proposed regulations place greater emphasis on transferability, transparency, equivalency information, evaluation timelines, and the academic rationale used when previously earned credit is not accepted.

This practical session will explore the new requirements and how emerging artificial intelligence and technology tools can help registrars, counselors, faculty, and everyone engaged in the transfer pipeline prepare for this new environment. Participants will examine approaches for how existing and developing tools can accelerate course and curriculum comparisons, identify equivalencies, improve articulation and transfer pathways, document faculty and institutional decisions, and provide institutions with the ability to meet the new federal requirements around transfer.

With potential implementation beginning in 2027, institutions have a relatively short window to examine their current transfer practices and the technology needed to support them. This session is designed to help institutions accelerate that work.

Register today at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3lqd1HtRLWOxgTpbEW_Sw#/registration

To ensure you receive all of ACCJC's important communications, please complete the brief [ACCJC Sign Up Form](#).

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From: ACCJC Communications <communications@accjc.org>
Sent: Friday, October 2, 2026 1:51 PM
To: ACCJC Communications
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Request for Student Success Stories



ACCREDITING COMMISSION FOR
COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES

Dear ACCJC Member Institution CEOs and ALOs,

ACCJC is exploring a new storytelling initiative focused on highlighting the impact of two-year institutions through the experiences and achievements of students and graduates across our membership.

As part of this effort, we are seeking **existing content that your institution has already produced and has permission to share**. Our goal is to elevate student voices and demonstrate the real-world outcomes made possible through the outstanding work of ACCJC-accredited institutions. We are particularly interested in content that highlights:

1. Workforce preparation and career success
2. Internships, apprenticeships, clinical placements, or other work-based learning experiences
3. Employment outcomes and career advancement
4. Transfer success and continued educational achievement
5. First-generation college journeys
6. Adult learners and career changers
7. Community impact and service
8. Innovative programs or employer partnerships that contributed to student success

We invite institutions to submit **up to three standout student success stories** in formats such as:

1. Student profiles or feature stories
2. Videos or testimonials
3. Podcast episodes or audio interviews
4. Social media spotlights

If you would like to participate, please send links or materials for **up to three stories** by completing the [Student Success Stories Prospective Content Form](#) by **Friday, October 30, 2026**. Within the form, *please*

indicate that both the institution and featured student(s) are comfortable with ACCJC potentially sharing, republishing, or referencing the content through our website, publications, social media, presentations, and potential media engagement opportunities.

Thank you for helping us showcase and advocate for the transformative impact of two-year institutions and the success of the students they serve.

Sincerely,
Mac

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mac Powell', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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