



August 5, 2026

Dr. Faimous Harrison
President
Wenatchee Valley College
1300 Fifth Street
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Dear President Harrison:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) at its meeting on July 7-10, 2026, concerning the Spring 2026 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness of Wenatchee Valley College.

Accreditation

Reaffirm Accreditation, Continue Sanction of Warning

Status of Previous Recommendations Addressed in this Evaluation

- Recommendation 1: Spring 2025 Special Report - Fulfilled
- Recommendation 2: Spring 2025 Special Report - Fulfilled

Commendations

The Commission commends Wenatchee Valley College for:

1. Embracing the COILS values which are reflected in the campus commitment to serving students.
2. The institution's beautiful maintenance of its grounds and buildings at the Wenatchee campus. The spaces within buildings are innovative and comfortable for students.
3. The technology infrastructure and devotion to a thorough strategic information security plan, care for cybersecurity, and responsive academic support systems for students and faculty.
4. Providing meaningful student support programs such as CAMP, TRiO, MESA, and Running Start Navigation.
5. For taking positive steps towards transparent and deliberative leadership through efforts such as El Corazon, Leadership Academy, and the Collaborative Oversight Forum.

Recommendations Substantially in Compliance but in Need of Improvement

The Commission recommends that Wenatchee Valley College:

- Recommendation 3: Spring 2026 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Adequately maintain safe, accessible, secure, and sufficient facilities at the Omak campus. (2020 Standard(s) 2.I.1)
- Recommendation 4: Spring 2026 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Provide sufficient faculty and staff to ensure the academic integrity and the adequate delivery of services at the Omak campus. (2020 Standard(s) 2.F.3)

Recommendations Out of Compliance

The Commission finds that the following Recommendations are areas where Wenatchee Valley College is out of compliance with the NWCCU Standards for Accreditation. According to U.S. Department of Education Regulation 34 CFR 602.20 and Commission Policy, the Commission requires that Wenatchee Valley College take appropriate action to ensure these Recommendations are addressed and resolved within the prescribed four-year period, no later than August 2029.

The Commission recommends that Wenatchee Valley College:

- Recommendation 1: Spring 2026 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Continue to resolve their financial data reporting concerns and produce current financial audits within 15 months of the fiscal year end. (2020 Standard(s) 2.E.1;ER 20)
- Recommendation 2: Spring 2026 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Create and maintain a transparent financial resource reporting process. (2020 Standard(s) 2.E.3)
- Recommendation 5: Spring 2026 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Establish and implement policies and procedures for regular and substantive interactions in distance education courses and programs. (2020 Standard(s) ER 22)
- Recommendation 6: Spring 2026 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Clearly document, communicate, and publish its decision-making structures and processes. Decision-making processes need to identify formal opportunities to consider views of faculty, staff, administrators, and students from both Wenatchee and Omak campuses. (2020 Standard(s) 2.A.4)
- Recommendation 7: Spring 2026 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Implement effective and consistent management practices, adhere to established policies and procedures, and communicate decisions in an open, respectful, and timely manner. (2020 Standard(s) 2.A.2;2.D.2)

Warning

Because of the continued concerns at the institution, the Commission has continued the Sanction of Warning, as stated in NWCCU's Accreditation Actions Policy:

NWCCU may issue a Warning to an institution that its accreditation may be in jeopardy when it does not appear to be in compliance with Standards for Accreditation, Eligibility Requirements, Policies, or applicable federal regulations but the institution: appears to demonstrate capacity to make improvements and return to compliance under the written timeline set by the Commission pursuant to 34 CFR § 602.20(a)(2); and appears to demonstrate capacity to sustain itself in the long term.

In compliance with NWCCU's Public Disclosures by Institutions Policy and per Federal Regulation 34 CFR 602.26(b), the institution must continue to display an indicator of the sanction and non-compliance on its website until such time as the sanction is removed by the Commission.

Future Evaluations

- Ad Hoc Report Spring 2027
 - Recommendation 1: Spring 2026 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
 - Recommendation 2: Spring 2026 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
 - Recommendation 5: Spring 2026 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Ad Hoc Report with Visit Spring 2028
 - Recommendation 6: Spring 2026 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
 - Recommendation 7: Spring 2026 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Mid-Cycle Review Spring 2029
 - Recommendation 3: Spring 2026 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
 - Recommendation 4: Spring 2026 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Year 6 - Standard 2 - Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review Spring 2032
- Year 7 - Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness Spring 2033

NWCCU is committed to an accreditation process that adds value to institutions while contributing to public accountability, and we thank you for your continued support of this process. If you have questions about any of the information in this letter, please contact your staff liaison, Dr. Teresa Rivenes, at trivenes@nwccu.org.

Sincerely,



Selena M. Grace
President

cc: Prof. Jennifer Hadersberger, Interim Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness
Ms. Wilma Cartagena, Chair, Board of Trustees, Wenatchee Valley College
Mrs. Brenda Hanson, Director, Assessment, Accreditation, and Compliance, Flathead Valley Community College
Mr. Michael Meotti, Executive Director, Washington Student Achievement Council
Dr. Joyce Hammer, Deputy Executive Director for Education, Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges