

Acupuncture Allied Health
Architecture Art and Design
Athletic Training Audiology/
Speech-Language Pathology
Business Chiropractic Clinical
Laboratory Sciences Construction
Counseling Credibility Assessment
Dance Dentistry Early Childhood
Teacher Education Engineering/
Applied Science/ Computing/
Engineering Technology English
Language Programs Forensic
Science Funeral Service and
Mortuary Science Genetic
Counseling Health Education
Schools Health Informatics and
Information Management
Healthcare Management
Homeopathy Industrial Technology
Landscape Architecture Library and
Information Studies Marriage and
Family Therapy Massage Therapy
and Esthetics Medical Education
Midwifery Montessori Teacher
Education Music Naturopathic
Medicine Nuclear Medicine
Technology Nurse Anesthesia
Nurse Practitioner Nursing
Nutrition and Dietetics
Occupational Therapy Optometry
Osteopathic Medicine Pharmacy
Physical Therapy Physician
Assistant Podiatry Project
Management Psychology Public
Affairs and Administration Public
Health Rabbinical and Talmudic
Education Respiratory Care Social
Work Teacher Education Theatre
Veterinary Medicine Urban
Planning

Links to accreditors:

aspa-usa.org/our-members.



Association of Specialized
and Professional Accreditors

Accreditation Matters



Why is accreditation important?

When thinking about where to go to college and what to study, the college and program accreditation can affect your career and future opportunities. Many professions—from nursing to engineering—often require that your degree be from an accredited program. It's important to find out if a program is accredited before you decide to go there.

Accreditors verify that an academic program offers a quality education, so that you are prepared for your career. There are two kinds of accreditation:

- **institutional accreditation** means the college or university, as a whole, meets broad overall organizational quality standards, and
- **specialized, professional or programmatic accreditation** means an academic program at the college or university is approved by the accrediting body that sets educational standards for that particular profession.

Even if your degree is from an accredited **college or university**, there may be employment requirements for accreditation of the **program**.

Questions you should ask the college:

- **Is your program accredited? If so, by which agency or organization?**
(Make sure the college specifies whether it has institutional or programmatic accreditation, or both—you can go to the accreditors' websites to verify this information.)
- **If your program is not accredited, will I be able to work in this or any other state after I graduate?**
(You may want to verify the individual state requirements for the profession you are considering.)
- **Is there a required exam or certification to work in this field? If so, does graduating from your program mean I can take this exam or be eligible for certification?**
- **How important is program accreditation to the employers in this field?**
- **Does this program's accreditation make me eligible for federal student aid?**

Visit our student information page at aspa-usa.org.