Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors

Who We Are

Quick Facts

- ASPA is the only unified voice for programmatic accreditation in higher education in the US; we were established in 1993.

- Our 61 specialized and professional accredditor members set educational standards for over 100 disciplines and professions and accredit more than 25,000 programs.

- Many of our members are reviewed against established standards set by an external agency: 30 members are recognized by the US Secretary of Education and 33 are recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

- Spring and fall conferences provide information on emerging/current issues in higher education and professional development for member accreditors on innovation in higher education delivery and assessment, quality improvement processes and risk management.

Strategic Activities

- ASPA advocates for the value of programmatic accreditation to a broad range of stakeholders: federal and state lawmakers, the US Department of Education, and students and student counsellors, among others.

- We respond to calls for commentary on laws and regulations that affect accreditation and higher education.

Member Services

- Regular updates are provided to members about happenings in the world of higher education, accreditation, and recognition.

- ASPA develops and circulates guidelines for good accreditation practice.

- Members have access to a private e-list and an online portal with a searchable member database and accreditation resources.

- A compensation/benefits study of member practices is conducted annually.

Visit us at aspa-usa.org for more information.