

Accreditation

What are the Core Principles and What's Changing?

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Presenters

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Higher Learning Commission

Topics

- ▶ Accrediting Bodies
- ▶ Purpose of Accreditation
- ▶ Higher Education Trends and Their Impact on Accreditation
- ▶ Future Focus

Accreditors

▶ Accrediting Bodies

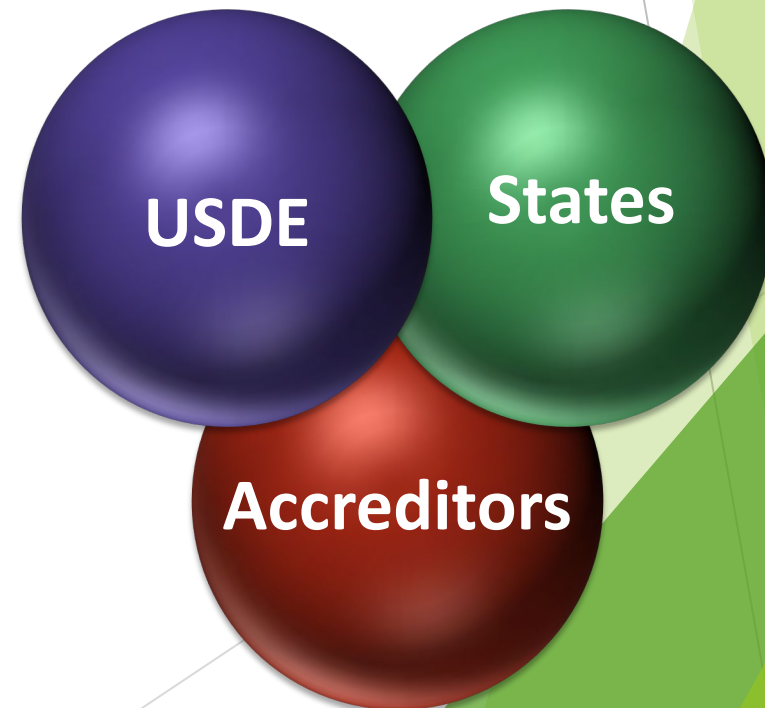
- ▶ Institutional - formerly “regional” or “national” agencies
- ▶ Programmatic and/or Specialized

▶ Recognition Processes

- ▶ U.S. Department of Education (USDE)
- ▶ Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA)

Purpose of Accreditation

- ▶ Educational *quality, stability, and sustainability* assessed by *peer evaluators* against *standards, eligibility requirements, and policies*
- ▶ Institutions qualify for Federal Title IV funds and grants and contracts
- ▶ Institutional reputation
- ▶ Purpose
 - Student achievement, learning, and success
 - Accountability
 - Quality assurance
 - Continuous improvement



Accreditation and Institutional Improvement

- Institutional effectiveness
 - Outcomes
 - Student Success
 - Costs and Indebtedness
 - Become a learning organization

Value Proposition

- Innovation
- Programmatic improvements
- Effective governance
- Improved infrastructure
- Improved processes
- Continuous improvement

Trends

- Outcomes and Accountability for Programs and Institutions
- Financial Challenges and Opportunities Across All Sectors
- New Business Models Emerging for Innovation and Sustainability
- Exponential Growth of Short-Term Credentials and New Providers

Trends (continued)

- Politicization of Higher Education, Increased External Interventions
- Mental Health Challenges Continue – Impact and Oversight
- Talent Management and Succession Planning: Colleges Need to Be Ready for Turnover at All Levels

https://download.hlcommission.org/HLCTrends_INF.pdf

Future Focus

The background features a series of overlapping, semi-transparent green triangles and polygons of various shades, ranging from light lime green to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the right side of the page, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The text 'Future Focus' is positioned on the left side of the page in a bold, green, sans-serif font.

Evolving Bachelor's Degree

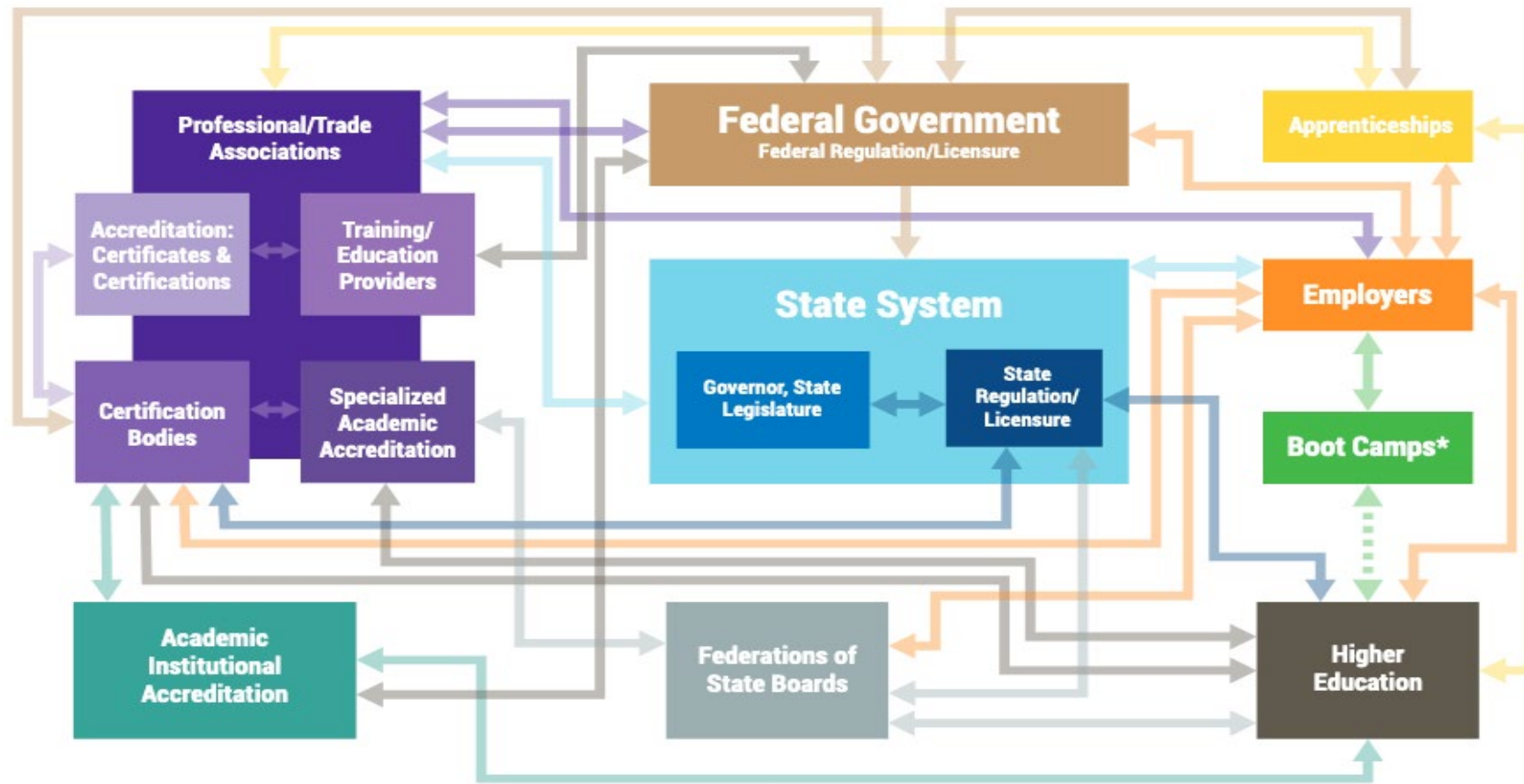
- ▶ Stackable
- ▶ Reduced Time to Degree
 - ▶ Less than the typical four years
- ▶ Reduced Credits to Degree
 - ▶ Less than recognized standard of at least 120 credits
- ▶ Requires review by accrediting agency

Transfer

- ▶ Well-Defined Articulation Agreements
 - ▶ Common-Course Numbering, if available
- ▶ Prior Learning Assessments & Military Credit
- ▶ Clear and Transparent Policies and Processes
- ▶ Familiarity with IPEDES Reporting
 - ▶ Need to report if your students are transferring

Credential Ecosystem

Entities in the U.S. Postsecondary and Work Ecosystem



* Although boot camps initially existed outside of the higher education system, there is increasing interest of universities to develop partnerships with boot camps.

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