



April 24, 2019

The Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), UNLV's regional accrediting agency, has updated the fees to review and include in the institution's accreditation most of the changes commonly made at institutions of higher education.

Fees apply to:

- Degrees, new or changes
- Certificate programs
- Increases in program credits
- Decreases in program credits
- Contracts or MOUs with accredited and non-accredited entities
- Initial course or program offerings through distance delivery (online education)
- Transition to competency-based learning

There are additional situations that may require a fee for review that are not very common and are not listed here. Common fees begin on page two.

The fees must be paid in order for NWCCU to issue their letter stating that the change is covered under the institution's accreditation, which is a requirement in order for students to receive federal funds (loans, grants) and for faculty to be eligible for federal funding for research.

Fees are to be paid by the department, unit, school, or college requesting the change. There is no additional paperwork to be completed by the unit for the NWCCU review; it will be completed by the Office of the Vice Provost for Academic Programs.

Thank you for your understanding.

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Substantive Change Fees:
The fee structure for 2018-2019 follows:

1. Adding courses or academic program(s) including Title IV-eligible certificate programs not related to existing degree program(s), that do not represent a significant departure (25% difference in program core) from program(s) previously approved.
(Minor Change)
2. Suspending, terminating, or placing into moratorium, existing academic program or major(s) of 30 semester or 45 quarter credits or more in length.
(Minor Change)
3. Closing or suspending for more than 1 semester or 2 quarters of an existing additional location or a branch campus.
(Minor Change)
4. Combining two programs to create a new program and where the two programs have been previously approved.
(Minor Change)
5. Adding courses or academic program(s) including Title IV-eligible certificate programs not related to existing degree program(s), that represent a significant departure (25% difference in program core) from program(s) previously approved.
\$1000 (Minor Change)
6. Initiating or expanding of distance education delivery where 50% or more of the courses or credits in an academic program are provided using distance delivery.
\$1000 (Minor Change)
7. Substantially increasing the number of clock or credit hours awarded for successful completion of a program.
\$1000 (Minor Change)
8. Establishing an additional location where 50% or more of program requirements can be earned via face-to-face instructional delivery.
\$1000 (Minor Change)
9. Dual Degree Program
Entering into a consortial agreement under which an institution accredited by an accreditor recognized by the U.S. Department of Education provides a significant portion of the academic program.
\$1500 (Major Change)
10. Initiating or expanding Competency-Based Education (CBE) delivery where 50% or more of the courses or credits in an academic program are provided using competency-based (or direct assessment) learning.
\$1500 (Major Change)
11. Joint Degree Program
Entering into a contract under which an institution or organization not certified to participate in Title IV offers more than 25 percent of one or more of an accredited Title IV-eligible institution's educational programs.
\$1500 (Major Change)

Substantive Change Fees:
The fee structure for 2018-2019 follows:

12. Establishing an additional location at either an international location or location outside the institution's region where 50% or more of the program requirement can be earned via face-to-face instructional delivery.
\$1500 (Major Change)
13. Establishing a new branch campus, including one established or acquired in order to provide for teach-out from another institution.
\$1500 (Major Change)
14. Changing from clock to credit hours (or vice versa).
\$1500 (Major Change)
15. Adding the first academic program at a degree or credential level not previously included in the institution's accreditation by NWCCU (2nd and 3rd programs at the new degree level or credential are reviewed by Staff).
\$1500 (Major Change)
16. Substantially changing institutional mission or objectives.
\$1500 (Major Change)
17. Changing legal status, form of control, or ownership of institution.
\$10,000 (Major Change)
18. Acquiring or merging with another institution or any program or location of another institution.
\$20,000 (Major Change)
19. Expedited Processing:
Expedite via staff review (2 week processing), \$1000
Expedite via Panel review (12 week processing), \$2000