

Accreditation Agencies: A Comparison

	Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools	Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology	Accrediting Council for Continuing Education & Training	Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools	Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation	Council on Occupational Education	National Accrediting Commission of Cosmetology Arts & Sciences
Agency	ABHES	ACCSCCT	ACCET	ACICS	COMTA	COE	NACCAS
Contact Details	7777 Leesburg Pike, Suite 314 North Falls Church, VA 22043 Tel: 703-917-9503 Fax: 703-917-4109 www.abhes.org info@abhes.org	2101 Wilson Blvd. Suite 302 Arlington, VA 22201 Tel: 703-247-4212 Fax: 703-247-4533 www.accsct.org info@accsct.org	1722 N Street, NW Washington, DC 20036 Tel: 202-955-1113 Fax: 202-955-1118 www.accet.org	750 First Street, NE Suite 980 Washington, DC 20002 Tel: 866-510-0746 Fax: 202-842-2593 www.acics.org	1007 Church Street, Suite 302 Evanston, IL 60201 Tel: 847-869-5039 Fax: 847-869-6739 www.comta.org info@comta.org	41 Perimeter Center East, NE. Suite 640 Atlanta, GA 30346 Tel: 800-917-2081 Fax: 770-396-3790 www.council.org	4401 Ford Avenue, Suite 1300 Alexandria, VA 22302 Tel: 703-600-7600 Fax: 703-379-2200 www.naccas.org
Online Manual or Forms	www.abhes.org/13th%20edition.doc	http://www.accsct.org/content/accreditation/index.asp	www.accet.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=4	http://www.acics.org/publications/	www.comta.org/forms.html	www.council.org/documents/documents.asp?page=publications	www.naccas.org/accred/index.php
Upcoming Accreditation Workshops	October 6, 2007, Alexandria, VA January 24, 2007, San Diego, CA	October 5-6, 2006, Arlington, VA. December 7-8, 2006, Coral Gables, FL.	October 9-10, 2006, Miami Beach, FL	September 14, 2006, Washington, DC November 2, 2006, Washington, DC	Contact COMTA for dates.	Contact COE for dates. Must complete 6-18 months before site-visit.	September 24-25, 2006, Rosemont, IL November 13-14, 2006, Las Vegas, NV
General Eligibility Notes	Full-time students (70%) must be enrolled in allied health program. Must have at least one graduating class from program.	Must demonstrate continuous successful operation of program for 2 years prior to application.	Must demonstrate continuous successful operation of program for 2 years prior to application.	Must show a “significant number of graduates from the majority of its programs” to enter the accreditation process. No specific numbers given.	Must demonstrate continuous successful operation of program for 2 years with a minimum of 20 graduates from any program. Only accredits massage & bodywork programs. Program length must be at least 600 hours.	Must demonstrate continuous successful operation of program for 2 years.	Must demonstrate continuous successful operation of program for 2 years. Only accredits cosmetology arts and massage programs.
Program Completion Rate Tracked	Yes	Yes: 1-6 month program requires 77%, 7-11 month programs requires 59%.	Yes: Must meet benchmark of 67% completion.	Yes	Yes: School submits data each year, which is compared to similar COMTA-regulated schools to determine completion rate benchmarks.	Yes: School submits data each year, which is compared to similar COE-regulated schools to determine completion rate benchmarks.	Yes: 50% benchmark.

Associated Bodywork and Massage Professionals

www.abmp.com/alliance/accreditation.html

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Graduate Placement Rate Tracked	Yes: Employment assistance services are provided to students without additional fees.	Yes: Must track student employment for 5 years with verifiable records. Benchmark of 70% placement.	Yes: Must meet benchmark of 70% placement.	Yes	Yes: Must have services available to place students. Must conduct graduate follow-up studies. Must track placement rates.	Yes: Schools submit data each year, which is compared to similar COE-regulated schools to determine placement benchmarks. Placement services are required.	Yes: 60% benchmark.
Retention Rate Tracked	Yes	Only in terms of total graduates.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Only in terms of total graduates.	Yes: Included in the assessment plan.
In-service Training & Proof of Faculty Growth Required	Yes: Faculty development plan for each instructor required.	Yes: Plan in place for faculty development, including continuing education and faculty meetings. Documentation of plan implementation required.	Yes: Plan in place, turnover rate of employees tracked. Formal evaluation of employees required. Proof of instructor orientation required.	Yes: Plan in place for faculty development including in-service trainings and regular and documented faculty meetings.	Yes: Continuing education and faculty evaluation required.	Yes: General plan in place for faculty development.	Yes: Instructors must complete 12 hours of continuing education each year. Faculty meetings are held regularly and documented. Annual faculty evaluation required.
Student/Grad Survey Required	Yes: Including proof of student satisfaction.	No	Yes: Including proof of student satisfaction.	No: Level of graduate satisfaction must be documented.	Student satisfaction must be demonstrated.	No	No: Level of student/graduate satisfaction must be documented.
Employee Survey Required	Yes	No	Employer satisfaction must be documented.	Yes	Employer satisfaction must be documented.	No	Employer satisfaction must be documented.
Credentialing Exam Pass Rate Tracked	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes: School submits data each year, which is compared to similar COMTA-regulated schools to determine benchmarks.	Yes: Schools submit pass rates each year, which are compared to similar COE-regulated schools to determine benchmarks.	Yes: 70% required
Specific Student Enrollment Procedures	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

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Advisory Board Required	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes: Occupational Advisory Committee required for each program.	Yes
Student Academic Progress and Attendance	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Institutional Financial Capability Tracked	Yes: Must show 1:1 ratio of current assets to liabilities; must show positive net worth.	Yes: Must also prepare and submit yearly budget. School must show proof of insurance to cover school, employees, and students.	Yes: Must show evidence of financial stability.	Yes: Must show evidence of financial stability.	Yes: Must show evidence of financial stability.	Yes: Must show evidence of financial stability. Must submit statement from parent corporation for legal responsibility if applicable.	Yes: Must show evidence of financial stability.
Special Requirements/ Considerations	Institutional Effectiveness Plan implemented and tracked; student services requirement; lab ratio of students to instructors cannot exceed 20:1.	Learning resource system required (library or text resources available, electronic resources, computers, etc.); student services including academic advising and tutoring services required; must implement ongoing institutional assessment and improvement activities.	Institutional goals must be stated and inform the mission statement; one-year and longer plan in place for institution; some basic student services required.	Must implement an Institutional Effectiveness Plan that follows ACICS guidelines; student services that support learning outcomes required, including a designated person for counseling and guidance; faculty involvement in curriculum evolution required.	Detailed mission statement required; strategic and operational plan required; specific curriculum competencies are required, including those that cover Asian bodywork; supervised clinic or fieldwork component required; faculty evaluation by students required; library/resource center required; faculty must have 2 years of professional work experience.	Strategic planning document required for submission each year; media resources that support learning outcomes of school's programs must be available; health and safety plan required; improvement to facility plan required; student services required, including counseling and student orientation.	School must have a written assessment plan and an improvement plan, if necessary; student services required, including placement, informal counseling, and resources; student orientation required.