

## **UNO Accreditation**

UNO is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). HLC is one of six regional accrediting organizations for degree-granting post-secondary institutions in the United States. It serves as the accrediting body for a 19-state region. UNO has been accredited by HLC (and its forerunner, the North Central Association) continuously since 1930. HLC accreditation applies to the entire institution – all programs and all locations. It entails a rigorous examination of quality based on standards established by professional colleagues from across the region. The reaccreditation review cycle is 8-to-10 years in length, but activities are ongoing throughout that time period including submission of annual updates, periodic comprehensive reports, data collection, special projects, and site visits involving external, trained reviewers.

In addition to institutional-level accreditation, many degree programs have sought and been awarded program-specific accreditation. See the Program Accreditation web page for additional information – <a href="https://www.unomaha.edu/accreditation/programs/index.php">https://www.unomaha.edu/accreditation/programs/index.php</a>

In more recent years, accreditation has shifted from being primarily 'inputs' oriented to being more 'outcomes' oriented. Accordingly, there is a much greater emphasis now on assessment, evidence, and data-informed decision-making.

Accreditation is important for many reasons. Institutional participation in the Federal Financial Aid Program is contingent on accreditation. Most graduate programs will accept students only from accredited undergraduate programs. It serves as a means of quality assurance for prospective students, the public, community leaders, and elected officials.

More information about UNO's HLC accreditation is available on the website: https://www.unomaha.edu/accreditation/index.php

