

2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity

Report Run Date: 04/25/2024 07:13:44 AM

1. Department or Agency

Department of Education

2. Fiscal Year

2024

3b. GSA

Committee

No.

3. Committee or Subcommittee

National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity

98

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

12/14/2015

6. Expected Renewal Date

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

Not Applicable

8c. Actual Term Date

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Yes

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority

Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

Section 114 of the Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965, as amended by Section 106 of the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) (P.L. 110-315)

13. Effective Date

08/14/2008

14. Committee Type

14c. Presidential?

Continuing No

15. Description of Committee Board

Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for this Fiscal Year

17a. 0 17b. Closed0 17c. Partially Closed0 Other Activities0 17d. Total0
Open

Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The statute authorizes the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) to assess the process of accreditation and the institutional eligibility and certification of institutions of higher education (as defined in Section 102 of Title I of the HEA). The Committee:
(1) Advises the Secretary with respect to

establishment and enforcement of the standards of accrediting agencies or associations under subpart 2 of Part H of Title IV, HEA; (2) Advises the Secretary with respect to the recognition of a specific accrediting agency or association; (3) Advises the Secretary with respect to the preparation and publication of the list of nationally recognized accrediting agencies and associations; (4) Advises the Secretary with respect to the eligibility and certification process for institutions of higher education under Title IV, HEA, together with recommendations for improvements in such process; (5) Advises the Secretary with respect to the relationship between— i. Accreditation of institutions of higher education and the certification and eligibility of such institutions; and ii. State licensing responsibilities with respect to such institutions; (6) Submits an annual report that covers the preceding year's activities to the Secretary, the authorizing committees, and the public not later than September 30 of each year, or not later than the last day of each fiscal year beginning in 2010; and (7) Carries out such other advisory functions relating to accreditation and institutional eligibility as the Secretary may prescribe. The Committee reviews agency applications for initial or continued recognition, and makes recommendations on recognition of accrediting agencies, degree authorizations for Federal degree-granting institutions, as well as policy recommendations. At each meeting, the agencies seeking recognition, as well as interested third parties, are invited to make oral presentations. After consideration of each agency's written materials, any third-party written comments, and any oral testimony, the Committee discusses whether the agency meets the Secretary's criteria and votes on a recommendation to be forwarded to the senior

Department official (SDO) after the meeting. After consideration of the Committee's recommendation, the SDO decides whether to grant recognition to an applicant accrediting agency, or State approval agency. The NACIQI's recommendations for Federal degree-granting institutions are forwarded directly to the Secretary. The Committee, informed by leaders from the higher education accreditation community, deliberate and provide accreditation policy recommendations to the Secretary of Education.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA), enacted on August 14, 2008, specified five different appointment sources for the 18 NACIQI members. The House of Representatives appoints six members. Three are recommended by the Speaker of the House and three by the House Minority Leader. The Senate also appoints six members. Three are appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and three by the Senate Minority Leader. The Secretary of Education appoints six members, including a student representative. The statute provides that NACIQI members should be knowledgeable about postsecondary education and training, and that their experience be representative of all sectors and types of institutions of higher education. Given the number of appointment sources and the statutory requirements concerning their qualifications, the 18 members provide a broad and balanced view of the needs of the postsecondary accrediting community and how it could be enhanced.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

Per the authorizing legislation for the Committee, the NACIQI meets at least twice a year to carry out its statutory mandates. Meetings are typically held at six month intervals to review selected agencies in accordance with the recognition review cycle. Meetings dedicated to policy discussions are convened more frequently as appropriate, in preparation for reauthorization of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The advisory process, which involves public meetings and independent review and recommendation, aims toward a fair and impartial review of applicant accrediting agencies and other entities. While the staff conducts a paper review and provides a recommendation on recognition to the SDO, the NACIQI meetings serve as the due process hearing for accrediting agencies that serve as gatekeepers to Federal programs, including Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. All of the Committee members are from the non-Federal sector and are selected for their expertise in the higher education sector.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

N/A - The meetings are open to the public. Meeting notices are published in the Federal Register.

21. Remarks

The Annual Report of NACIQI 2023 Activities is forwarded to the Secretary of Education and Authorizing Committees of Congress when it is completed.

Designated Federal Officer

George Alan Smith Executive Director/DFO

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Alioto, Kathleen	09/01/2020	09/30/2026	Educational Consultant	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Artis, Roslyn	09/01/2020	09/30/2026	President, Benedict College	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Blum, Jennifer	09/01/2020	09/30/2026	Blum Higher Education Advising, PLLC	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Boston, Wallace	12/16/2019	09/30/2025	President Emeritus, American Public University System	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Cochrane, Debbie	01/18/2023	09/30/2028	Bureau Chief, California Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Cruz Rivera, Jose	01/18/2023	09/30/2028	President, Northern Arizona University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Curry, Keith	01/18/2023	09/30/2025	President, Compton College, and CEO, Compton Community College District	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Eubanks, David	12/16/2019	09/30/2025	Asst. VP for Assessment & Institutional Effectiveness, Furman University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Hall-Martin, Molly	07/01/2021	09/30/2025	Student, University of Iowa	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Keiser, Arthur	09/01/2020	09/30/2026	Chancellor, Keiser University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Lindsay, D.	12/16/2019	09/30/2025	President, Gordon College	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Mayes, Robert	09/01/2020	09/30/2026	Chief Executive Officer, Columbia Southern Education Group	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Petrisko, Mary	12/16/2019	09/30/2025	Former President, WASC Senior College and University Commission	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Poliakoff, Michael	12/22/2022	09/30/2028	President, American Council of Trustees and Alumni	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Pressnell, Claude	09/28/2022	09/30/2028	President, Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Shireman, Robert	09/01/2020	09/30/2026	Director of Higher Education Excellence and Senior Fellow, The Century Foundation	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Smith Ellis, Zakiya	01/18/2023	09/30/2028	Principal, Education Counsel	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 17

Narrative Description

U.S. Department of Education's Strategic Plan (2022-2026):
 Strategic Objective 2.3: Support the professional growth, retention, and advancement of, talented, experienced educators and other school personnel and their capacity to meet the social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs of underserved students. The NACIQI supports this important function by advising the Secretary on whether accrediting agencies seeking recognition by the Secretary meet the regulatory criteria for such recognition and by advising the Secretary on issues and making recommendations relative to accreditation that support the delivery of quality

postsecondary education.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

	Checked if Applies
Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

During FY23, NACIQI reviewed the following types of applications: fifteen (15) applications for renewal of recognition from accrediting agencies; three (3) compliance reports from accrediting agencies; and one (1) name change of a degree program from a military-degree granting institution. The NACIQI heard from 27 oral commenters in FY23. More information about NACIQI's reviews of applications can be found its website: <https://sites.ed.gov/naciqi/>.

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

	Checked if Applies
None	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

NA

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

481

Number of Recommendations Comments

During FY2023 the NACIQI forwarded 19 recommendations, including 18 to the Senior Department Official and 1 directly to the Secretary regarding a military degree granting institution. This question was first posed in 2003 and the recommendations are aggregated from 2003 forward. Since that time, the NACIQI forwarded 481 recognition and degree approval recommendations to the Senior Department Official and/or Secretary, as appropriate (decision-maker).

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

95%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

In 2023, 14 of 19 recommendations were fully implemented and 5 were partially implemented. The Department's decision-makers have approved recommendations made since 2003. The five recommendations from the June 2008 NACIQI meeting were subsequently acted upon after the Committee was reconstituted. Of the seven recommendations not fully implemented, six decisions (three in 2007 and three in 2012) were partially implemented; one recommendation in 2012 was not implemented. All recommendations in 2013 and 2014 were implemented. In 2015, all except one recommendation was fully implemented. In 2016, all except one recommendation was fully implemented. In 2017, all except three recommendations were fully implemented. In 2018, all except four recommendations were fully implemented. Thirteen out of the fourteen recommendations made in 2019 were implemented. Of the thirteen recommendations made in 2020, nine were fully implemented; one was partially implemented; and three were not implemented. Of the eighteen recommendations made in 2021, sixteen were fully implemented (the SDO added additional requirements to three); one was partially implemented; and one was not implemented. In 2022, 13 of 14 of the recommendations were fully implemented and 1 was partially implemented. Many of the NACIQI's policy recommendations require statutory change, therefore, they are not included in the figure above.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or

will be Partially implemented by the agency?

5%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Five (5) of 19 NACIQI recommendations were partially implemented in FY 2023. Since 2003, Secretaries of Education have partially implemented twenty-three of the NACIQI's recommendations: three in 2007, three in 2012, one in 2015, one in 2016, three in 2017, four in 2018, one in 2020, one in 2021, and one in 2022.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

Subsequent to each NACIQI meeting, the Executive Director/ or Designated Federal Official of the NACIQI informs the Committee members of the decisions made from their recommendations of the previous meeting. Members of the public can find NACIQI materials at the official NACIQI website: <https://sites.ed.gov/naciqi/> .

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

<https://sites.ed.gov/naciqi/>