

1. 1. Actions Available to the Commission (approved for public comment 6/3/11)

The Accrediting Commission may take one of four courses of actions:

1. accredit a new applicant institution, or continue an institution's accredited status (the maximum grant of accreditation for new applicants is three years). Additional reports may be required.
2. accredit, or continue accreditation, with conditions which an institution must agree to meet within a period not to exceed a maximum of 12 months (NOTE: The Commission will initiate adverse action against the institution if it fails to meet all conditions within the specified period, unless the Commission decides the time period should be extended for good cause);
3. defer a decision for a period not to exceed a maximum of 12 months, pending receipt of a Progress Report, or submission of additional information and, possibly, a follow-up on-site visit (unless the Commission decides the time period should be extended for good cause);
4. direct the institution to Show Cause (see below); or
5. deny accreditation to an applicant, or withdraw accreditation from an accredited institution.

Prior to any final adverse action by the Commission that is based solely upon a failure to meet DETC Standard IX. Financial Responsibility, the institution has the right, for a single occasion, to provide the Commission significant financial information that was not available to the institution prior to the determination of the adverse action, so long as the information bears materially on any financial deficiencies cited by the Commission. The Commission shall determine if the financial information submitted by the institution is significant and material, and if it found to be so, it will consider the new information prior to taking any final action. Any determination made with respect to the significance or materiality of the new financial information submitted as set forth above, will not be subject to a separate appeal by the institution.

Show Cause Actions

The Commission may direct the institution to Show Cause as to why its accreditation should not be withdrawn when substantive questions and concerns are raised regarding a DETC accredited institution's compliance with DETC's standards, policies or procedures. The issuance of a show cause directive is not an adverse action, but a statement of serious concern by the Accrediting Commission. **However, the burden of proof rests with the institution to demonstrate that it is meeting DETC's published standards and policies.**

The institution will be notified, in writing, of the Accrediting Commission's concerns and will be required to submit a report explaining how it complies with DETC standards, policies or procedures documenting corrective action within 30 days.

Upon expiration of these 30 days, the Accrediting Commission will make a decision relative to the institution's compliance with DETC's standards and policies and may vacate the show cause directive, defer action and continue the show cause directive pending the receipt of additional information or reports from the institution or a Special Visit in accordance with C.16. Policy on Special Visits. The Accrediting Commission also may withdraw the institution's accreditation. Because a show cause directive is not considered a final or adverse action, it is not

appealable. Notice of the Show Cause directive will be provided to federal and state agencies with jurisdiction over the institution and to the public.

The institution may appeal a decision by the Accrediting Commission to deny or withdraw accreditation (see D.2. Appealing Commission's Adverse Decision).