

**SAVE OUR COMMUNITY COLLEGES: Tell the Dept. of Education that ACCJC is Not Widely Accepted and Should Be De-Listed**

(comment due 9.25.15)



*There is a brief period to file comments with the Department of Education on the ACCJC's compliance. We know that many parties throughout the state have grave concerns about the ACCJC (as one person said, "many institutions have their own 'horror stories'"). All around the state, many have told us about their grave concerns regarding ACCJC, and more and more of these stories are being shared publicly, as demonstrated in the recently released Chancellor's Accreditation Task Force Report.*

*We now need you to provide your information in the form of a Third Party Comment. The attached document provides description, resource links, and suggestions for Third Party Comments, which the DoE takes seriously as part of the accreditation process. **This is your opportunity to join the chorus of concern and inform NACIQI / the DoE about problems with the ACCJC.***

*If you work or are a student at a CA community college, simply put in your observations from being on campus, reading the letter from the ACCJC to your college, acceptance generally by your colleagues (classified staff comments highly encouraged!), and the pressure put on the campus in terms of time and finance. (In short, do you like what is going on?) The more comments received, the better.*

*Community members and organizations can focus on their experiences with community colleges and students they've interacted with from our colleges. For instance, if you can attest to the high quality of education at our community colleges at the same time that ACCJC is sanctioning them or damaging their ability to continue to offer quality education to those students who need it most, you might point out that the ACCJC's practices and actions have thrown the system of accreditation into doubt. (Clearly ACCJC cannot be "widely accepted" under such circumstances?) Again, the more comments received, the better.*

Attached find a guide to Third Party Comments provided by the CFT. Please note that it does *not* focus on CCSF; broader comments are definitely needed! We've also worked with the Save CCSF Coalition on some more CCSF-focused ideas, which you can access at [saveccsf.org](http://saveccsf.org).

*[Save your Third Party Comment as a Word document or Word-compatible document, NOT a PDF, or paste in the body of your email.]*

**TO:** [ThirdPartyComments@ed.gov](mailto:ThirdPartyComments@ed.gov) *[Please also BCC [atsakos@cft.org](mailto:atsakos@cft.org)]*

**SUBJECT:** Written Comment: Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TITLE/OCCUPATION/PROFESSION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ORGANIZATION/AFFILIATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MAILING ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMENTS:**

To Whom It May Concern:

I am an *[educator, practitioner, employer, alumni, community member, etc.]* in/at \_\_\_\_\_. I am speaking for the organization: \_\_\_\_\_ *[if applicable]*. The ACCJC is not compliant with *[CFR 34 §602.13 and is not "widely accepted" —or provide as many as you wish of the 15 areas identified in the compliance report]* because \_\_\_\_\_