

Accreditation Steering Committee Philosophy Statement

The Bakersfield College Accreditation Steering Committee (ASC), a standing governance committee, ensures that the accreditation or self-evaluation process is woven into the fabric of college activity with its focus on the improvement of student learning and success. Accreditation, a peer review process by an outside agency, focuses on how our resources and processes support student learning. We use valid data to promote institutional excellence and improvement.

The ASC promotes institutional accountability. The ASC fosters linkages between major planning and budgeting processes. The ASC uses evidence gathered by the college community to identify areas in need of improvement and makes recommendations to the college president and the college community. The ASC encourages collegewide dialogue on student success and communicates its findings to college faculty, staff, and students. The ASC focuses its energies on not only what students are learning but also whether it is the right kind of learning. For example, what difference does an education at Bakersfield College make in our students' lives? What evidence do we have to support our conclusions?

~~The committee identifies and evaluates problem areas~~ and ensures that the entire campus works together to support student growth, success, and development for lifelong learning. Overall, such an on-going self-evaluation effort focusing on student learning improves institutional effectiveness. The data will provide evidence for curriculum reform, planning, resource allocation, organizational leadership, and staff and student development. Ultimately, BC's self-evaluation will identify strengths and successes as well as improve institutional accountability, teaching, services, and learning.