Higher education accreditation from a respected accrediting body spotlights the quality, credibility, and effectiveness of an institution’s programs, increasing that institution’s visibility to prospective students and colleagues through collaborative and trusted networks. Whether through the six institutional U.S. accreditors or the many programmatic accrediting agencies, accreditation builds networks, improves strategies, and affirms best practices that students and colleagues rely on to maintain quality programs.

At Gateway, we understand that exploring and preparing for U.S. accreditation can be a daunting task. We also understand the risks and rewards of pursuing a U.S. accreditation process, from early considerations to the successful award of accreditation. Through our consulting services grounded in innovative approaches to accreditation and the assessment of institutional success, Gateway provides professional guidance and assistance to international institutions in exploring the complex nature of pursuing U.S. accreditation.

Gateway’s team can help you explore whether U.S. accreditation is the right strategic path for your institution and build a pathway toward achieving the critical distinction of accreditation.

The Accreditation Process

Every 8 to 10 years, an accredited institution performs a self-assessment to ensure it is at par with the standards set by its accrediting body. Best practices of the accreditation process encourage the campus community to embrace accreditation as an important facet of institutional improvement, leading to continual institutional enhancement. There are several generalized steps involved in obtaining and maintaining accreditation. Gateway guides our client institutions through the many complexities and nuances involved in the accreditation process.
Our Services

At Gateway, we understand that each institution is unique and has its own needs, and that’s why Gateway’s accreditation services are customized for each of our partner institutions to accommodate differences in institutional culture, size, and accreditation needs.

Consultation and Support Services

As needed, Gateway can provide a confidential consultation to explore your institution’s interest in seeking U.S. accreditation and offer advice and recommendations toward accreditation based on current best practices in assessment, institutional effectiveness strategies, and resource needs. We can also offer guidance in choosing the most appropriate accrediting bodies for your institution and discussions/workshops with stakeholders concerning accreditation processes.

Accreditation Documentation and Process Support

Gateway can assist your institution with designing, building, launching, and maintaining your accreditation. Gateway can support your institution to inform and affirm all aspects of the accreditation process, from establishing an accreditation timeline and process, advising on materials generation and organization, reviewing self-study narratives, enhancing campus engagement and communication protocols, etc. While the institution must drive the process, Gateway can provide assistance and guidance throughout.

Our Partner Institutions

Gateway works with a diverse array of institutions and organizations around the world. Our services are customized to our partner institutions’ needs and budgets. Gateway’s accreditation services are customized to institutions located outside of the United States who are or are planning to explore U.S.-based institutional or programmatic accreditation. We are here to help.

Our Team Lead

Dr. Sandra Crenshaw has helped develop and review accreditation processes and outcomes at universities around the world for nearly ten years. She has participated in accreditation processes from all sides, including serving on review teams, leading accreditation process development and implementation, and currently serves as the Accreditation Liaison Officer at her current institution. She has served in several pilot accreditation initiatives with the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, including new external team leadership structures and virtual team visits.

For more information on these services, please visit https://gatewayinternational.org/institutional-and-program-accreditation/