Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors

Who We Are

Quick Facts

- ASPA is the only unified voice for programmatic accreditation in higher education in the US; we were established in 1993.
- Our approximately 60 specialized and professional accreditor members set educational standards for over 100 disciplines and professions and accredit more than 25,000 programs.
- Many ASPA members are reviewed against standards set by an external agency: 31 members are recognized by the US Secretary of Education and 32 are recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.
- Spring and fall conferences provide information on emerging/current issues in higher education and professional development for member accreditors on innovation in higher education delivery and assessment, quality improvement processes and risk management.

Strategic Activities

- ASPA advocates for the value of programmatic accreditation to a broad range of stakeholders: federal and state lawmakers, the US Department of Education, and students and student counsellors, among others.
- We respond to calls for commentary on laws and regulations that affect accreditation and higher education.

Member Services

- Regular updates are provided to members about happenings in the world of higher education, accreditation, and recognition.
- ASPA develops and circulates guidelines for good accreditation practice.
- Members have access to a private e-list and an online portal with a searchable member database and accreditation resources.
- A compensation/benefits study of member practices is conducted annually.

Visit us at aspa-usa.org for more information.