

Instituto College Accreditation

Submitted for: Information.

Summary: This item provides an update about the accreditation of Instituto College following a December 8, 2020, action by the Illinois Board of Higher Education to grant an extension in the timeline required for achieving institutional accreditation as outlined in 23 Illinois Administrative Code 1030.30(a)(16).

Action Requested: None.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Instituto College Accreditation

Instituto College
Instituto del Progreso Latino
2520 South Western Avenue
Chicago, IL 60608
Chief Executive Officer/President: Karina Ayala-Bermejo

At the December 8, 2020, meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE), Instituto College (Instituto del Progreso Latino, Instituto, or the College) sought and received an extension of the timeline for obtaining institutional accreditation from an accrediting authority recognized by the U.S. Department of Education or the Council for Higher Education Accreditation as required by 23 Illinois Administrative Code 1030.30(a)(16). This portion of the administrative rules for private colleges and universities requires institutions to seek and obtain accreditation within five years of IBHE approval to operate “unless the Board waives the original timeline because it is found to be an unrealistic expectation.”

Instituto del Progreso Latino was founded in 1977 with a mission to “contribute to the fullest development of Latino immigrants and their families through education, training, and employment that fosters full participation in the changing U.S. society while preserving cultural identity and dignity.” Instituto College registered as a not-for-profit corporation and received authority from the IBHE on April 7, 2015, to operate as a postsecondary institution. The December 8, 2020, board item provides details about the College’s history of operations in Illinois and the rationale forming the basis of the recommendation to extend the timeline beyond 2020 for achieving accreditation. Instituto prepared detailed plans and timelines for seeking accreditation with the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training by December 31, 2023. The Illinois Board of Higher Education approved this extension through December 2023.

On August 29, 2022, more than one year ahead of schedule, Instituto College received formal notification from the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training (ACCET) that the body’s Accrediting Commission had voted to grant initial accreditation. This accreditation is for a period of three years until August 31, 2025. The accreditation covers the college’s campus at 2520 South Western Avenue in Chicago, as well as the Associate of Applied Science in Nursing and the Basic Nursing Assistant Training programs. Instituto College is listed as an accredited institution on the ACCET website (accet.org).