



February 12, 2021

Dr. Cheryl L. Roberts  
President  
Shoreline Community College  
16101 Greenwood Avenue North  
Shoreline, WA 98133

Dear President Roberts:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) at its meeting on January 13-15, 2021, concerning the Fall 2020 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability of Shoreline Community College. This action was taken after consideration of evidence, including the institution's Self-Evaluation Report, the Peer-Evaluation Report, the optional Institutional Response to the Peer-Evaluation Report, and information received as part of the institutional representative meeting with Commissioners.

#### **Accreditation**

Reaffirm Accreditation

#### **Status of Previous Recommendations Addressed in this Evaluation**

- Recommendation 2: Fall 2012 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - Continued as Non-Compliant and becomes Recommendation 2 of the Fall 2020 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Evaluation
- Recommendation 6: Fall 2012 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - Continued as Non-Compliant and becomes Recommendation 1 of the Fall 2020 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability Evaluation

#### **Commendations**

The Commission commends Shoreline Community College for:

1. Its staff in the Technology Service Center and eLearning on their stepped-up support during the pivot to virtual learning due to the pandemic. In conversations with students, faculty and staff, all feel continuing support and feel they have the technology resources needed to be successful in their work.
2. Providing a comprehensive, effective and student-focused financial aid program and for the collaboration between the Financial Aid Office and College Foundation to create a single application process for students seeking emergency funds.
3. Its Library faculty and staff for creating collaborative, welcoming, and program supportive services. The library personnel have forged productive and engaging relationships with faculty and students in support of student success.
4. Its focused, deep, ongoing commitment and care to its international, remote, and campus students during the COVID-19 pandemic as evidenced by holistic, wrap-around student services such as the care team; the timely equitable distribution of CARES funds through quick and effective collaboration; innovative, flexible faculty instruction and engagement; and institution-wide concerned leadership, outreach, and action.

### **Recommendations Substantially in Compliance but in Need of Improvement**

The Commission recommends that Shoreline Community College:

- Recommendation 3: Fall 2020 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - Use disaggregated student achievement data including persistence, completion, retention, and post-graduate success for continuous improvement to inform planning, decision making and allocation of resources. Performance on these indicators should be widely published and continually used to promote student achievement, improve student learning, and close equity gaps. (2020 Standard(s) 1.D.2;1.D.3;1.D.4)
- Recommendation 4: Fall 2020 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - Develop and publish a transfer credit policy that clearly defines and maintains the integrity of its programs. This policy should facilitate the efficient mobility of students desirous of the completion of their educational credits, credentials, or degrees in furtherance of their academic goals. This policy should also be widely published and easily accessible. (2020 Standard(s) 1.C.8)
- Recommendation 5: Fall 2020 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - Manage financial resources transparently by defining, developing and sharing financial processes, policies, and budget development decisions, including ongoing budget management and annual financial statements. Stakeholders should have opportunities for meaningful participation in the budget development process. (2020 Standard(s) 2.E.2;2.E.3)

### **Recommendations Out of Compliance**

The Commission finds that the following Recommendations are areas where Shoreline Community College is out of compliance with the NWCCU Standards for Accreditation. The Commission requires that Shoreline Community College take appropriate action to ensure these Recommendations are addressed and resolved in the prescribed two-year period.

The Commission recommends that Shoreline Community College:

- Recommendation 1: Fall 2020 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - Provide evidence of a systematic method for collecting, storing, accessing, using and sharing data for the purposes of on-going and systematic evaluation, planning, resource allocation and informing decision-making toward improving institutional effectiveness and achieving mission fulfillment. (2020 Standard(s) 1.B.1;1.B.2)
- Recommendation 2: Fall 2020 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - Engage in assessment practices that focus on systematic and on-going assessment of course learning outcomes that lead to program learning outcomes in general education, all instructional and student support areas. Assessments must be used to improve student learning outcomes and inform academic and learning support-planning and practices. (2020 Standard(s) 1.C.5;1.C.6;1.C.7)

### **Future Evaluations**

- Ad Hoc Report Fall 2021
  - Recommendation 4: Fall 2020 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability
- Ad Hoc Report with Visit Spring 2022
  - Recommendation 1: Fall 2020 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability
  - Recommendation 2: Fall 2020 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability
- Mid-Cycle Review Fall 2023
  - Recommendation 3: Fall 2020 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability
  - Recommendation 5: Fall 2020 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability
- Year 6 - Standard 2 - Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review Fall 2026

- Year 7 - Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness Fall 2027

Per [USDE guidance](#), all virtual accreditation site visits shall be followed by in-person campus visits within a reasonable time when public health conditions improve and are authorized by applicable law. Campus visits may be limited to focus on items identified in the Peer-Evaluation Report and may include fewer than all evaluation team members.

NWCCU is committed to an accreditation process that adds value to institutions while contributing to public accountability, and we thank you for your continued support of this process. If you have questions about any of the information in this letter, please contact your staff liaison, Dr. Pamela Goad, at [pgoad@nwccu.org](mailto:pgoad@nwccu.org).

Sincerely,



Sonny Ramaswamy  
President

cc: Dr. Bayta Maring, Executive Director of Institutional Assessment and Data Management  
Dr. Catherine D'Ambrosio, Board of Trustees Chair  
Dr. Teresa Rivenes, Chief Academic Officer/Vice President, Tillamook Bay Community College