



Press Release

Harold Washington College Receives Re-Accreditation Approval from the Higher Learning Commission

Chicago, IL, February 14, 2019 -- The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) reaffirmed Harold Washington College's (HWC) accreditation, which is now valid until 2029. HLC, the regional accrediting body for City Colleges, granted HWC a full 10-year accreditation after the HLC team visited the campus for a comprehensive evaluation in October. The HLC accreditation is key for any place of higher learning, as it cements a college as a quality, valued and trusted institution.

The accreditation process included a peer review of five key criteria—governance, administration, mission, finances, and resources. The positive results mean HWC met all of the HLC's standards for accreditation. The HLC also noted that HWC, which has been fully accredited since 1967, required no additional monitoring. Specifically, the HLC's report praised the College for its "ability to maintain its identity, to facilitate shared governance, and to center itself on its mission as 'a student-centered institution that empowers all members of its community through accessible and affordable academic advancement, career development and personal enrichment.'"

"This was a team effort and is a tremendous accomplishment for the College," said HWC President Dr. Ignacio Lopez. "It is the culmination of months of hard work of our dedicated faculty and staff and speaks to HWC's unwavering commitment to providing our students a superior educational experience."

HWC's loop campus is located in the heart of downtown and serves over 12,000 students. Resources available to students include a wellness center, tutoring, advising, writing & math help, and a permanent on-site food market. HWC offers competitive program pathways in Business, Fine Arts, STEM, and more. The college also offers students work-based learning opportunities with leading companies, as well as prepares them to transfer to four year institutions. For more information about HWC programs, contact Bernadette Limos at 312.553.3150 or blimos@ccc.edu.