



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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## **CEI Hosted Successful NWCCU Accreditation Visit for Its Year-Seven Evaluation**

*IDAHO FALLS, ID* — College of Eastern Idaho (CEI) is proud to announce that it hosted a visit from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities ([NWCCU](#)) for its planned seven-year accreditation review. The evaluation took place April 12 through 14, 2023, and involved a team of four peer reviewers from regional community colleges and a NWCCU liaison.

As an independent, non-profit membership organization recognized by the United States Department of Education since 1952, NWCCU serves as an institutional accreditor for colleges and universities in the northwest region. NWCCU's mission is to accredit institutions of higher education by applying evidence-informed standards and processes to support continuous improvements and promote student achievement and success.

During the visit, the NWCCU peer reviewers assessed CEI's compliance with NWCCU's accreditation standards, including Standard One - Student Success, and Institutional Mission and Effectiveness, and Standard Two - Governance, Resources, and Capacity. These standards are designed to ensure that colleges and universities are meeting the highest standards of academic quality and institutional effectiveness.

The three-day visit included meetings with faculty, staff, students, trustees, and other stakeholders, as well as a thorough review of CEI's educational programs, resources, governance, and overall capacity to fulfill its mission. It culminated with an exit briefing on Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, where the evaluators provided initial feedback, including commending CEI for creating an engaged and caring campus culture; implementing initiatives that support student access and success; and transitioning from a technical college to a comprehensive community college and expanding access to programs despite the disruption caused by the pandemic. These findings are subject to formal acceptance through a vote of the NWCCU Commissions at an annual meeting in June and as such are considered draft at this point.

"We were excited to welcome the NWCCU team to our campus for this important accreditation visit," said Dr. Rick Aman, President of CEI. "Accreditation is a rigorous process that demonstrates our commitment to providing high-quality education and continuously improving our institution. We were happy to showcase the excellent work being done by CEI faculty, staff, and students."

Holding accreditation from NWCCU is significant, as it demonstrates CEI's commitment to academic excellence and continuous improvement. Accreditation also ensures that CEI's students have access to federal financial aid programs and validates the value of their degrees in the job market.

***About College of Eastern Idaho***

*College of Eastern Idaho (CEI, formerly EITC), Idaho's newest comprehensive community college, offers associate degrees, technical certificates, and workforce training programs to help students achieve their educational and career goals. With a focus on affordability, accessibility, and student success, CEI is dedicated to providing high-quality education and training to the residents of eastern Idaho. Visit <https://cei.edu> for more information.*

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