International Institution Expression of Interest Proposal

# Introduction

International institutions are invited to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) proposal to initiate the accreditation application process, using this document as a template and responding to the prompts below. This completed EOI proposal will be used by WSCUC to determine which institutions to invite to move forward with an Eligibility workshop, based on the value their accreditation might generate for WSCUC, its other institutions, and the applicant institution and on the institution’s readiness to enter into the Eligibility review process to demonstrate its compliance with WSCUC Standards.

The review of EOI proposals, invitation to move forward, and an Eligibility workshop take place prior to an institution’s submission of its Notification of Intent to Apply, payment of the Eligibility application fee, and submission of the Eligibility application to address the sixteen criteria at the Eligibility review stage.

# Instructions

Completing the ProposalAll EOI proposals must be submitted in English. To complete the EOI proposal, please provide a narrative response to each of the topics listed below, on the following pages:

* Each topic listed must be addressed
* As you move through the document adding information, please take care not to delete the original questions
* Add additional pages as necessary
* Please make sure that each topic starts on a new page
* Save the final version of the proposal as a PDF

To submit your Expression of Interest proposal, you will be using an online file storage site named Box.com. **Contact the WSCUC Accreditation Process Coordinator for detailed instructions about setting up a free account with Box.com and submitting your WSCUC International Expression of Interest proposal.**

## Supporting Documentation

In most cases, institutions will choose to provide documentation with their EOI proposal to support the assertions in the narratives. Additional documents may be provided in keeping with the focus of each topic. **These appendices should be uploaded into the folder in Box.com.**

Please make sure that all appendices are named consistently and referenced with the same name in the appropriate place in the narrative. The name of the appendix should succinctly reflect the document’s content, e.g. “Academic Freedom Statement.” Do not use sub-folders in Box to organize the appendices; all appendices should appear in the Box folder provided in alphabetical order by document content. Appendices should be saved as PDFs.

References to supporting documentation within the proposal should each be “hyperlinked” to those documents. Upload all the supporting documents to Box, then add the Box links to your proposal before converting the proposal to PDF and uploading it. Access the Organizing and Uploading Institutional Reports Guide found from the Document List in the Documents section of the WSCUC website for detailed instructions about “Adding Hyperlinks To Documents” (pages 3-4).

## Naming the Expression of Interest Proposal

Use the following naming convention for your proposal: "EOI\_YYMMDD\_Institution Name".

## Notifying WSCUC

Please notify the Accreditation Process Coordinator once the EOI proposal has been uploaded.

## Additional Resources

Definitions, supporting documentation, and a detailed description of the Eligibility process can be found in the [How to Become Accredited Manual](https://wascsenior.box.com/s/lmogpr9etew9brgwo92i). Additional information and resources are available at <https://www.wscuc.org/resources/becoming-accredited/>.

Address each of the topics below in no more than 350 words per topic, or 1,200 words for the Value Statement. Please consider your institution’s context and identify in an honest and forthright manner any potential issues that the Commission and its reviewers will need to take into consideration that may make it difficult to adhere to the WSCUC Standards and Criteria for Review.

*Revised, July 2020*

*Revised, August 2023*

# Section One: Institutional Overview

## Description of the Institution (350 words)

Please provide the following information, which is a subset of the information that would later be requested in the Eligibility application under Criterion 3 should the institution be chosen following the review of this Expression of Interest proposal:

* Official name of the institution, address, telephone, website
* Provide the name of the chief executive officer (CEO): [Dr., Mr., Ms., etc] [CEO Full Name]
* Provide the name of the primary contact person: [Dr., Mr., Ms., etc] [Full Name], [Title]
* Use the appropriate mailing address format, for example, in the US:

[Dr., Mr., Ms.] [CEO Full Name]

[CEO Title] (for example, President, Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, Rector)

[Institution Name]

[Street Address]

[City, State Zipcode]

* Do not use the US format, but use the format appropriate for your context
* Educational mission
* Course, program, degree offerings
* Academic calendar and program length
* Admissions criteria and processes
* Student fees and other financial obligations
* All degrees, diplomas, and certificates currently offered

**Please provide the institution description below and provide supporting documentation**

# Section Two: Expression of Interest Topics

1. **Value Statement (Maximum 1200 words)**

Please provide a narrative statement that explains the value to WSCUC, to your institution, and to higher education that could flow from your institution’s accreditation by WSCUC. Demonstrate how the institution will provide a meaningful and compelling addition to the WSCUC community. This value should be expressed in terms of any combination of:

1. An innovative educational model of interest to WSCUC and the WSCUC community
2. The potential to enrich relationships with WSCUC-accredited institutions through partnerships, exchanges or collaboration
3. Participation in national or international quality assurance activities that could benefit WSCUC
4. Interest in learning about models and practices among WSCUC members.

**Please address Topic 1 below and provide supporting documentation.**

1. **Quality Assurance Agency (up to 350 words)**

If applicable, share the institution’s current status with its existing accreditation and national quality assurance agency(ies). (See Criteria 1 and 4 of the Eligibility criteria in the [How to Become Accredited Manual](https://wascsenior.box.com/s/lmogpr9etew9brgwo92i))

**Please address Topic 2 below and provide supporting documentation.**

1. **Sanctions (up to 350 words)**

Affirm that the institution is not under a current sanction or negative finding from an agency that has jurisdiction over the institution or its programs. (See Criteria 1 and 4 of the Eligibility criteria in the [How to Become Accredited Manual](https://wascsenior.box.com/s/lmogpr9etew9brgwo92i))

**Please address Topic 3 below and provide supporting documentation.**

1. **Academic Freedom (up to 350 words)**

WSCUC-accredited institutions are expected to exhibit a commitment and ability to exercise academic freedom among students, faculty and staff sufficient to ensure freedom of inquiry and freedom of expression necessary for the creation, development and dissemination of knowledge, and document that within the institution there is no censorship or prohibition of inquiry or expression (even in situations where such freedoms may not be guaranteed in the national or cultural practices of the country). A commitment to academic freedom affirms that those in the academy are free to share their convictions and responsible conclusions with their colleagues and students in their teaching and writing. Due process procedures are disseminated demonstrating that faculty and students are protected in their quest for the truth.

This topic will be further considered as a part of the Eligibility review, and the intent of the request here is to anticipate issues that may arise. (See WSCUC 2023 Standards, Standard 1, Criterion for Review 1.6)

**Please address Topic 4 below and provide supporting documentation.**

1. **Academic Integrity (up to 350 words)**

Institutions are expected to establish and publish standards of academic integrity and intellectual responsibility that reasonably ensure that all members of the institution adhere to academic honesty free from plagiarism and other forms of misrepresentation including but not limited to payment for completed student work, cheating, and homework sharing schemes. Once again, the purpose of this item is to anticipate issues that may arise in an eventual Eligibility review. (See WSCUC 2023 Standards, Standard 1, Criterion for Review 1.3)

**Please address Topic 5 below and provide supporting documentation.**

1. **Discrimination (up to 350 words)**

Institutions are expected to document by effectively implemented policy that the institution does not discriminate against students, faculty and staff based on gender, age, race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, political belief, sexual orientation, socioeconomic class, or disability (even in situations where such values may not be guaranteed in the national or cultural practices of the country) and protects students, faculty and staff to the best of its ability from bias and discrimination. (See WSCUC 2023 Standards, Standard 1, Criterion for Review 1.2; [WSCUC Equity and Inclusion Policy](https://wascsenior.app.box.com/s/rf7mtk25dqplpakxet2i)) This item provides an opportunity for the institution to introduce its policies and identify issues that may arise in an eventual Eligibility process.

**Please address Topic 6 below and provide supporting documentation.**

1. **Governance (up to 350 words)**

Institutions are expected to document that the institution’s governance, investors, and other entities do not interfere with the institution’s ability to operate independently from interests that may compromise the institution’s mission. (See Eligibility Criterion 7 of the Eligibility criteria in the [How to Become Accredited Manual](https://wascsenior.box.com/s/lmogpr9etew9brgwo92i) and WSCUC 2023 Standards, Standard 3, Criteria for Review 3.7 and 3.8, [WSCUC Governing Board Policy](https://wascsenior.box.com/s/qzuwdhvjtro447w8ros8) and [WSCUC Governing Board Policy Implementation Guide](https://wascsenior.box.com/s/z4l1hhtyh8gfa5gskgtpces89k0iq3ke)). This item provides an opportunity for the institution to introduce its policies and identify issues that may arise in an eventual Eligibility process.

**Please address Topic 7 below and provide supporting documentation.**

1. **Transparency and Institutional Integrity (up to 350 words)**

Provide a statement that attests to the institution’s ability to adhere to the expectation of integrity and full transparency with WSCUC. (See Eligibility Criteria 3 and 4 of the Eligibility criteria in the [How to Become Accredited Manual](https://wascsenior.box.com/s/lmogpr9etew9brgwo92i) and See WSCUC 2023 Standards, Standard 1, Criteria for Review 1.3 and 1.8)

**Please address Topic 8 below and provide supporting documentation.**