

January 21, 2025

Dr. Jeff DeFranco  
Superintendent/President  
Lake Tahoe Community College  
One College Drive  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Dear Dr. DeFranco:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, at its meeting January 8-9, 2025, reviewed the Institutional Self-Evaluation Report (ISER) and evidentiary materials submitted by Lake Tahoe Community College. The Commission also considered the Peer Review Team Report (Team Report) prepared by the peer review team that conducted its site visit to the College September 30 – October 1, 2024.

The purpose of this review was to determine whether the College continues to meet ACCJC's Eligibility Requirements, Commission Policies, and Accreditation Standards (hereinafter, the Standards). Upon consideration of the written information noted above, the Commission acted to **Reaffirm Accreditation for seven years.**

#### Commendations

Commendations signify institutional practices for which the Commission believes exceed Standards. The Commission recognizes the exemplary performance of Lake Tahoe Community College in the following areas.

**Standard I.B.9 (Commendation 1):** The Commission commends the College for its broad-based, comprehensive, and continuous engagement in strategic institutional planning and evidence-based annual evaluation, referred to as “progress updates,” that demonstrates quantitative and qualitative progress on the achievement of its goals and the institution’s effectiveness with resource generation and prioritized allocations. This process of integrated planning, resource allocation, and evaluation, with effective and systematic communication, appears to have undergirded the college’s exceptional and ongoing momentum in securing resources and implementing programs and initiatives that have resulted in strong mission advancement.

### Compliance Requirements

None.

### Recommendations for Improving Institutional Effectiveness

None.

### Next Steps

The Peer Review Team Report provides details of the peer review team's findings, including areas of noteworthy practice. The guidance and recommendations contained in the Peer Review Team Report represent the best advice of the team at the time of the visit but may not describe all that is necessary for the college to improve. A final copy of the Peer Review Team Report is attached.

The Commission requires that you disseminate the ISER, the Peer Review Team Report, and this letter to all campus constituencies and the public by placing copies on the College website within seven business days of your receipt. Please note that in response to public interest in accreditation, the Commission requires institutions to post current accreditation information on a Web page no more than one click from the institution's home page. In keeping with ACCJC policy, the Commission action will also be posted on the ACCJC website within 30 days of the date of the Commission's action.

The next report from the College will be the Midterm Report<sup>1</sup> due on October 15, 2028. The institution's next comprehensive review will begin with Team ISER Review in the spring term of 2031 and conclude with a Focused Site Visit in the fall term of 2031.

On behalf of the Commission, we wish to express appreciation for the diligent work and thoughtful reflection that Lake Tahoe Community College undertook to prepare for this review. These efforts confirm that peer review can serve the multiple constituencies of higher education by both ensuring and encouraging institutional quality and effectiveness.

If you have any questions about this letter or the Commission's action, please feel free to contact Dr. Mac Powell or the vice president assigned as liaison to your institution.

Sincerely,



Mac Powell, MBA, Ph.D.  
President



Kathleen F. Burke, Ed.D.  
Chair

cc: Dr. Elizabeth Balint, Accreditation Liaison Officer

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<sup>1</sup> Institutions preparing and submitting Midterm Reports, Follow-up Reports, Special Reports, or Teach-out Plans/Agreements to the Commission should review the Accreditation Handbook and applicable report template available on the ACCJC website at <https://accjc.org/accreditation-handbook-and-report-templates/>.