



August 11, 2025

Dr. Christopher Villa
President
Skagit Valley College
2405 East College Way
Mount Vernon, WA 98273-5899

Dear President Villa:

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 July 8-11, 2025, concerning the Spring 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness of Skagit Valley College.

Accreditation

Reaffirm Accreditation

Status of Previous Recommendations Addressed in this Evaluation

- Recommendation 1: Spring 2021 Mid-Cycle Review - Fulfilled
- Finding Type 1: Spring 2024 Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review - Fulfilled

Commendations

The Commission commends Skagit Valley College for:

1. For advancing data transparency by developing accessible data dashboards, making data widely available across the institution, and providing support to ensure employees understand and effectively use the data to inform planning and accountability.
2. For fostering a strong culture of collaboration and cooperation across all levels, which enables communication, problem solving, supports shared governance, and contributes to both institutional effectiveness and student success.
3. For establishing a well-structured, data-informed program review process that effectively supports continuous improvement across academic and instructional support areas.
4. For transparent and proactive communication to staff and faculty regarding federal policy changes, SVC strategic priorities, and proposed shared governance structures.

Recommendations Substantially in Compliance but in Need of Improvement

The Commission recommends that Skagit Valley College:

- Recommendation 1: Spring 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Implement an effective program that provides staff with consistent opportunities for training, professional growth, and development to fulfill responsibilities in support of mission fulfillment. (2020 Standard(s) 2.F.2)
- Recommendation 2: Spring 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Ensure all college units engage in ongoing and structured program review processes that directly guide planning, resource allocation, and capacity to achieve mission fulfillment. (2020 Standard(s) 1.B.1)
- Recommendation 3: Spring 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Use its disaggregated student achievement indicator data in decision making and resource allocation to increase student success and mitigate achievement gaps. (2020 Standard(s) 1.D.3;1.D.4)

Future Evaluations

- Ad Hoc Report Spring 2027
 - Recommendation 1: Spring 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Mid-Cycle Review Spring 2028
 - Recommendation 2: Spring 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness

- Recommendation 3: Spring 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Year 6 - Standard 2 - Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review Spring 2031
- Year 7 - Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness Spring 2032

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. Gita Bangera, at gbangera@nwccu.org.

Sincerely,



Selena M. Grace
President

cc: Dr. Gabriel Mast, Vice President for Planning and Institutional Effectiveness
Ms. Mariko Doerner, Board Chair
Dr. James McCoy, Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs & Chief Academic Officer, College of Southern Nevada
Mr. Michael Meotti, Executive Director, Washington Student Achievement Council