



February 25, 2026

Dr. John Carmichael
President
The Evergreen State College
2700 Evergreen Parkway N.W.
Olympia, WA 98505

Dear President Carmichael:

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 January 27-30, 2026, concerning the Fall 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness of The Evergreen State College.

Accreditation

Reaffirm Accreditation

Status of Previous Recommendations Addressed in this Evaluation

- Recommendation 1: Fall 2024 Ad Hoc Report - Continued as Needs Improvement

Commendations

The Commission commends The Evergreen State College for:

1. The ongoing development of sophisticated and meaningful data dashboards as the foundation for strategic plan implementation across the institution with the potential to engage employees in a shared purpose: advancing Evergreen's strategic goals.
2. Its commitment to fostering a collaborative, collegial environment for students, staff, faculty, and administrators.
3. Cultivating a dynamic and flexible learning culture that integrates high-impact educational practices such as experiential and community-based learning, which equips students with meaningful life skills while preparing them for gainful employment and responsible engagement as global citizens.
4. Intentionally leveraging its forest, shoreline, and working farms as an integrated living laboratory across the curriculum, thereby advancing mission fulfillment and student learning outcomes through hands-on, interdisciplinary, and community-engaged learning, sustainability practices, and stewardship of natural resources.

Recommendations Substantially in Compliance but in Need of Improvement

The Commission recommends that The Evergreen State College:

- Recommendation 1: Fall 2024 Ad Hoc Report - Demonstrate short term financial health and long-term financial stability and sustainability. (2020 Standard(s) 2.E.2)
- Recommendation 1: Fall 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Use an ongoing and systematic evaluation process to refine effectiveness and assign resources in areas that support student success across all campus locations. (2020 Standard(s) 1.B.1)
- Recommendation 2: Fall 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Implement an ongoing and meaningful process to assess the Six Expectations of an Evergreen Graduate (Evergreen's ILOs) and use the results to improve student learning. (2020 Standard(s) 1.C.6;1.C.7)
- Recommendation 3: Fall 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Evaluate and address any gaps in staffing and campus operations, including student support, and ensure that staff have access to clear and current procedural documentation sufficient to work effectively across all campus locations. (2020 Standard(s) 2.F.2;2.F.3)

Future Evaluations

- Ad Hoc Report with Visit Spring 2026 to Review Prison Education Program
- Ad Hoc Report with Visit Spring 2027
 - Recommendation 1: Fall 2024 Ad Hoc Report
 - Recommendation 3: Fall 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Mid-Cycle Review Fall 2028
 - Recommendation 1: Fall 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
 - Recommendation 2: Fall 2025 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Year 6 - Standard 2 - Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review Fall 2031
- Year 7 - Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness Fall 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. Teresa Rivenes, at trivenes@nwccu.org.

Sincerely,



Dr. Selena M. Grace
President

cc: Dr. Erik Gimness, Director of Institutional Research and Decision Support
Mr. Miguel Pérez-Gibson, Board Chair
Dr. Lindsay Couzens, Associate Vice Provost for Academic Effectiveness, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Mr. Michael Meotti, Executive Director, Washington Student Achievement Council