

AND by empowering the public through the Council's sensitisation programmes, as awareness of accreditation increases, prospective students will opt to attend and pursue **only** accredited institutions and programmes of study!


**ACCREDITATION....  
YOU CANNOT AFFORD  
TO BE WITHOUT IT!**

***Will assistance be provided?***

Yes, the Council will facilitate the process of accreditation, from initiation to completion. The Council will aim to build alliances, as quality cannot be improved solely through the external efforts of the Council, but through a partnership between the provider and the Council.

***Where can you get more information?***

You may contact the Accreditation Officers at 429-9111 or 429-5385. Make sure to purchase your copy of the *Accreditation Handbook*.

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*"Your Gateway to Global Recognition"*

## ACCREDITATION

## A Necessity for Global Recognition

Post-secondary/Tertiary  
Educational Providers

*"A coherent system of post-secondary or tertiary education and training which assures excellence and integrity to all its stakeholders."*

### ***What is accreditation?***

- Accreditation is a process by which the Barbados Accreditation Council externally reviews registered post-secondary or tertiary providers and their programmes/courses of study.
- Providers have to meet specific standards/requirements established and promulgated by the Barbados Accreditation Council.

### ***Does your institution or programme(s) of study have to be accredited?***

In Barbados accreditation is a voluntary process. It is done only on the request of the institution or training provider.

### ***Can your institution or programme(s) of study do without accreditation?***

Yes. However, let us explore the importance and significance of accreditation.

### ***Why is accreditation important?***

- Accreditation seeks to assure quality education
- Accreditation creates the impetus for relevancy and currency of faculty, programmes, and courses to best serve students.
- The pursuit of accreditation enhances the ability to serve students by assuring a focus on quality performance.

### ***Why should your institutions seek accreditation?***

When an institution seeks accreditation with the Council, this signals: (i) its commitment to quality, and (ii) its accountability to students, society and the educational environment. Institutions that achieve accredited status will enjoy many benefits including:

1. Validation/acceptance of diplomas, certificates and degrees by other accredited schools, universities and the business sector;

2. National, Regional and International recognition of quality, accountability, and public trust;
3. Validation of quality could be used as a marketing tool to increase student numbers;
4. Acknowledgement of the quality of the educational provision offered by an institution;
5. Expansion of educational and learning opportunities for students by being part of a national network or quality educational institutions;
6. Access to support services by the Council designed to continually improve the quality of education and training.
7. Continuous improvement process that increases the focus on student performance.

### ***Are there different types of accreditation?***

Yes, there are two types of accreditation:

1. Institutional accreditation
2. Programme accreditation
  - Short Course – at least 1 credit or not longer than three (3) months
  - Long Course – at least 3 credits or longer than three (3) months

So, now you know the importance, significance and types of accreditation, do you still think that you can do without accreditation? Maybe, but can you *afford* to be without it? Accreditation will give your institution and/or programme(s) of study:

- Global access to students
- International recognition
- The opportunity for growth and development
- The opportunity to receive a “Quality Mark” from the Council
- Free promotion on the Council’s website, publications and other promotional mechanisms.