



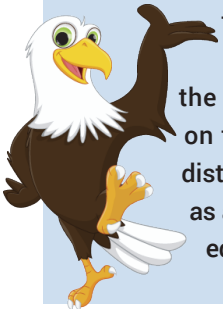
**NORTHERN New Mexico College / HLC ACCREDITATION NEWSLETTER**



**M**ISSION is foundational to an institution’s curriculum, instructional activities and the success of its students.

Mission further informs an institution’s research and innovation pursuits, its community engagement activities and services, its role within the higher education ecosystem, its student body, and its decisions regarding operations and resource allocations. An institution’s distinctive mission is the cornerstone around which the institution’s effectiveness, integrity and commitment to continuous improvement are evaluated.

When demonstrating that it meets the Criteria for Accreditation, an institution has the opportunity to reflect on the significance of its distinctive mission as well as across the wider higher education landscape. ■



# HLC CRITERION 1: MISSION

*The Criteria for Accreditation convey the standards of quality by which HLC determines whether an institution merits accreditation or reaffirmation of accreditation.*

**SUMMARY of NNMC Assurance Argument: CRITERION 1: MISSION**

NNMC aligns its programs and operations closely with its mission to serve the community and support student success.

Adopted in 2024, its new Mission/Vision emphasizes student empowerment and community development, particularly for its Hispanic and Indigenous populations. As a regional comprehensive institution connected deeply to place, culture, and innovation, NNMC strives to become a beacon of higher education and opportunity for all.

NNMC’s inclusive strategic planning involves students, faculty, staff, and community, guiding decisions from academics to resource allocation. It designs curricula aligned with student goals and regional workforce needs, partnering with LANL for specialized training. NNMC is also expanding trades education and community programs to support underserved populations and promote life-long learning.

NNMC incorporates student engagement into all aspects of college life, promoting outreach to rural, first-generation, and underrep-

**HLC Criterion 1. Mission:**

The institution’s mission is clear and articulated publicly; it guides the institution’s operations.

resented students. The college encourages civic involvement, preparing students both academically and as engaged citizens. Community participation in cultural events, arts programming, and partnerships with local organizations builds cultural awareness and civic pride.

Through these diverse collaborations and activities, NNMC demonstrates its commitment to its mission and the public good, showcasing its holistic approach to education, community outreach, and service. ■

**An institution’s distinctive mission will inform how it demonstrates that it meets the following CORE COMPONENTS OF CRITERION 1.**



1.A. Mission Alignment-The institution’s educational programs, enrollment profile and scope of operations align with its publicly articulated mission.



1.B. Mission and Public Good-The institution’s operation of the academic enterprise demonstrates its commitment to serving the public good.



1.C. Mission and Diversity of Society-The institution provides opportunities for civic engagement in a diverse, multicultural society and globally connected world, as appropriate within its mission and for the constituencies it serves

## COUNTDOWN!



**SEPT 8**

HLC STUDENT OPINION SURVEY –13 days



**OCT 20**

ASSURANCE ARGUMENT LOCK DATE – 55 days



**NOV 5**

CAMPUS CLEANUP – 71 days



**NOV 17**

SITE VISIT – 83 days