

# Higher Learning Commission Comprehensive Quality Review Visit FAQs

## What:

Accreditation is an assurance to the public that an institution is properly prepared to fulfill its public responsibilities. MCTC is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, a regional accrediting agency. Every eight to ten years, an institution accredited by HLC hosts a Comprehensive Quality Review visit. MCTC's last comprehensive site visit was in 2009. The next one is scheduled for spring 2017. The HLC uses the Assumed Practices, Criteria for Accreditation and six Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) categories to evaluate institutional quality. Reviewers look at College policies, processes and practices, conduct open forums with employees and students, and review past accreditation work like AQIP action projects to document evidence of College quality and continuous improvement.

## When:

**March 20–22, 2017**

## Where:

MCTC hosts a peer review team on campus the first two days of the visit. Reviewers may request more information for a final off-campus meeting on the last day of the visit.

## How:

Preparations are already underway to ensure a successful HLC visit. Employee and student open forums, an MCTC Connect HLC Visit site, and a public-facing webpage will provide more information in the coming weeks and months about details of this visit.

## Why:

A site visit provides an opportunity to highlight what a college or university is doing well, and to get feedback from reviewers about how to continually improve. On a practical level, MCTC needs to show it meets quality standards to receive federal financial aid for its students. So the site visit is an opportunity and also a mandate to demonstrate institutional quality.

For more information about accreditation or the site visit, contact Jessica Shryack at [jessica.shryack@minneapolis.edu](mailto:jessica.shryack@minneapolis.edu).

## Call to Action!

### All employees and students can help prepare for this visit by:

- ▶ Participating in campus-wide information sessions and the March 20-21 open forums
- ▶ Reading the Systems Portfolio and Systems Appraisal
- ▶ Staying current on information about the visit which will be updated regularly
- ▶ Participating on an evidence team