



**MIDDLE STATES COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION**  
3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104-2680. Tel: 267-284-5000. Fax: 215-662-5501  
[www.msche.org](http://www.msche.org)

## STATEMENT OF ACCREDITATION STATUS

**UPR - PONCE**  
**Box 7186**  
**Santiago De Los Caballeros Avenue**  
**Ponce, PR 00732**  
**Phone: (787) 844-8181; Fax: (787) 844-8679**  
**[www.uprp.edu/](http://www.uprp.edu/)**

**Chief Executive Officer:** Dr. Doris S. Torres Negrón, Interim Chancellor  
**System:** University of Puerto Rico Central Administration  
Dr. Nivia Aurora Fernández Hernández, Interim President  
G.P.O. Box 4984-G  
San Juan, PR 00936  
Phone: (787) 759-6061; Fax: (787) 759-6917

### INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

**Enrollment (Headcount):** 3630 Undergraduate  
**Control:** Public  
**Affiliation:** Government-State Systems- University of Puerto Rico  
**2015 Carnegie Classification:** Baccalaureate Colleges - Diverse Fields  
**Approved Degree Levels:** Associate's, Bachelor's;  
**Distance Education Programs:** Not Approved  
**Accreditors Recognized by U.S. Secretary of Education:** n/a

#### Instructional Locations

**Branch Campuses:** None  
**Additional Locations:** None  
**Other Instructional Sites:** None

### ACCREDITATION INFORMATION

**Status:** Member since 1970  
**Last Reaffirmed:** November 17, 2016

**Most Recent Commission Action:**

May 18, 2017: To accept the Supplemental Information Report. To place the institution on probation because of insufficient evidence that the institution is currently in compliance with Requirements of Affiliation 3 (institution is operational, with students actively pursuing its degree programs) and 8 (documented financial resources, funding base, and plans for financial development adequate to support its educational purposes and programs and to assure financial stability), and with Standard 3 (Institutional Resources). To note that the institution remains accredited while on probation. To request a monitoring report, due September 1, 2017, documenting evidence that the institution has achieved and can sustain compliance with Requirements of Affiliation 3 and 8 and Standard 3, including but not limited to (1) the institution is operational, with students actively pursuing its degree programs (Requirement of Affiliation 3) and (2) the institution has documented financial resources, funding base, and plans for financial development adequate to support its educational purposes and programs and to assure financial stability (Requirement of Affiliation 8 and Standard 3). A small team visit will follow submission of the report. To direct a prompt liaison guidance consultation to discuss the Commission's expectations. To remind the institution of its obligation to inform the Commission about any and all significant developments relevant to this action, including developments relevant to Title IV program responsibilities. To remind the institution of the Commission's request of November 17, 2016 for a progress report due April 1, 2018. Upon reaffirmation of accreditation, the next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2024-2025.

#### **Brief History Since Last Comprehensive Evaluation:**

November 17, 2016: To reaffirm accreditation and to commend the institution for the quality of the self study report. To request a progress report, due April 1, 2018, documenting further development and implementation of a financial planning and budgeting process aligned with the institution's mission and goals, and a plan that provides for an annual budget and multi-year budget projections (Standard 3). The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2024-2025.

May 2, 2017: Staff acted on behalf of the Commission to request a supplemental information report, due May 5, 2017, addressing concerns regarding recent developments at the institution which may have implications for current and future compliance with Requirements of Affiliation, Standards, or Commission Policies.

**Next Self-Study Evaluation:** 2024 - 2025

**Date Printed:** June 2, 2017

## DEFINITIONS

**Branch Campus** - A branch campus is a domestic or international location of an institution that is geographically apart, independent of the primary/main campus. The branch campus is considered independent of the main campus if it is permanent in nature; offers courses in educational programs leading to a degree, certificate, or other recognized educational credential; has its own faculty and administrative or supervisory organization; and has its own budgetary and hiring authority. (34 CFR §600.2)

**Additional Location** - An additional location is a domestic or international location, other than a branch campus, that is geographically apart from the primary/main campus and at which the institution offers at least 50 percent of the requirements of an educational program. (34 CFR §602.22) **ANYA** ("Approved but Not Yet Active") indicates that the location is included within the scope of accreditation but has not yet begun to offer courses. This designation is removed after the Commission receives notification that courses have begun at this location. **ANYC** ("Approved but Not Yet Closed") indicates that the institution has requested that the location be officially closed through the substantive change process. The location is currently included within the scope of accreditation but the institution will be stopping all operations at this location in the near future. The institution should inform the Commission (via email at [sc@msche.org](mailto:sc@msche.org)) of the date that operations cease. This designation is removed after the Commission receives notification that courses have stopped at this location and the location is no longer listed on the SAS.

**Other Instructional Sites** - MSCHE defines an other instructional site as any off-campus site, other than those meeting the definition of a branch campus or an additional location, at which the institution offers one or more courses for credit. Sites designated as an other instructional site do not require substantive change approval. However, substantive change approval is required to reclassify an other instructional site to or from a branch campus or additional location.

**Distance Education Programs** - Fully Approved, Approved (one program approved) or Not Approved indicates whether or not the institution has been approved to offer diploma/certificate/degree programs via distance education (programs for which students could meet 50% or more of the requirements of the program by taking distance education courses). Per the Commission's Substantive Change policy, Commission approval of the first two Distance Education programs is required to be "Fully Approved." If only one program is approved by the Commission, the specific name of the program will be listed in parentheses after "Approved."

Commission actions are explained in the policy [Accreditation Actions](#).