



WYOMING
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

*Creating Opportunities
for Students to Keep
Wyoming Strong*

Jillian Balow

Superintendent of Public Instruction

Dicky Shanor

Chief of Staff

Brent Bacon

Chief Academic Officer

Megan Degenfelder

Chief Policy Officer

Dianne Bailey

Chief Operations Officer

Cheyenne Office

Hathaway Building, 2nd Floor
2300 Capitol Avenue
Cheyenne WY 82002-2060
Phone: (307) 777-7675
Fax: (307) 777-6234

Riverton Office

320 West Main
Riverton, WY 82501
Phone: (307) 857-9250
Fax: (307) 857-9256

On the Web

edu.wyoming.gov
wyomingmeasuresup.com
twitter.com/WYOEducation
facebook.com/WYOEducation

MEMORANDUM NO. 2018-027

TO: District Superintendents
School Principals

FROM: Megan Degenfelder, Chief Policy Officer

DATE: March 5, 2018

SUBJECT: Updates to the State Accreditation Process

REVISED ACCREDITATION PROCESS EFFECTIVE 2018-19

A revised process for state-led accreditation will be implemented beginning in school year 2018-19. The following information is a summary of changes to the process.

STATE ACCREDITATION

All Wyoming districts, including their schools, will continue to be accredited by the State Board of Education (SBE), based on the recommendation of the Wyoming Department of Education (WDE), as is required by Wyoming statute.

REGIONAL ACCREDITATION

Regional accreditation by AdvancED will be **optional** beginning July 1, 2018 for all Wyoming districts and schools within those districts. Institutions that are not governed by a district will continue to be accredited by AdvancED.

CHAPTER 6 ACCREDITATION RULES

The statewide accreditation task force, which is comprised of educators from all five regions of the state, is currently updating the Wyoming accreditation rules. An initial draft was submitted to the SBE in February. Revisions suggested by the SBE are incorporated in the draft [here](#).

The rules include two major provisions:

1. Districts self-report on their alignment to 25 accreditation criteria and submit required documentation annually by November 1 beginning in 2018.
2. An on-site external review of selected accreditation criteria will occur once every 5 years on a rotating basis.

EXTERNAL REVIEWS

The format for the external review process is the current work of the task force and updates on this work will be communicated as they become available.

ACCREDITATION SURVEYS

Districts are no longer required to administer surveys as a component of state accreditation.

For questions about the accreditation process, contact Bill Pannell at bill.pannell@wyo.gov or (307) 777-7322.