



University of the Potomac Accreditation Q&A

Our top priority is our students' education and success, and we will continue to work diligently toward resolving any issues while providing ongoing support and communication throughout the Self-Study process.

What does it mean that University of the Potomac has been placed on Show Cause by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE)?

Show Cause status means the University must demonstrate why its accreditation should not be withdrawn. This is a status given by MSCHE when a university needs to address certain areas of compliance with the standards and requirements defined by MSCHE. Show Cause does not mean the University has lost its accreditation, but it is a serious step that requires immediate action.

Is the University of the Potomac still accredited?

Yes, University of the Potomac remains accredited by MSCHE. The Show Cause status is a call for us to address specific compliance issues, which we are actively working to resolve.

Why did the University receive this status?

The Show Cause status was given due to concerns about the University's compliance with certain MSCHE standards and requirements. We are addressing these concerns through a series of targeted improvement initiatives to ensure compliance with these standards.

What actions are being taken to resolve the Show Cause status?

The University has implemented a comprehensive plan to address all areas of compliance with Standard II, VI, and VII. This includes:

- **Enhanced Governance and Leadership:** Strengthening the roles and responsibilities of our governing bodies and senior leadership to ensure effective decision-making processes.
- **Compliance and Assessment Initiatives:** Conducting thorough internal audits and assessments to identify and rectify any gaps in compliance with MSCHE standards.
- **Academic Program Improvements:** Revising and enhancing our academic programs to meet and exceed MSCHE requirements, ensuring that our curriculum remains rigorous and relevant.
- **Institutional Resources and Planning:** Allocating resources strategically to address priorities identified in our comprehensive plan, ensuring a sustainable path to continued compliance and improvement.

We are committed to transparent and continuous communication with MSCHE throughout this process, and we remain dedicated to maintaining the highest standards for our students, faculty, and staff.

How will the Show Cause status affect my current enrollment or graduation?

There is no immediate impact on your current enrollment or ability to graduate. The University of the Potomac remains fully accredited, and we are working diligently to address all concerns raised by MSCHE.

Your education and progression towards your degree are our top priorities, and we will keep you informed of any significant developments.

How can I stay informed about the university's progress in resolving the Show Cause status?

Updates will be regularly shared through official university communications, including our website, emails, and informational sessions. We are dedicated to keeping our students, faculty, and stakeholders informed about our progress. We encourage you to reach out to our administrative offices if you have any specific questions or concerns. Your engagement and support are invaluable as we work toward resolving the Show Cause issues and strengthening our institution.

How will the Show Cause status affect my education and degree?

Your education and degree remain valid and accredited. The University is committed to maintaining the highest standards of academic excellence. All ongoing improvements are designed to enhance your educational experience and ensure the long-term credibility of your degree.

What support services are available to students as the university addresses the Show Cause status?

University of the Potomac is committed to providing robust support services to help students navigate this period. This includes academic advising, counseling services, career services, and financial aid support. We also have dedicated staff available to answer any questions and provide guidance specific to your situation. Our goal is to ensure that all students continue to have a successful and fulfilling educational experience. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our support offices for assistance.

Will this have an impact on my current courses, financial aid, schedule, or my application for OPT or CPT?

The current show-cause status of University of the Potomac's accreditation will not hinder your ability to continue with your current courses, take advantage of the resources on campus, or pursue opportunities for Optional Practical Training (OPT) or Curricular Practical Training (CPT). Our ongoing commitment is to provide our students with an exceptional academic experience while striving for and maintaining the highest standards of academic excellence.

Will the university's show-cause status affect the ability to apply for Title IV funding or financial aid?

The university's show-cause status will not impact your ability to apply for Title IV funding or financial aid. This means that you should still be able to access federal student aid programs (if qualify) in order to support your education.