

EDUCATION & SEMINARS

## Palmer Receives Full NCA Regional Accreditation for All Three Campuses

Palmer College of Chiropractic has earned another feather in its accreditation cap by receiving regional accreditation for all three of its campuses. The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA) has notified Palmer that the college - including the main campus in Davenport, Iowa, and the branch campuses in Port Orange, Fla., and San Jose, Calif. - has been granted full 10-year accreditation by the NCA.

The Davenport and Florida campuses were granted re-accreditation, and the West Campus was granted accreditation by the NCA for the first time. The next comprehensive accreditation evaluation of Palmer College by the NCA will take place in 2018-2019.

"This is an important milestone for Palmer College of Chiropractic," said Clay McDonald, DC, MBA, JD, Palmer's vice chancellor for strategic development. "It is confirmation that all three of Palmer's campuses meet or exceed the standards of the NCA, which is the largest regional accrediting body in the United States. This regional accreditation is in addition to the long-standing accreditation of Palmer's Doctor of Chiropractic program on all three campuses by the Council on Chiropractic Education (CCE)."

The specific advantages of regional accreditation, which will now be experienced at the Palmer West campus along with the Davenport and Florida campuses, is that it allows for the creation of 3 + 1 agreements (transfer of credit agreements with undergraduate institutions) and generally makes it easier for students to transfer credits if they seek additional degrees beyond the doctor of chiropractic.

"For the West Campus specifically, this accreditation better situates students to be able to transfer their credits to other accredited institutions, and it better situates the West Campus to initiate 3 + 1 agreements with undergraduate institutions, making it easier for students to enroll," added Dr. McDonald.

In addition to the positive end result, the actual accreditation process was beneficial to the college, added Jeannette Danner, Palmer's senior director of accreditation and licensure:

"In order to receive the full 10-year accreditation from the NCA, Palmer College needed to produce a Self-Study Report, which was a detailed analysis of Palmer College spanning the last 10 years. The nearly 100 staff and faculty members from all three campuses who were involved in developing the Self-Study Report learned a tremendous amount about Palmer College, and were able to contribute to a final document that was very well received by the NCA. It was an incredible opportunity for many people at Palmer to learn more about their institution, and the end result was a thorough, thoughtful examination of Palmer's successes and challenges over the last 10 years."

The entire NCA accreditation process was open and transparent, with regular updates on a special section of the college Web site, and the general public was also invited to view the Self-Study Report and make comments to the NCA.

Palmer College of Chiropractic's Davenport, Florida and West campuses are accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and are members of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The NCA may be contacted at 30 North LaSalle St., Suite 2400, Chicago, Ill., 60602, (800) 621-7440 or online at www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org.

Source: Palmer College of Chiropractic

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