

Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE)

- Rigorous and comprehensive accreditation standards within the context of the mission of each institution and the culture of ethical practices and institutional integrity.
- Verify the quality of the higher education experience through peer review, assessment and evaluation.
- Guiding principles
 - centrality of the student experience,
 - reflection on DEI,
 - emphasis on data and evidence-based decision making, and
 - innovation as an essential part of continuous improvement.
- MSCHE is one of several institutional accrediting agencies recognized by the US Department of Education
- 500+ institutions of higher education are currently accredited by MSCHE
- MSPSON is in candidate status for accreditation status with MSCHE

Self-Study Process

MSPSON must meet 7 Standards for Accreditation and Requirements of Affiliation:

- 1.Mission and Goals
- 2.Ethics and Integrity
- 3.Delivery and Design of the Student Experience
- 4.Support of the Student Experience
- 5.Educational Effectiveness Assessment
- 6.Planning, Resources and Institutional Improvement
- 7.Governance, Leadership and Administration

The School has formed a Steering Committee and assigned Working Groups to address these standards and to prepare the Self-Study Report

Journey to Accreditation Timeline

- Spring 2023 MSCHE Candidate for Accreditation status achieved. School transitions from NYS Board of Regents institutional accreditation to MSCE
- Fall 2023 Key school constituents attend the Self-Study Institute
- Spring 2024 Self-Study Design document developed
- Summer 2024 Self-Study Design document approved by MSCHE
- Fall 2024 Steering Committee established, and Working Groups formed
- Spring 2025 First drafts of chapters/standards developed
- Summer 2025 Work continues on Self-Study Report
- Fall 2025 MSCHE appointed Team Chair Dr. Penni Longenecker visits campus (10/9/25)
- Winter 2026 Self-Study Report and Evidence Inventory submitted to MSCHE
- Spring 2026 Evaluation Team Site Visit (3/1-4/2026)
- Summer 2026 Full MSCHE Commission meets, and accreditation decision announced