



Joint Media Release
November 30, 2020

New England Commission of Higher Education and College Unbound

At its meeting November 20, 2020, the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) voted to approve Initial Accreditation for College Unbound. College Unbound had previously been granted Candidacy Status by the Commission, meaning that they had met the Commission's criteria for Candidacy and were progressing toward accreditation within a reasonable time period. At its recent meeting, the Commission found that College Unbound had met all its Standards for Accreditation and thus granted it Initial Accreditation. The Commission noted with great appreciation the unique mission of College Unbound and commended it for its commitment to providing a program of quality higher education to students who are often left behind.

CU President Dennis Littky noted the remarkable achievement in an announcement to students, stating that "It is a testament to the hard work of the CU team, the remarkable talents of our students, and the national need for colleges that are student-ready."

"I am proud of the College Unbound administrative team for leaving no stone unturned in elevating adult learners to the highest priority of higher education. This accreditation provides us with another important credential in advancing our careers." stated CU student Shaylene Costa.

"We should never forget that students created College Unbound. They are the ones who insisted there be a college built around the needs and interests of adults, a college that recognizes their talents as active and engaged adult learners in the world," said CU Provost, Adam Bush.

The New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as a reliable authority as to the quality of education. The Commission accredits 220 degree-granting institutions in the six New England states and eleven American-style institutions in other countries.

College Unbound's mission is to reinvent the higher education experience for underserved adult learners, using a student-driven model of rigorous and engaged scholarship.

Further information may be found at:

- New England Commission of Higher Education: <https://www.neche.org>
- College Unbound: <http://www.collegeunbound.org>

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