



New England Commission of Higher Education
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Public Statement on Vermont State University

On June 16, 2023, the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE) voted to grant initial accreditation to Vermont State University (VTSU) effective July 1, 2023. The Commission first reviewed the proposal to unify three institutions in Vermont in 2021, each of which has been separately accredited by NECHE: Castleton University, Northern Vermont University (with two campuses, Lyndon and Johnson), and Vermont Technical College (also with two primary campuses, Randolph Center and Williston). Since that time, the Commission has required the Vermont State Colleges System, through numerous reports and appearances before it, to provide clear and documented evidence that the new institution would be in compliance with NECHE's *Standards for Accreditation* at the time initial accreditation would be granted. At its meeting which concluded on June 16, 2023, having had representatives from Vermont State University appear before it, the Commission found that the new institution did in fact show that it was in compliance with all nine *Standards*.

The Commission mandated a series of ongoing steps of monitoring to ensure Vermont State University continues to make the progress to which it has committed. The Commission has requested a written progress report for consideration in Fall 2023. It also put in place a focused evaluation in Fall 2024 that will include time on each of the campuses. That focused visit will be reviewed by the Commission in Spring 2025. Finally, there will be a comprehensive evaluation for Vermont State University in Spring 2027 to be reviewed by the Commission in Fall 2027.

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