

## **Policy on Joint Accreditation by Regional and Specialized Accreditors**

*(Adopted October 1964, Revised January 1978, June 2007)*

Each institution must be free to decide for itself whether or not to seek accreditation by any particular agency. If an institution desires both regional institutional accreditation and specialized program accreditation, the ACCJC may, at its discretion, collaborate with the specialized accrediting agency in arranging joint visitations or exchange of information.

A specialized institution may apply for regional accreditation through ACCJC if it meets the Commission's eligibility requirements. The institution should note that included in the eligibility requirements is the expectation that the institution defines and incorporates into all of its degree programs a substantial component of general education designed to ensure breadth of knowledge and promote intellectual inquiry. The general education component must include demonstrated competence in writing and computational skills and an introduction to some of the major areas of knowledge. General education must have comprehensive learning outcomes for the students who complete it. Degree credit for general education programs must be consistent with levels of quality and rigor appropriate to higher education.