

What is **INSTITUTIONAL** (formerly **REGIONAL**) accreditation?

Institutional/regional accreditation is the primary form of accreditation for traditional colleges and universities in the United States. There are six **regional accrediting organizations** recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) and the United States Department of Education (USDE) that provide **institutional accreditation** for institutions offering graduate degrees. Before you apply for the National Certified Counselor (NCC), check that your educational institution was institutionally accredited by one of the following agencies at the time of your graduation.



Higher Learning Commission (HLC)



Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE)



New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE)



Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU)



Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)



Western Association of Schools and Colleges Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC)