



March 1, 2024

Dr. Lisa Avery  
President  
Linn-Benton Community College  
6500 SW Pacific Blvd.  
Albany, OR 97321

Dear President Avery:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) at its meeting on January 30-February 2, 2024, concerning the Fall 2023 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness of Linn-Benton Community College.

### **Accreditation**

Reaffirm Accreditation

### **Status of Previous Recommendations Addressed in this Evaluation**

- Finding Type 1: Fall 2022 Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review - Fulfilled

### **Commendations**

The Commission commends Linn-Benton Community College for:

1. Developing useful data analysis, training, and tools that inform mission fulfillment.
2. Providing significant resources to support student achievement and success, such as the Math Café, Writing Center, Tutoring Center, and other resources.
3. Its innovative and intentional work in expanding services that support students in the enrollment, orientation, advising, and degree-planning process.
4. Intentionality in fostering innovation through support for strategic initiatives and providing resources for professional development.

### **Recommendations Substantially in Compliance but in Need of Improvement**

The Commission recommends that Linn-Benton Community College:

- Recommendation 1: Fall 2023 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Create and implement an updated strategic plan that defines future directions, is inclusive of internal and external stakeholders, and provides a unifying vision for the college community. (2020 Standard(s) 1.B.3;1.B.4)
- Recommendation 2: Fall 2023 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Establish an effective system for assessing institutional learning outcomes across all degree and certificate programs. (2020 Standard(s) 1.C.6)
- Recommendation 3: Fall 2023 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Improve decision-making and shared governance processes that allow timely and meaningful input from all stakeholders. (2020 Standard(s) 2.A.4)
- Recommendation 4: Fall 2023 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Develop effective support structures that ensure quality instruction in distance learning courses. (2020 Standard(s) 1.C.1)

### **Future Evaluations**

- Ad Hoc Report with **Virtual Visit** Spring 2024 to address Fall 2022 PRFR Report Findings due to an NWCCU oversight on the PRFR report.
  - Institutional plans and on-going processes for addressing the financial impacts of potential long-term enrollment declines. (2.E.1)

- Institutional plans to manage the long-term impacts of borrowing monies locally to fund State liabilities. (2.E.1)
  - Obtain an update on the usage of the library. (2.H.1)
- Ad Hoc Report Fall 2025
  - Recommendation 4: Fall 2023 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Substantive Change Follow-up Review Fall 2026
- Mid-Cycle Review Fall 2026
  - Recommendation 1: Fall 2023 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
  - Recommendation 2: Fall 2023 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
  - Recommendation 3: Fall 2023 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Year 6 - Standard 2 - Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review Fall 2029
- Year 7 - Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness Fall 2030

NWCCU is committed to an accreditation process that adds value to institutions while contributing to public accountability, and we thank you for your continued support of this process. If you have questions about any of the information in this letter, please contact your staff liaison, Dr. Ron Larsen, at [rlarsen@nwccu.org](mailto:rlarsen@nwccu.org).

Sincerely,



Sonny Ramaswamy  
President

cc: Dr. Ann Buchele, Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs  
 Mr. Kristin Adams, Board of Trustees Chair  
 Dr. Joyce Hammer, Deputy Executive Director SBCTC  
 Mr. Ben Cannon, Executive Director, Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission