



April 7, 2026

Susan L. Mingo
President
Washington County Community College
One College Drive
Calais, ME 04619

Dear President Mingo:

I am pleased to inform you that at its meeting on March 5, 2026, the New England Commission of Higher Education considered the report submitted by Washington County Community College and took the following action:

- that the report submitted by Washington County Community College be accepted;
- that the Spring 2029 comprehensive evaluation be confirmed.

The Commission gives the following reasons for its actions.

The report submitted by Washington County Community College was accepted because it was responsive to the issues raised by the Commission in its letter of January 16, 2025.

The Commission commends Washington County Community College (WCCC) for its:

- successful implementation of the College's online Prison Education Program (PEP) at four authorized Maine Department of Corrections (MDOC) facilities as evident from the data provided to document the positive achievement of its justice-involved students that is comparable to that of non-incarcerated distance education students in the same courses.
- future plans to enhance its Prison Education Program by adding stackable credentials and providing support to assist students through transitional and reentry advising.
- leadership in advancing the Best Interest Determination (BID) process by working with MDOC on the development of oversight materials such as a BID policy, institutional self-assessment, and student and faculty survey instruments. With a required completion date of June 14, 2026, WCCC will be responsible for providing MDOC information related to the PEP program's "faculty credentials and instructor stability, credit transferability and degree applicability, academic and career advising during and after incarceration, and the ability to continue education post-release."

The Commission expressed appreciation for the report prepared by Washington County Community College and hopes its preparation has contributed to institutional improvement. It appreciates your cooperation in the effort to provide public assurance of the quality of higher education.

Susan L. Mingo, President
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You are encouraged to share this letter with all of the institution's constituencies. It is Commission policy to inform the chairperson of the institution's governing board and the head of the system of action on its accreditation status. In a few days we will be sending a copy of this letter to Peter DelGreco and David Daigler. The institution is free to release information about the evaluation and the Commission's action to others, in accordance with the attached policy on Public Disclosure of Information about Affiliated Institutions.

If you have any questions about the Commission's action, please contact Lawrence M. Schall, President of the Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael Whelan".

Michael Whelan
Commission Chair

MW/mrc

cc: Peter DelGreco
David Daigler

Attachment: Public Disclosure of Information about Affiliated Institutions