

# Guiding Values of HLC in Support of Its Mission and Vision

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HLC has developed seven **Guiding Values** to support how HLC implements its Mission and Vision. These Guiding Values inform HLC's accreditation standards; how HLC conducts its accreditation activities in order to provide value to its members and the students served by those members; and how HLC pursues other activities and operations beyond accreditation.

#### The Mission of HLC is to:

Advance the common good through quality assurance of higher education as the leader in equitable, transformative and trusted accreditation in the service of students and member institutions.

#### The Vision of HLC is that:

HLC will be the champion of quality higher education by working proactively in support of students, institutions and their communities.

1. **Focus on Students.** Students are at the center of all HLC's activities and operations. HLC fosters positive student learning outcomes and student development, and embraces a variety of understandings of student success.
2. **Model of Integrity.** HLC models integrity in all facets of its governance and activities, in service to its membership and the public.
3. **Prominence of Institutional Mission.** HLC pursues rigorous quality assurance in a manner that emphasizes the distinctiveness and centrality of each individual institution's mission.
4. **Commitment to Peer Review.** HLC relies on representative, qualified, and objective peer review as the basis for effective quality assurance through transparent and evidence-based decision-making that provides due process for all stakeholders.
5. **Promoting Civic Engagement.** HLC is committed to promoting civic engagement, including civil discourse that encompasses the various viewpoints and perspectives that are part of a globally connected world.
6. **Partner in Innovation.** HLC evolves through continuous improvement and innovation and encourages the same from its member institutions and others.
7. **Affirmation of Shared Quality Assurance for the Public Good.** As part of the program integrity Triad, HLC is a thought leader and collaborates with the Federal government and the states in advancing higher education as a public good.