CAEP Accreditation has two entry points:

**INITIAL ACCREDITATION**

For EPPs not accredited by CAEP or its predecessors, NCATE and TEAC, at the application time

**RENEWAL OF ACCREDITATION**

For all other EPPs

**HOW IT WORKS**

Both processes require EPPs to prepare – following CAEP policies, procedures, and guidelines – an in-depth Self Study report including their assessment of the educational quality offered at the institution and their continuing efforts to improve educational quality. Trained volunteers review the EPP’s self-study, provide formative feedback and give the EPP an opportunity to submit additional information.

At the Site Review (on-site or virtual), an evaluation team gets enough information to determine if the EPP complies with all applicable CAEP standards for licensure and documents any deficiencies identified. Before the decision, the EPP is given a copy of the Site Review Report and an opportunity to respond in writing.

**EVALUATION GOALS**

These two accreditation processes are CAEP’s primary ways to evaluate an EPP’s compliance with all applicable Standards (for Initial- or Advanced-Licensure) before our Accreditation Council decides to accredit or reaccredit. CAEP uses these evaluation processes for EPPs:

- Maintain clearly specified educational objectives consistent with its mission and appropriate for the degrees and certificates awarded
- Have success in achieving stated objectives
- Maintain degree and certificate requirements that conform to commonly accepted standards

Throughout both processes, CAEP works to ensure Standards are applied consistently:

- Extensive training of all volunteers on CAEP Standards, accreditation processes, policies, and procedures
- Evaluations of volunteer performance
- Timely resolution of questions and issues that arise during reviews, including Standards interpretations
- Development and use of tools such as writing guides and evidence sufficiency guidelines
- Ongoing monitoring of how the stated mission of EPPs is respected in applying CAEP standards
Under CAEP’s Scope of Accreditation, an EPP will engage in a review of its Initial-Licensure Preparation, Advanced-Level Preparation, or both. All programs within scope are included in a review in each level of preparation. A separate accreditation decision or reaccreditation decision will be made for each level of preparation subject to review.

CAEP ACCREDITATION PROCESS TIMELINE

INITIAL-LICENSENURE PREPARATION

ADVANCED-LEVEL PREPARATION

INITIAL PROCESS

18 Months before site review
EPP and CAEP schedule site visit date
CAEP activates self-study report template

6 Months before site review
Evaluation team holds formative meeting

4 Months before site review
EPP solicit third-party comments

THE SITE REVIEW
EPP submits rejoinder

1 Month after site review report
EPP submits rejoinder

RENEWAL PROCESS

9 Months before site review
EPP submits self-study report (SSR)
EPP receives evaluation team assignment

5 Months before site review
EPP receives formative feedback report (FFR)

60 Days after FFR
EPP submits self-study addendum

1 Month after site review
EPP receives site review report

1 Month after rejoinder
Team lead submits rejoinder response