

Substantive Changes in Accredited Schools

For a variety of reasons during an accreditation cycle, a school may choose to make substantive changes in its offerings that significantly alter the status of its school. A school must initiate a substantive change procedure with NLSA if the school experiences a change in any of the following:

- Physical location of school
- Addition of or transfer of programs to new or different buildings
- Grade level configuration
- Type of school
- Change in ownership and/or control
- Change in legal status or form of control of the institution
- Opening a branch or classroom extension
- Change in established mission or objectives
- Addition of courses or programs that represent a significant departure, in terms of either the content or method of delivery, from those that were offered when NLSA most recently evaluated the institution.

School Actions Required

If a substantive change occurs in an accredited school, continuation of accredited status shall require:

- Reporting the changes, in writing, to the respective district office;
- Approval by the district office of the changes and submission of the written changes to the NLSA National Office;
- Approval of the change by the Director of NLSA and;
- A one-day onsite visit by a District Accreditation Commission representative confirming continued standard compliance.

Substantive Change Timeline

All changes should be reported, in writing, by the school within one month of the established change, to its local district office for review and submission to the National Office. The required visit by the District Accreditation Commission representative must occur within 90 days of the implementation of the change. The district is responsible to report any findings related to their visit to the NLSA National Office within two weeks of the conclusion of their visit.