



## Middle States Commission on Higher Education

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[www.msche.org](http://www.msche.org)

### STATEMENT OF ACCREDITATION STATUS

*The Statement of Accreditation Status (SAS) is the official statement of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) about each institution's current accreditation status and scope of accreditation. The SAS also provides a brief history of the actions taken by the Commission.*

<b>Institution:</b>	<b>UPR – CAYEY</b> Cayey, PR
<b>Chief Executive Officer:</b>	Dr. Glorivee Rosario Perez, Acting Dean
<b>Carnegie Classification:</b>	Baccalaureate Colleges: Arts & Sciences Focus » Four-year, medium, primarily nonresidential
<b>Control:</b>	Public
<b>Former Name(s):</b>	UPR Cayey University College (1/1/2000)
<b>Address:</b>	Antonio R. Barcelo Avenue 205 Cayey, PR 00736
<b>Phone:</b>	(787) 738-2161
<b>URL:</b>	<a href="http://www.cayey.upr.edu">www.cayey.upr.edu</a>
<b>Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO):</b>	Dr. Jose Molina Cotto
<b>Commission Staff Liaison:</b>	Dr. Hilda Colon Plumey, Vice President

## Accreditation Summary

*For more information, see the Commission's [Accreditation Actions Policy and Procedures](#).*

**Phase:** Accredited

**Status:** Accreditation Reaffirmed

**Accreditation Granted:** 1967

**Last Reaffirmation:** 2019

**Next Self-Study Evaluation:** 2025-2026

**Next Mid-Point Peer Review:** 2022

## Alternative Delivery Methods

*The following represents approved alternative delivery methods included in the scope of the institution's accreditation:*

### **Distance Education**

Not approved for this delivery method

### **Correspondence Education**

Not approved for this delivery method

## Credential Levels

### ☑ Approved Credential Levels

*The following represents credential levels included in the scope of the institution's accreditation:*

- **Associate's Degree or Equivalent**
- **Bachelor's Degree or Equivalent**

<b>Locations</b>
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*The following represents branch campuses, additional locations, and other instructional sites that are included within the scope of the institution's accreditation:*

<b>Location</b>	<b>Type</b>
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*Definitions: For definitions of branch campus, additional locations, or other instructional sites, see the **Commission's Substantive Change Policy and Procedures**.*

## Accreditation Actions

*The following represents the MSCHE accreditation actions taken in the last ten (10) years. For more information, see the Commission's Accreditation Actions Policy and Procedures and the Substantive Change Policy and Procedures.*

- November 21, 2019** To acknowledge receipt of the supplemental information report. To note the institution's obligation to inform the Commission on the status of any investigations conducted by the institution or by state, federal, or other government agencies related to the Commission action of May 24, 2019. To note that copies of the report(s) that follow from any of these investigations must be submitted to the Commission within 10 calendar days of their completion. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2025-2026.
- October 8, 2019** To note that the Commission acted on June 27, 2019 and the Teach-Out Plan that was due September 1, 2019 is no longer required.
- October 8, 2019** To note that the Commission acted on June 27, 2019 and the Show Cause Report that was due September 1, 2019 is no longer required.
- June 27, 2019** To note the visit by the Commission's representatives.
- June 27, 2019** To acknowledge receipt of the supplemental information report. To reaffirm accreditation because the institution is now in compliance with Standard VI (Planning, Resources, and Institutional Improvement) and Requirement of Affiliation 11. To request a monitoring report due, March 16, 2020, in lieu of the show cause report due September 1, 2019, demonstrating further evidence of sustainability of implemented corrective measures, including but not limited to: (1) improvements in the institution's annual closing processes and implementation of effective monitoring controls over financial information (Standard VI); (2) the development of multi-year financial plans for the institution that produce balanced budgets, including appropriate revenue assumptions (Standard VI); (3) management of financial reporting that provides for reliable financial data at the institutional level (Standard VI); (4) submission of the 2019 annual audits (Standard VI and Requirement of Affiliation 11); and (5) the planning and implementation of restructuring for sustainability (Standard VI). To note that a teach-out plan will no longer be required. To direct a follow-up team visit following submission of the monitoring report. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2025-2026.

**May 24, 2019**

Staff acted on behalf of the Commission to request a supplemental information report, due September 1, 2019, addressing recent developments at the institution which may have implications for compliance with Standard II: Ethics and Integrity.

**March 14, 2019**

To acknowledge receipt of the show cause report. To note the visit by the Commission's representatives. To require the institution to continue to show cause by September 1, 2019, to demonstrate why its accreditation should not be withdrawn because of insufficient evidence that the institution is in compliance with Standard VI (Planning, Resources, and Institutional Improvement) and Requirement of Affiliation 11. To note the institution is now in compliance with Requirement of Affiliation 14 and the Related Entities Policy. To grant an extension for good cause to extend the period to demonstrate compliance by one year because the institution has provided written and compelling evidence that: (1) the quality of the student learning experience has not been compromised at the institution; (2) the institution has the potential to remedy the non-compliance issues identified by the Commission within the period of extension; (3) the institution has developed reasonable plans to meet the Commission's expectations for reaffirmation within the period of the extension; (4) the institution has support from the University of Puerto Rico central administration, the Financial Oversight Management Board for Puerto Rico, and other constituencies for ongoing institutional compliance; and (5) the institution has been impacted by other circumstances outside of the institution's control. To note the institution remains accredited while on show cause. To require a show cause report due September 1, 2019, documenting evidence of the submission of timely and accurate financial audits (Standard VI and Requirement of Affiliation 11). The show cause report must also include evidence of: (1) how the institution has improved its annual closing processes and implemented effective monitoring controls over financial information, (2) the development of multi-year financial plans that produce balanced budgets, including appropriate revenue assumptions; (3) management of financial reporting that provides for the timely completion of annual audits, and (4) the planning and implementation of restructuring for sustainability (Standard VI and Related Entities Policy). To direct an on-site show cause visit following submission of the report. The purpose of the on-site show cause visit is to verify the information provided in the show cause report and the institution's ongoing and sustainable compliance with the Commission's standards, requirements, policies and procedures, and federal compliance requirements. To direct a prompt Commission liaison guidance visit to discuss the Commission's expectations. To note that the institution will be invited to appear before the

Commission when it meets to consider the institution's show cause report. To require a supplemental information report due May 1, 2019, documenting evidence of (1) the single audit and audited financial statements for fiscal year 2018, and (2) submission of the 2018 single audit and audited financial statements to the Commission, United States Department of Education, and other parties as required by regulation and/or law (Standard VI and Requirement of Affiliation 11). To remind the institution and the related entity of its obligation to provide timely and accurate financial audits. The date of the next evaluation will be determined upon reaffirmation of accreditation.

**March 14, 2019**

To acknowledge receipt of the teach-out plan. To require that the institution complete and submit for approval, due September 1, 2019, an updated comprehensive, implementable teach-out plan (Requirement of Affiliation 6: Teach-Out Plans and Agreements Policy and Procedures). In accordance with Commission policy and federal regulations, the teach-out plan must provide for the equitable treatment of students to complete their education, if the Commission were to withdraw accreditation, and include any signed, teach-out agreements that the institution has entered into or intends to enter into with another institution.

**January 11, 2019**

To acknowledge receipt of the supplemental information report. To note that the report did not provide the requested evidence and was not conducive to Commission review. To require the institution to show cause, by January 25, 2019, to demonstrate why its accreditation should not be withdrawn because of insufficient evidence that the institution is in compliance with Standard VI (Planning, Resources, and Institutional Improvement), Requirements of Affiliation 11 and 14, and the Related Entities Policy. To note that the institution remains accredited while on show cause. To note further that federal regulations limit the period during which an institution may be in non-compliance to two years. To require a show cause report, due January 25, 2019, documenting evidence that the institution has achieved and can sustain ongoing compliance with the Commission's standards, requirements, policies and procedures, and federal compliance requirements. The show cause report must include evidence of (1) documented financial resources, funding base, and plans for financial development adequate to support its educational purposes and programs and to ensure financial stability (Standard VI and Requirement of Affiliation 11); (2) updated information on the impact of the Fiscal Oversight Management Board's plan and proposed restructuring on the institution's status and finances (Standard VI); (3) an annual independent audit confirming financial viability with evidence of follow-up on any concerns cited in the

audit's accompanying management letter (Standard VI); (4) a record of responsible fiscal management, has a prepared budget for the current year, and undergoes an external financial audit on an annual basis (Standard VI and Requirement of Affiliation 11); and (5) certification by the related entity that it recognizes the Commission's compliance requirements and will ensure that responsibilities of the related entity are fulfilled, including making freely available to the Commission accurate, fair, and complete information through disclosure of information required by the Commission to carry out its accrediting responsibilities (Related Entities Policy; Requirement of Affiliation 14). To require that the institution complete and submit for approval, by January 25, 2019, a comprehensive, implementable teach-out plan (Teach-Out Plans and Agreements Policy and Procedures). In accordance with Commission policy and federal regulations, the teach-out plan must provide for the equitable treatment of students to complete their education, if the Commission were to withdraw accreditation, and include any signed, teach-out agreements that the institution has entered into or intends to enter into with another institution. To direct an on-site show cause visit following submission of the report. The purpose of the on-site show cause visit is to verify the information provided in the show cause report and the institution's ongoing and sustainable compliance with the Commission's standards, requirements, policies and procedures, and federal compliance requirements. To direct a prompt Commission liaison guidance visit to discuss the Commission's expectations. To note that the institution will be invited to appear before the Commission when it meets to consider the institution's show cause report. The date of the next evaluation will be determined upon reaffirmation of accreditation.

**November 15, 2018**

To acknowledge receipt of the supplemental information report. To note the visit by the Commission representatives. To postpone a decision on accreditation pending receipt of annual audited financial statement and single audit. To remind the institution of the Commission's June 21, 2018 action continuing the institution's probation because of insufficient evidence that the institution is in compliance with Standard VI (Planning, Resources, and Institutional Improvement) and Requirement of Affiliation 11. To note that the institution remains accredited while on probation. To remind the institution that federal regulations limit the period during which an institution may be in non-compliance to two years. To request a supplemental information report due January 2, 2019, providing the audited financial statement and single audit for June 30th, 2017. The date of the next evaluation will be determined upon reaffirmation of accreditation.

**June 21, 2018**

To accept the supplemental information report of March 2018, the monitoring report of September 2017, and the self-study report. To note the visit from the Commission representatives. To note that the institution is now in compliance with Requirement of Affiliation 2, formerly Requirement of Affiliation 3. To postpone a decision on reaffirmation and remind the institution that it remains on probation because of insufficient evidence that the institution is currently in compliance with Standard VI (Planning, Resources, and Institutional Improvement) and Requirement of Affiliation 11. To note that the institution remains accredited while on probation. To remind the institution that federal regulations limit the period during which an institution may be in non-compliance to two years. To request a supplemental information report due September 1, 2018 documenting evidence that the institutions has achieved and can sustain ongoing compliance with Standard VI and Requirement of Affiliation 11, including but not limited to (1) evidence that the institution has documented financial resources, funding base, and plans for financial development adequate to support its educational purposes and programs and to ensure financial stability; (2) updated information on the impact of the Fiscal Oversight Management Board's plan and proposed restructuring on the institution's status and finances (Standard VI); and (3) evidence that the institution demonstrates a record of responsible fiscal management, has a prepared budget for the current year, and undergoes an external financial audit on an annual basis (Standard VI and Requirement of Affiliation 11). A small team visit will follow submission of the report. Upon reaffirmation of accreditation, the date of the next evaluation visit is 2025-2026.

**February 15, 2018**

To accept the supplemental information report. To postpone a decision on reaffirmation. To remind the institution of the Commission's May 18, 2017 action placing the institution on probation because of insufficient evidence that the institution is currently in compliance with Requirements of Affiliation 3 and 8 and Standard 3. To note that the institution remains accredited while on probation. To request a supplemental information report, due March 15, 2018, regarding the status of the institution. A small team visit will follow submission of the report. To note that the monitoring report submitted in September 2017 will be acted upon at the June Commission meeting. To also note that the decennial evaluation visit has been conducted and will now be acted upon by the Commission at its June meeting. Upon reaffirmation of accreditation, the next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2025-2026.

**October 19, 2017**

To request a supplemental information report due, December 1, 2017, regarding the status of the institution. To note the visit by the Commission's

representatives and to note that the monitoring report has been received and will be acted on at the March Commission meeting. To also note that the decennial evaluation visit has been conducted and will now be acted upon by the Commission at its meeting in March.

**June 22, 2017**

To note that the Executive Committee of the Commission placed the institution on probation on May 18, 2017, and requested a monitoring report due September 1, 2017, followed by a small team visit. To also note that the decennial evaluation visit has been conducted, and will be acted upon by the Commission at its meeting in November.

**May 18, 2017**

To accept the Supplemental Information Report. To place the institution on probation because of insufficient evidence that the institution is currently in compliance with Requirements of Affiliation 3 (institution is operational, with students actively pursuing its degree programs) and 8 (documented financial resources, funding base, and plans for financial development adequate to support its educational purposes and programs and to assure financial stability), and with Standard 3 (Institutional Resources). To note that the institution remains accredited while on probation. To request a monitoring report, due September 1, 2017, documenting evidence that the institution has achieved and can sustain compliance with Requirements of Affiliation 3 and 8 and Standard 3, including but not limited to (1) the institution is operational, with students actively pursuing its degree programs (Requirement of Affiliation 3) and (2) the institution has documented financial resources, funding base, and plans for financial development adequate to support its educational purposes and programs and to assure financial stability (Requirement of Affiliation 8 and Standard 3). A small team visit will follow submission of the report. To direct a prompt liaison guidance consultation to discuss the Commission's expectations. To remind the institution of its obligation to inform the Commission about any and all significant developments relevant to this action, including developments relevant to Title IV program responsibilities. To note that the evaluation visit has occurred and will be acted upon by the Commission at the June meeting. Upon reaffirmation of accreditation, the next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2025-2026.

**May 2, 2017**

Staff acted on behalf of the Commission to request a supplemental information report, due May 5, 2017, addressing concerns regarding recent developments at the institution which may have implications for current and future compliance with Requirements of Affiliation, Standards, or Commission Policies.

**July 23, 2014**

To grant the institution a one-year extension on the self-study. The self-study year will now be 2016-2017 with an evaluation team visit occurring during the fall semester 2016 or the spring semester 2017.

**June 26, 2014**

To accept the monitoring report. To remind the institution of its obligation to ensure timely production of audited financial statements. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2015-2016.

**November 21, 2013**

To accept the supplemental information report. To request a monitoring report, due April 1, 2014, documenting evidence of an independent audit for FY2013, with evidence of follow-up on any concerns cited in the audit's accompanying management letter for both FY2012 and FY2013 (Standard 3). To remind the institution of its obligation to ensure timely production of audited financial statements. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2015-2016.

**June 25, 2013**

To note that an extension has been granted for the submission of a supplemental information report that addresses the impact on institutional leadership of the recent changes in governance and administration, and actions planned or taken by the University to ensure ongoing compliance with Standards 4, 5 and 6. The supplemental information report is now due August 1, 2013. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2015-2016.

**June 13, 2013**

To request, in accordance with the Commission's policy on Public Communication in the Accrediting Process, a supplemental information report, due July 10, 2013, that addresses the impact on institutional leadership of the recent changes in governance and administration, and actions planned or taken by the University to ensure ongoing compliance with Standards 4, 5 and 6. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2015-2016.

**June 28, 2012**

To accept the monitoring report. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2015-2016.

**November 17, 2011**

To accept the monitoring report, to note the visit by the Commission's representatives, to remove probation, and to reaffirm accreditation. To remind the institution that a monitoring report is due March 1, 2012 documenting further progress in (1) strengthening institutional resources and developing alternative forms of income, including institutional pro-forma budgets that demonstrate the institution's ability to generate a balanced budget for fiscal years 2012 through 2014, including the personnel, compensation, and other assumptions on which these budgets are based (Standard 3); (2) steps taken to

ensure timely production of audited financial statements for FY 2011 and subsequent years (Standard 3); (3) further steps taken to improve communication and shared governance, especially in documenting how campus input is solicited and considered in decision making at the System level; (4) evidence of further implementation of the UPR Action Plan, including evidence that the action plan is being assessed and data are used for improvements; (5) evidence that steps have been taken to assure continuity and stability of institutional leadership, particularly in times of governmental transitions; (6) evidence that communication between the Central Administration and the institution, is clear, timely, accurate, and made available to all constituents; and (7) evidence of further progress in implementing a procedure for the periodic objective assessment of the Board of Trustees (Standard 4). A visit may follow submission of the monitoring report. The next evaluation visit is scheduled for 2015-2016.

### **June 23, 2011**

To accept the monitoring report, to note that a small team visit took place, and to note that the institution is in compliance with Standard 3 (Institutional Resources) and Standard 4 (Governance). To continue probation because of insufficient evidence that the institution is currently in compliance with Standard 7 (Institutional Assessment) and Standard 14 (Assessment of Student Learning) based on the Periodic Review Report. Compliance with Standard 7 and 14 were not reviewed at this visit and will be reviewed after submission of the September 1, 2011 report. To note that the institution remains accredited while on probation. To remind the institution that a monitoring report is due September 1, 2011, documenting evidence of compliance with Standards 7 and 14, including but not limited to implementation of a comprehensive, organized, and sustained process for the assessment of institutional effectiveness with evidence that assessment information is used in budgeting, planning, and allocating resources at the institutional level and in all departments (Standard 7); and (2) implementation of an organized and sustained assessment process to evaluate and improve student learning, including evidence of direct and indirect methods of assessment at the course and program level and evidence that assessment results are used to improve teaching and learning (Standard 14). A small team visit will follow submission of the September 1, 2011 report. To further request a monitoring report due by March 1, 2012 documenting further progress in (1) strengthening institutional resources and developing alternative forms of income, including institutional pro-forma budgets that demonstrate the institution's ability to generate a balanced budget for fiscal years 2012 through 2014, including the personnel, compensation, and other assumptions on which these budgets are based (Standard 3); (2) steps taken to ensure timely

production of audited financial statements for FY 2011 and subsequent years (Standard 3); (3) further steps taken to improve communication and shared governance, especially in documenting how campus input is solicited and considered in decision making at the System level; (4) evidence of further implementation of the UPR Action Plan, including evidence that the action plan is being assessed and data is used for improvements; (5) evidence that steps have been taken to assure continuity and stability of institutional leadership, particularly in times of governmental transitions; (6) evidence that communication between the Central Administration and the institution, is clear, timely, accurate, and made available to all constituents; and (7) evidence of further progress in implementing a procedure for the periodic objective assessment of the Board of Trustees (Standard 4). The next evaluation visit will be set when accreditation is reaffirmed.

### **November 18, 2010**

To note that the Commission liaison guidance visit took place. To document receipt of the monitoring report and to note the visit by the Commission's representatives. To document receipt of the Periodic Review Report and note that the report was of insufficient quality, necessitated extraordinary effort by the Commission's representatives and staff conducting the review, provided insufficient information in English as required by Requirement of Affiliation 3, and provided limited information on Standard 3. To continue the institution's probation due to a lack of evidence that the institution is in compliance with Standard 3 (Institutional Resources) and Standard 4 (Leadership and Governance). In addition, there is a lack of evidence that the institution is in compliance with Standards 7 (Institutional Assessment) and Standard 14 (Assessment of Student Learning) based on the Periodic Review Report. To request a monitoring report due by March 1, 2011, documenting evidence that the institution has achieved and can sustain ongoing compliance with Standards 3 and 4, including, but not limited to (1) five-year financial projections for the UPR System including information from audited financial statements for fiscal year 2010; (2) institutional pro-forma budgets that demonstrate the institution's ability to generate a balanced budget for fiscal years 2012 through 2015, including the personnel, compensation, and other assumptions on which these budgets are based (Standard 3); (3) evidence of implementation of clear institutional policies specifying the respective authority of the different governance bodies and their respective roles and responsibilities in shared governance; (4) evidence that the Board of Trustees assists in generating resources needed to sustain and improve the institution; (5) evidence of a procedure in place for the periodic objective assessment of the Board of Trustees in meeting stated governing body objectives and responsibilities; (6)

evidence that steps have been taken to assure continuity and stability of institutional leadership, particularly in times of governmental transition; (7) evidence that the UPR Action Plan is implemented, that it is assessed, and the data are used for continuous improvement of the institution's processes; (8) evidence that steps have been taken to improve shared governance, especially in documenting how campus input is solicited and considered in decision making at the System level; and (9) evidence that communication between the Central Administration and the institution and within the institution, is clear, timely, and accurate, and that the sources of such communications are clearly defined and made available to all constituents (Standard 4). An on-site evaluation will follow submission of the March 1, 2011 monitoring report. To further request a monitoring report due September 1, 2011, documenting evidence of compliance with Standards 7 and 14, including but not limited to implementation of a comprehensive, organized, and sustained process for the assessment of institutional effectiveness with evidence that assessment information is used in budgeting, planning, and allocating resources at the institutional level and in all departments (Standard 7); and (2) implementation of an organized and sustained assessment process to evaluate and improve student learning, including evidence of direct and indirect methods of assessment at the course and program level and evidence that assessment results are used to improve teaching and learning (Standard 14). A small team visit will follow submission of the September 1, 2011 report. To note that the institution remains accredited while on probation.

### **June 24, 2010**

To note receipt of the voluntary information report. To place the institution on probation because of a lack of evidence that the institution is in compliance with Standard 4 (Leadership and Governance) and Standard 11 (Educational Offerings). To request a monitoring report due by September 1, 2010, documenting evidence that the institution has achieved and can sustain ongoing compliance with (1) Standard 4 (Leadership and Governance), including but not limited to the development and implementation of clear institutional policies specifying the respective authority of the different governance bodies and their respective roles and responsibilities in shared governance; and (2) Standard 11 (Educational Offerings), including but not limited to a plan for assuring the rigor, continuity, and length of courses affected by the institution's closure. In addition, the report should document evidence of the development and/or implementation of a long-term financial plan, including steps taken to improve the institution's finances and the development of alternative funding sources (Standard 3). An on-site evaluation will follow submission of the report. The purpose of the on-site evaluation is to verify the information

provided in the monitoring report and the institution's ongoing and sustainable compliance with the Commission's accreditation standards. To further direct a prompt Commission liaison guidance visit to discuss the Commission's expectations for reporting. To note that the institution remains accredited while on probation. To note that the Periodic Review Report due June 1, 2010 was received and will be acted upon by the Commission in November.

## Information about the Middle States Commission on Higher Education

*The Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) is one of seven regional accrediting organizations in the United States and is recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). MSCHE is an institutional accreditor. Therefore, MSCHE examines and reaffirms accreditation for each of its member institutions as a whole rather than the specific programs within the institution. MSCHE does not approve individual programs. MSCHE accreditation does not expire but is reevaluated and monitored on a regular and consistent basis in accordance with the institution's assigned accreditation review cycle.*