Accreditation Assessment Considerations



Please note this is not an exhaustive listing. However, a guide to assist with planning, please contact the AASW Accreditation team when planning any change to your social work programs.

Accred	itation Descriptor	Assessment Process Requirement	
New Program Delivery			
a)	New Provider & new course	Application and 1.5 - day site visit	
	(Provisional Review)	(2 Member Panel)	
b)	Existing Provider & new course	Application and 2-day site visit	
	(New Course will be Provisional)	(3 Member panel)	
c)	Existing Provider existing accredited course	Application and desktop review	
	added to dual degree	(scale will depend on submission details)	
Reaccreditation (Existing Providers)			
d)	One program	Application and 2-day site visit	
		(3 Member Panel)	
e)	Two or more programs	Application and 3-day site visit	
		(3 Member Panel)	
Program Expansions (Existing Providers)			
f)	Addition of online delivery for existing	Application and desktop review	
	accredited course		
g)	Existing accredited online program delivery	Application and potential 1- or 2-day site visit	
	and adding face-to-face delivery for same	(dependent on submission scale)	
	program		
h)	Additional new delivery location to existing	Application and desktop review and/or potential site visit	
-	accredited program.	(Dependent on how resources are being coordinated,	
(Provider can not see expansion of course until full		centrally or whole new team)	
accreditation is granted.)			
i)	Significant restructure of existing accredited	Application and desktop review	
	program	(scale will depend on submission details)	
	(Change may be noted through the Annual		
	Report & Provider contacted by AASW)		
j)	Expansion (new delivery method or	Application and desktop review	
	location) is not of provisional status and the	(scale will depend on submission details)	
	program must have no conditions placed on		
	it.		

For Program Expansions (Discussion to take place with AASW Accreditation Team)

The AASW advises that for accreditation purposes, a formal submission containing further information about the proposed expanded Program or notification of change is required. (j above)

The program looking to be expanded should have no conditions placed on its accreditation status and not be within provisional status, it should have completed at least the initial cohort.

This is consistent with other ASWEAS review precedents. This submission will be reviewed by members of the AASW Accreditation Assessment Panel, with a recommendation to be presented to the AASW Accreditation Council.

Following discussion with the Accreditation team it may not require a full review of existing program and curriculum where expansion/change is to occur, rather specific information about the expansion/change is requested. AASW will provide the Panel with the last submitted annual report(s) and last accreditation review report to assist with decision making.

It is required that the submission for expansion include the following information:

- 1. Background information about the program such as locations, school design and student numbers.
- 2. Rationale for expansion.
- 3. Projected timing plans for roll-out, and projected student numbers.
- Plans for staffing and social work EFT, across the full SW program across proposed against the ASWFAS.
- 5. Information about teaching and shared modes of teaching across campus locations etc.
- 6. Planning and support for Field Education.

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- 7. Plans for governance and course coordination.
- 8. Information about teaching and learning facilities.
- 9. Any other relevant information i.e. proposed new MSW(Q)

This submission can be presented on Provider Letterhead. Use of a particular AASW report template is not required. An accreditation review fee will be payable for this review. This will be contained in a contract and invoiced to the Provider.

Notification of Change (Existing Provider)	Assessment Process Requirement
Change to program offering	Application and desktop review
	Depending on the size and details of the change the
	convening of an Accreditation Assessment Panel may
	be required.

The AASW supports continuous quality improvement and realises that over an accreditation period a program is likely to undergo change. Higher Education Providers are requested to notify the Accreditation team either through the Annual Report (each December) or earlier within the year if significant change has occurred. The AASW is to be immediately notified by the Provider if the TEQSA or another regulator proposes or commences as investigation, implementation of conditions or changes the Provider accreditation status.

Suggested other significant changes which should be noted, and which have occurred since your previous accreditation review include (but are not limited to):

- Change to course structure.
- Introduction of new units of study since your last accreditation cycle or replace units submitted within the previous course accreditation.
- Change to course objectives, duration, format, structure, or delivery mode.
- Addition of an existing accredited course to a dual degree.
- Additional new location for delivery.
- Change to academic staff delivery team or SWAOU or governance or organisational structure within the provider.
- Course/unit codes or names.
- If a course is moving to or has moved to teach out status. (If so, please provide a teach out plan)
- Field Education changes to structure, governance, and arrangements of the Field Education component of program delivery.

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