



TAPAC
Textile and Apparel Programs Accreditation Commission

TAPAC—Opportunity for Accreditation!

As 2018 begins we encourage you to have your program become part of the Textile and Apparel Programs Accreditation Commission (TAPAC). TAPAC's mission is to provide quality assessment and quality enhancement of programs in textiles, apparel and related areas. TAPAC has established standards for the recognition of programs and will review program characteristics and performance against these established standards.

The first step in the process is for your program to become a **TAPAC Affiliate Program Member** which will give your program a seat at the table to help shape the future of the accreditation commission and the textile and apparel discipline. We currently have 16 Affiliate Program members! (See <http://itaaonline.org/mpage/TAPAC11> for the Affiliate Program Member Application Form and <http://itaaonline.org/mpage/TAPAC18> for a list of the current Affiliate Program Members.)

The **Accreditation process** includes the following components:

1. **Establishment of Eligibility** –Submission of Eligibility Application Form (<http://itaaonline.org/mpage/TAPAC14>) and \$1,500 Eligibility Application Fee; approval by TAPAC Executive Director.
2. **Submission of Programmatic Self-Study Report and the Self-Study Administrative Fee** (\$3,000) plus \$1,000/Accreditation Review Team member to pay travel-related expenses to and from the site visit. Upon approval of program eligibility, the TAPAC Board of Commissioners (BOC) will determine the number of Accreditation Review Team members. Typically, the Accreditation Review Team will consist of three members, though larger programs with multiple locations may require additional team members.
3. **Accreditation Review Team Site Visit.** The Self-Study Report and Self-Study Administrative Fee must be submitted by June 1 for Fall Site Visits; by October 1 for Spring Accreditation Review Site Visits. In consultation with the Accreditation Review Team Chair, the program determines the dates for the Accreditation Team Site Visit. Site visits typically will be scheduled for two full days, with the team arriving the evening before the site visit begins. The Accreditation Review Team will provide a summary report to the program before departure, with a final report submitted to the program and to the TAPAC office within 30 days of the site visit. The program pays all Accreditation Team Member expenses while the team is on campus.

4. **Review and Decision by TAPAC BOC.** At its semi-annual meetings, the BOC reviews the program's self-study and the Accreditation Review Team's Final Accreditation Report. The BOC then makes its determination of Accreditation Approved, Provisional Status, or Accreditation Denied.

For more information about Textile and Apparel Program Accreditation, contact Dr. Carol Warfield, TAPAC Executive Director, cwarfield@tapac-online.org or <http://itaaonline.org/mpage/TAPAC15>