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## Introduction

Lincoln Memorial University (LMU), in keeping with Standard 14.4 of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) *Principles of Accreditation* and Federal Code §602.28, has provided the material contained herein for descriptive purposes only. This document is to be provided as a primary component of official correspondence between LMU and United States Department of Education- (ED-) recognized accrediting agencies. The Office of Institutional Effectiveness at LMU archives this document on its website at <https://www.lmunet.edu/institutional-effectiveness/accreditation-and-state-authorization> in order to facilitate its use by the various academic Schools/Colleges of the University. Additionally, the Office of Institutional Effectiveness annually reviews this document to ensure its accuracy. LMU intends for this document to describe the Institution in identical terms to each agency with regard to the areas stated below.

## Institutional Accreditation

Lincoln Memorial University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award associate, baccalaureate, masters, educational specialist, and doctorate degrees. Lincoln Memorial University also may offer credentials such as certificates and diplomas at approved degree levels. Questions about the accreditation of Lincoln Memorial University may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097, by calling (404) 679-4500, or by using information available on SACSCOC's website ([www.sacscoc.org](http://www.sacscoc.org)).

## Heritage and Mission

### Heritage

Lincoln Memorial University grew out of love and respect for Abraham Lincoln and today honors his name, values, and spirit. As the legend goes, in 1863 Lincoln commented to General O. O. Howard, a Union officer, that when the Civil War ended, he hoped General Howard would do something for the people of this area.

In the late 1800s, Colonel A. A. Arthur, an organizing agent of an English company, purchased the area where LMU is located. His company built a hotel of 700 rooms called "The Four Seasons," as well as a hospital, an inn, a sanitarium, and other smaller buildings. Roads were laid and the grounds planted with a wide variety of shrubs and trees. In 1895, the company was forced to abandon its project when a financial panic swept England.

Reverend A. A. Myers, a Congregationalist minister, came to the Cumberland Gap in 1888. He succeeded in opening the Harrow School, established for the purpose of providing elementary education to mountain children.

On a visit to the area to give a series of lectures at the Harrow School, General O. O. Howard remembered his commitment to fulfill Lincoln's request, and he joined Reverend Myers, M. F. Overton, C. F. Eager, A. B. Kesterson and M. Arthur in establishing Lincoln Memorial University.

That group, along with Robert F. Patterson, a Confederate veteran, became a board of directors and purchased The Four Seasons property. In commemoration of Lincoln's birthday, the institution was chartered by the State of Tennessee on February 12, 1897, as Lincoln Memorial University.

Throughout the years, many thousands of LMU alumni have entered careers in medicine, law, and education. LMU graduates have positively impacted the educational opportunities, economic expansion, and health of countless communities in the Appalachian region and beyond.

LMU's strong heritage has propelled the growth of the University over the last decade, leading to the addition of professional schools/colleges: the DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine (DCOM), the Duncan School of Law (DSOL), the College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM), the School of Medical Sciences (SMS), and the College of Dental Medicine (CDM). Additionally, LMU has experienced growth at every degree level across the board.

If you would like to read more about LMU's beginnings during the turbulent era of the Civil War, it is a fascinating historical study. Download this PDF: <https://www.lmunet.edu/about-lmu/documents/HOWARD.pdf>.

### **Mission and Purpose**

Lincoln Memorial University is a comprehensive, values-based learning community dedicated to providing quality educational experiences at the undergraduate, graduate, and professional levels. The University strives to give students a foundation for a more productive life by upholding the principles of Abraham Lincoln's life: a dedication to individual liberty, responsibility, and improvement; a respect for citizenship; recognition of the intrinsic value of high moral and ethical standards; and a belief in a personal God.

While primarily committed to teaching, the University supports research and service. The University's curriculum and commitment to quality instruction at every level are based on the beliefs that graduates must be able to communicate clearly and effectively in an era of rapidly and continuously expanding communication technology, must have an appreciable depth of learning in a field of knowledge, must appreciate and understand the various ways by which we come to know ourselves and the world around us, and must be able to exercise informed judgments.

The University believes that one of the major cornerstones of meaningful existence is service to humanity. By making educational, service, and research opportunities available to students, Lincoln Memorial University seeks to improve life for the students it serves. While serving students from throughout the state, nation, and many other countries, the University retains a commitment to enrich the lives of people and communities in the Appalachian region.

*Reviewed and reaffirmed by the LMU Board of Trustees on April 25, 2025.*

### **Governance**

Lincoln Memorial University is a private, non-profit institution controlled by a self-perpetuating Board of Trustees. Board members are elected on the basis of commitment to the programs and purposes of Lincoln Memorial University. Board members receive no remuneration from the University, but work on its behalf. The Board establishes the broad guidelines of philosophy

and institutional purpose and names the President to carry out their guidelines.

## Degree Programs

LMU offers a relevant curriculum for the 21st century in business, humanities, arts and sciences, education, and health professions. The quality liberal arts and sciences programs offer students a broad preparation for selected majors and programs of professional study. LMU offers associate, baccalaureate, masters, educational specialist, and doctorate degrees. LMU also offers graduate certificate programs. Many LMU programs also offer concentrations within programs; therefore, programs with multiple concentrations will have multiple appropriate CIP codes to identify specific concentration disciplines.

Program	CIP Code(s)
Associate of Business Administration (ABA)	52.0201
Associate of Science (AS) in Dental Hygiene	51.0602
AS in Veterinary Medical Technology	1.8301
Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN)	51.3801
Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Art	50.0703
BA in Business	52.0201
BA in English	23.0101
BA in History	54.0101
BA in Political Science	45.1001
Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)	52.0201
Bachelor of Science (BS) in Biology	26.0101
BS in Chemistry	40.0501
BS in Civil Engineering	14.0801
BS in Communication and Media	9.0199
BS in Computer Science	11.0701
BS in Conservation Biology	26.1307
BS in Criminology and Criminal Justice	43.0103
BS in Education	13.1202 13.1001
BS in Exercise Science	31.0505
BS in Exercise and Rehabilitation Science	31.0505
BS in Mathematics	27.0101
BS in Mechanical Engineering	14.1901
BS in Medical Laboratory Science	51.1005
BS in Psychology	42.0101
BS in Social Work	44.0701
BS in Veterinary Health Industry	1.9999
BS in Veterinary Health Science	1.1302
BS in Veterinary Medical Technology	1.8301
Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)	51.3801
Master of Business Administration (MBA)	52.0201
Master of Education (MEd)	13.0401
MEd in Initial Teacher Licensure	13.1202 13.1001

MEd in Professional Counseling	51.1508 13.1101
Master of Medical Science (MMS) in Physician Assistant Studies	51.0912
Master of Public Administration (MPA)	44.0401
Master of Science (MS) in Anatomical Sciences	26.0403
MS in Biomedical Sciences	26.9999
MS in Business Analytics	30.7102
MS in Criminal Justice	43.0103
MS in Life Science Research	26.9999
MS in Psychology	42.0101
MS in Veterinary Biomedical Science	1.8101
Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)	51.3805 51.3810 51.3802
Master of Veterinary Education (MVEd)	13.1214
Master of Veterinary Clinical Care (MVCC)	1.8399
Educational Specialist (EdS)	13.0401 51.1508
Doctor of Business Administration (DBA)	52.0201
Doctor of Education (EdD)	13.0404
Doctor of Jurisprudence (JD)	22.0101
Doctor of Medical Science (DMS) in Clinical Medicine	51.0912
DMS in Medical Education	51.0912
Doctor of Medicine in Dentistry (DMD)	51.0401
Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)	51.3818 51.3804
Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD)	51.2306
Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO)	51.1202
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Anatomical Education	26.0403
PhD in Business Administration	52.0201
PhD in Veterinary Biomedical Science	1.8101
Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT)	51.2308
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM)	1.8001
Graduate Certificate in Applied Artificial Intelligence	52.0201
Graduate Certificate in Equine Veterinary Medicine	1.8001
Graduate Certificate in Nursing Administration	51.3802
Graduate Certificate in Teaching Adults in Higher Education	13.1214
Graduate Certificate in Veterinary Education	13.1214

## Personnel

Lincoln Memorial University is an Equal Opportunity educational institution. In support of its Mission Statement, LMU is committed to equal opportunity in recruitment, admission, and retention for all students and equal opportunity in recruitment, hiring, training, promotion, and retention for all employees. In furtherance of this commitment, Lincoln Memorial University prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, veteran status, military status, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, gender, gender identity, gender expression, and genetic information in all University programs and activities. Lincoln Memorial University prohibits retaliation against any individual for 1) filing, or encouraging someone to file, a complaint of discrimination; 2) participating in an investigation of discrimination; or 3) opposing discrimination. "Retaliation" includes any adverse action or act of revenge against an individual for filing or encouraging someone to file a complaint of discrimination, participating in an investigation of discrimination, or opposing discrimination. The Office of Institutional Compliance investigates allegations of prohibited discrimination, harassment, and retaliation involving members of the LMU community.

This policy is widely disseminated in University publications, including the employee handbook and all LMU student catalogs and handbooks. All members of the University community bear responsibility for compliance with this policy. Compliance is monitored and reported annually through the offices of the Office of Institutional Compliance, the Department of Human Resources, and LMU Campus Police and Security.

This policy is in compliance with federal and state law, including the provisions of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, the ADA Amendments Act of 2008, Executive Order 11246, the Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Act of 1974 as amended by the Jobs for Veterans Act, the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, as amended, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, and the Tennessee Human Rights Act.

## Finances

Lincoln Memorial University is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit corporation chartered within the State of Tennessee. The Institution is audited annually by the Knoxville, Tennessee, accounting firm of Rodefer Moss & Co, PLLC. Lincoln Memorial University is a private, independent, non-sectarian University with a clearly defined mission that distinguishes it from other educational institutions. While the University cherishes its heritage and rich traditions, it recognizes that dynamic growth and change are required to meet the needs of today's students. The University has identified the following institutional goals, which are derived from its mission and reflect its vision for the future:

1. Make educational opportunities available to all without reference to social status.
2. Strengthen student recruitment and retention by fostering an academic and social environment that facilitates success and rewards achievement.
3. Maintain fiscal integrity in all University activities, programs, and operations through efforts to increase endowment and financial standing.

4. Provide quality educational experiences that have their foundation in the liberal arts and professional studies, promote high personal standards, and produce graduates with relevant career skills to compete in an ever-changing, increasingly global society.
5. Advance Cumberland Gap, Appalachia, and the global community through public service and outreach activities in continuing education, health care, leadership development, recreation, and the fine and performing arts.
6. Serve as a critical educational, cultural, and recreational center for the areas served and develop and maintain facilities, which are safe, accessible, and conducive to the development of body, mind, and spirit.
7. Attract and retain a highly qualified faculty and staff, committed to teaching, research, and service.
8. Commit resources to support the Institution's primary role of teaching, and, as appropriate, research and service.
9. Support faculty and staff development programs with priority for allocation of resources determined by institutional needs.
10. Improve technological resources for faculty, staff, and students in all academic programs regardless of where or how programs are delivered.
11. Develop and implement academic programs in response to anticipated or demonstrated educational needs and continuously evaluate and improve the effectiveness of current programs.
12. Provide a caring and nurturing environment where students, faculty, and staff with varied talents, experiences, and aspirations come together to form a community that encourages students to grow intellectually and personally to meet their academic and career goals.
13. Provide quality educational opportunities through selected degree programs for students who live and/or work a significant distance from the Lincoln Memorial University main campus, and for whom other options are not as accessible or satisfactory.

*Revised: April 25, 2025, by LMU Board of Trustees.*

## Constituents

Lincoln Memorial University constituents are spread across many groups and subgroups locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. Recognizing LMU's cornerstone of service, LMU's students are its most treasured constituent, followed closely by faculty and staff. The LMU alumni base's influence is felt throughout the Appalachian region and is represented on the University's Board of Trustees. LMU exists as a living memorial to Abraham Lincoln, a distinction unique among many colleges and universities, and this has allowed the institution to develop a broad base of constituents in the Lincoln researchers and historian communities. LMU Friends of the University are those who financially support the University's efforts due to their belief in LMU's Mission and Purpose. LMU communicates to these groups through several platforms including, but not limited to, direct mail, publications, brochures, TV, radio, billboards, most

social media sites (Facebook, LinkedIn, X, Snapchat, and YouTube, to name a few), national publications, and higher education publications covering all academic disciplines. LMU's constituents are fundamental to the future growth of this institution, and the goal is to remain stewards of their trust.

### Programmatic Accrediting Agencies

Individual program accreditation has been granted by:

- Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc. (ACEN)
- Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA)
- Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar of the American Bar Association (ABA)
- American Osteopathic Association-Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation (AOA-COCA)
- American Veterinary Medical Association Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (AVMA CVTEA)
- American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education (AVMA COE)
- Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE)
- Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA)
- Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE)
- Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP)
- Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA-NAEP)
- Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)
- National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS)
- Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)
- Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP)

### Recent Updates in Status with Accrediting Agencies

The Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) granted the accreditation status of "approval without reporting requirements" to LMU's Associate of Science (AS) in Dental Hygiene program on February 14, 2025.

The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA) granted Accreditation-Continued status to LMU's Master of Medical Science (MMS) in Physician Assistant (PA) Studies program offered at the main campus in Harrogate, Tennessee, on March 28, 2025.

The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA) granted Accreditation-Continued status to LMU's Master of Medical Science (MMS) in Physician Assistant (PA) Studies program offered at the LMU-Knoxville off-campus instructional site (OCIS) on March 28, 2025.

The Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA) granted Accreditation-Provisional status to LMU's Master of Medical Science (MMS) in Physician Assistant (PA) Studies program offered at the LMU-Tampa off-campus instructional site (OCIS) on October 16, 2025. The implementation date for this program at LMU-Tampa was January 12, 2026.

The American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education (AVMA COE) placed LMU's Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program located at the main campus in Harrogate, Tennessee, on Probationary Accreditation on October 24, 2024. As stated in the letter sent to LMU, "Probationary Accreditation is not considered an adverse decision by the COE..." LMU submitted a plan for correcting deficiencies to the AVMA COE on November 22, 2024. The AVMA COE will review the status of LMU's DVM program after receiving the LMU DVM self-study submitted on January 30, 2026.

The American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education (AVMA COE) granted a Letter of Reasonable Assurance (LRA) to LMU's Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program located at the LMU-Orange Park off-campus instructional site (OCIS) on August 28, 2025. The projected start date for this program at LMU-Orange Park is June 2026.

The Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) placed LMU's Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program on Probationary Accreditation on November 4, 2025. LMU will submit the required follow-up compliance report by February 1, 2026, and hopes to be removed from probation during CAPTE's next meeting scheduled in April 2026.

The Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) approved LMU's request for accreditation of the Master of Science (MS) in Business Analytics program on October 14, 2025, and the Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) program on December 3, 2025.