



230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500
Chicago, IL 60604
312.263.0456 | 800.621.7440
Fax: 312.263.7462 | hlcommission.org

July 3, 2025

Mr. Brent Fitch
President
Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design
1600 Pierce Street
Lakewood, CO 80214

Dear President Fitch:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken concerning Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design (the institution) by the Institutional Actions Council (IAC) of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) at its meeting on June 30, 2025. The date of this action constitutes the effective date of the institution's new status with HLC.

Action. IAC continued and reaffirmed the accreditation of Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design with the next Reaffirmation of Accreditation in 2034-35.

Further, IAC changed the team's evaluation of Criterion 5.C from "Met with Concerns" to "Met" with no monitoring required.

In taking this action, the IAC considered materials from the most recent evaluation and the institutional response to the evaluation findings.

Rationale: The institution provided evidence of parity between campus and online resource allocation, support and modalities.

The institution's budget allocation is 70% for online-related expenses and 30% for campus-related expenses, directly supporting the student population breakdown between online and campus modalities. This financial strategy directly addresses the team's observation in Core Component 5.C regarding "confirming its attention to dedicating increased financial and personnel resources to supporting its online learning environment" and demonstrates the institution's clear commitment to providing "sufficient support for students in its online learning environment, while maintaining support for in-person students."

The final team report acknowledges parity in faculty qualifications, academic rigor, and feedback mechanisms across modalities (e.g., referenced in Section 4.A., PDF p.32, noting no discernible difference in quality between on-ground and online student work in Graphic Design).

In two weeks, this action will be added to the *Institutional Status and Requirements (ISR) Report*, a resource for the institution to review and manage information regarding its accreditation relationship. Chief Executive Officers and Accreditation Liaison Officers may download the ISR Report in Canopy at <https://canopy.hlcommission.org>.

Within the next 30 days, HLC will also publish information about this action on its website at <https://www.hlcommission.org/Student-Resources/recent-actions>.

Please note: Revisions to HLC's Criteria for Accreditation and Assumed Practices will go into effect on September 1, 2025. Institutions will be evaluated against these revised HLC requirements for all reviews conducted after that date, including reviews related to previously assigned monitoring. Institutional reports submitted on or after September 1, 2025, or institutional reports or Assurance Arguments for visits that will take place on or after September 1, 2025, should be written to the revised version of the Criteria or Assumed Practices as applicable. More information, including a crosswalk between the current and revised versions of the Criteria, is available on HLC's website at <https://www.hlcommission.org/criteria>.

If you have any questions about these documents after viewing them, please contact the institution's staff liaison, Steph Brzuzy. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Gellman-Danley".

Barbara Gellman-Danley
President

cc: Neely Patton, Accreditation Liaison Officer
Steph Brzuzy, HLC Staff Liaison