PMI Global Accreditation Center for Project Management Education Programs (GAC)



Global Accreditation Center Project Management Institute.

Project Management Institute.

Assuring Excellence in Project Management Education





THE IMPORTANCE OF ACCREDITATION

Organizations today recognize project management as a critical competency. Colleges and universities are responding with programs that prepare students to enter the workplace with the knowledge and skills to fulfill this need.

The PMI Global Accreditation Center for Project Management Education Programs (GAC) assures accredited programs are relevant, student-focused, and accountable.

As the leading accrediting body for project, program, and portfolio management programs, the GAC is committed to excellence and continuous improvement.

90 Million • 2027



BY 2027, EMPLOYERS WILL NEED TO FILL NEARLY 90 MILLION PROJECT MANAGEMENT-RELATED ROLES.

PMI (2017). Project Management Job Growth and Talent Gap 2017–2027.

Learn more at gacpm.org

THE PROCESS

GAC accredits academic degree programs at the bachelor's, postgraduate, and doctoral levels.

Each program applying for accreditation must demonstrate that its academic degrees satisfy the eligibility requirements and accreditation standards within the GAC Handbook of Accreditation.

Programs must offer curricula that educate students to succeed in three core areas:

- **1. Technical expertise:** Ability to meet project needs within constraints set by professional standards and guides
- 2. Professional behavior: Ethical and culturally aware stakeholder engagement, communication, leadership, and teamwork
- 3. Strategic awareness: Contextual understanding and knowledge of strategic and operational drivers required to inform decisions and deliver sustained competitive advantage

To learn more about the process, visit the Apply for Accreditation area of the GAC website at www.gacpm.org.

THE APPROACH

GAC is governed by volunteer directors comprised of faculty and industry representatives, with at least one member representing the interests of the public.

Using peer review, the GAC confirms that a degree program has been carefully assessed and that its scale, scope, and quality conform to comprehensive international accreditation standards.

GAC encourages programs to be dynamic, innovative, and forwardthinking in developing curricula that will both advance the profession and prepare students to be effective professionals.



GAC hosts in-person and online accreditation workshops during the year. Participants get an inside view of:

- The GAC program and the accreditation process
- Expectations regarding alignment with GAC accreditation standards
- GAC directors and staff working with representatives from degree programs

See upcoming events at www.gacpm.org.





Accredited programs are granted:

- Graduates of GAC-accredited programs receive work experience credit toward PMI certifications
- Access to select PMI intellectual property for use in course materials at no charge
- Registration of core project management courses for pre-approved contact hours/PDUs
- Promotion on the gacpm.org global directory of accredited programs

Fundamentally, GAC accreditation:

- Confirms a program's commitment to educational quality and continuous improvement
- Earns peer recognition and achievement of quality benchmarks
- Differentiates a program as one of a select group that embraces and promotes the discipline of project management
- Strengthens employment opportunities for graduates
- Increases marketing potential for students
- Advances the profession by promoting accreditation standards for practice and advocating programmatic rigor





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Accredited programs display this seal to demonstrate they have met the global standards of GAC accreditation.