Once WASC completes a full visit...

- You will receive a letter confirming your term that you were awarded.

- On the next pages, is a description of each term, from the WASC website. We have heard that now, the longest term anyone will receive is a 6 year with a mid-cycle visit, but it does not say that anywhere on the WASC website.
Six-Year Term

• This is an accreditation term of six years with a written progress report due at the three-year mark to the school’s governing board demonstrating that the school has:
  • addressed the critical areas for improvement through the school wide action plan.
  • made appropriate progress on implementation of the school wide action plan.
  • improved student achievement relative to the expected school wide learning results.
• The next accreditation action will be the full Self-Study to take place at the six-year mark.
Six-Year Term with a Midterm Review Required

This is an accreditation term of six years with a written progress report and a one-day, on-site review by a two-member committee to be completed during the third year of the six-year term. The progress report and review visit shall focus on demonstrating that the school has:

- addressed the critical areas for improvement through the school wide action plan.
- made appropriate progress on implementation of the school wide action plan.
- improved student achievement relative to the expected school wide learning results.
The following may be imposed if it is determined as a result of the midterm review that insufficient progress has been made toward the school wide critical areas of concern:

- The school must submit a revised progress report and action plan which reflects adequate progress toward the school wide critical areas of concern.
- An additional one-day visit to take place the following year.
- No additional term is granted as a result of the required Midterm Review. The next accreditation action will be the full Self-Study to take place at the six-year mark.
Three-Year Term

• This is an accreditation term of three years with a written progress report and a two-day visit by a two- to five-member committee during the third year. The progress report and revisit shall focus on demonstrating that the school has:
  • improved the critical areas for improvement through the schoolwide action plan.
  • made appropriate progress on implementation of the schoolwide action plan.
  • improved student achievement relative to the expected schoolwide learning results.
• The Commission may grant a term of accreditation of one year, three years, or denial as a result of the Three-Year Term Visit.
Limited Term (One or Two-Year Term)

- This is an accreditation term of one or two years with a written progress report and revisit to serve as a warning that, unless prompt attention is given to these recommendations, accreditation may be denied. The progress report and revisit shall focus on demonstrating that the school has:
  - improved the critical areas for improvement through the schoolwide action plan.
  - made appropriate progress on implementation of the schoolwide action plan.
  - improved student achievement relative to the expected schoolwide learning results.
  - The ongoing term options available as a result of the Limited-Term visit depend on the school’s history and where the school’s current term is in relation to the WASC six-year cycle.
Current One-Year Term: Schools that currently have a one-year limited term can receive a one-year term, a two-year term, or a denial of accreditation, depending on where they are in the six-year cycle. Once a school has received a limited term they are automatically required to have a Three-Year Term Revisit three years after their last full self-study and they also need to have a Full Self-Study Visit at the six-year mark. Term options for schools that received a one-year term as a result of a previous one-year term (two consecutive one-year terms) would be either an additional one-year term or a denial of accreditation.

Current Two-Year Term: Schools that currently have a two-year limited term as a result of a full self-study visit can receive either a one-year term or a denial of accreditation. Unless the term of accreditation is denied, a school receiving a recommendation for a one-year term will automatically be scheduled for a Three-Year Term Revisit the year following this revisit.
Once you have confirmation of your term of accreditation...

- Your school administration and leadership team need to keep up with your action plan items.
- Since this process is on-going, your school should always be growing and changing. These changes should be documented so that you have evidence of your hard work.
- Each year, by April 15, you will submit an Annual Report to the Pacific Southwest District that shows the progress being made at your school site. This is an NLSA requirement, but also helps you to keep up with your WASC tasks. The NLSA plan is great for helping you stay on target!
The mid-cycle visit approaches

- About 6 months prior to your three-year mark, you should receive paperwork from WASC, reminding you that it is time for your mid-cycle review.
- Once you receive the paperwork, send it back in acknowledging that you will be ready for the visit.
- Your school will then be assigned someone to chair your committee visit (Ideally, it will be someone from your last visit).
What should the report for the 3 year review look like?

- This report is **not** a long, essay format document. Bullet points are really the best way to answer the questions.
- WASC will send you a sample of what they are wanting you to answer.
- Everyone’s document will be different, since it’s based on the task’s your school has chosen to complete.
Once your date has been set, the leadership team should set up focus groups to again, look at progress.

It is recommended that you have one group for each task that your action plan states. (Example: 4 tasks, 4 groups)

These focus groups should then complete a progress update, that includes hard copies of any evidence for their section. This evidence will later need to be placed into folders.
Sample of 3-year review:

Task 1: Completion of the comprehensive curriculum guide for daily curriculum and extra curricular activities that includes educational support programs to meet the needs of students in areas of remedial, enrichment and special needs.

Growth Objective/ Area for Follow-Up
Action Taken

**Task 1**
Comprehensive Curriculum Guide for Physical Education, Health, Science, Geography, Cultural Awareness, and Fine Arts

- In Fall 2006, a new physical education teacher was hired. She began implementing a new curriculum that follows the California Standards.
- In Spring 2007, President’s Physical Fitness was added as part of the physical education program for all students in grades 2-8.
- In Fall 2007, the P.E. teacher wrote a comprehensive physical education curriculum that is aligned with the California Standards.
- In Spring 2006, a teacher was hired to teach “Growing Up Healthy”, a class on puberty, which is offered to all students in grades 5-8.
- In Fall of 2006, new science textbooks were purchased for middle school. The administration is planning to purchase new science books for the elementary school in Fall of 2008. The curriculum guide will be re-written at that time.
- A fine arts elective was added for all students in grades 6-8. The fine arts standards for California have been discussed, and teachers are currently working on ways of integrating these ideas into their classrooms.
Who will visit the school at the time of the review?

- Unless your school is very large, you should only have one or two people visit your school.
- Hopefully, you will have the same people who visited last time so that they can truly see your progress.
- You will be informed ahead of time who your visitors will be.
What will happen during the review visit?

Sample Schedule of Events:
8:00—arrive on your campus
8:30—visit classrooms (may not see all)
9:30—look at evidence
11:30—meet with students/stakeholders
12:00—Lunch (the school should provide)
1:00—work on report
3:00—finished
On the day of the visit:

- They will be looking to see that you are truly changing/fixing things that you agreed to work on in your action plan.
- The visiting committee would appreciate it if you have all the evidence in one convenient place. If you file it according to task, it is generally easier to find.
- Don’t be disappointed if they don’t get a chance to see everything you wanted them to see. It is better to be a little over-prepared for the day.
Results of the Mid-Cycle Review:

- You will not receive any information about the review on that day.
- A few weeks later, you should receive information in the mail confirming that you will continue to be an accredited school.
- This proves that you are on the right track...keep up the good work!

*Remember—only 3 more years until another full visit!
Need More Help?

- You may find additional help on the WASC website - www.acswasc.org