

Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology

- Founded in 1932 by seven engineering societies as the Engineer's Council for Professional Development
- Mission is to serve the public globally through the promotion and advancement of education in applied science, computing, engineering, and engineering technology
- 3278 programs are accredited from over 670 universities in 23 countries
- ABET is comprised of 34 member societies that collaborate on accreditation decisions
- In 1997, ABET adopted Engineering Criteria 2000 (EC2000) as a new form of evaluating institutions that focuses more on innovation and what students learn rather than conforming to a rigid standard
- To obtain accreditation, a request must be submitted by January 31
- Once an institution is determined to be eligible for accreditation, each program is assigned one of the four commissions:
 - Applied Science Accreditation Commission (ASAC)
 - Computing Accreditation Commission (CAC)
 - Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC)
 - Technology Accreditation Commission (TAC)
- Each program then conducts a self-study that is due by July 1 and a date for an on-campus evaluation is set up for the team chair and evaluators to visit
- The team chair and evaluators are volunteers from government, industry, private practice, and academe
- The evaluators are provided with the self-study to help form the basis for their visit
- Following the campus visit, an exit interview is conducted with the dean, who will then have 7 days to fix any perceived errors
- A draft statement is prepared for the institution outlining all issues, to which the institution has 30 days to respond to
- A final statement is created with a recommendation for accreditation that is reviewed in ABET's annual July meeting, and accreditation is then voted on
- Re-accreditation is needed every 6 years
- ABET bestows three awards every year: two for the most dedicated and distinguished volunteers and one recognizing those that are improving technological segments of society
- The Computing Sciences Accreditation Board (CSAB), established in 1985, is one of ABET's largest member societies