



Perkins School receives accreditation

LANCASTER

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The Doctor Franklin Perkins School recently received notification of its accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), which provides accreditation services for more than 2,000 public and private institutions in the six-state region - pre-K through university. NEASC accreditation uses self-reflection, peer review, and best practices as integral components of its assessment process.

"We are very excited to be awarded this accreditation as it represents the high standards and quality of the program offered to our students," said Dr. Charles Conroy, executive director at Perkins. The ten-member evaluation team spent three days, interviewing staff and students, observing school-related activities, and reviewing faculty-guided assessments.



This notification comes at the close of a year of licensing and accreditation activities that the school has successfully completed. The Joint Commission, which holds rigorous standards related to medical, clinical, and residential services, accredited Perkins in November 2012.

"Perkins voluntarily maintains the high standards required by The Joint Commission because we are committed to ensuring the highest level of care and service. We are not required to secure either of these accreditations but do so to ensure services to children, families, and adult residents that are above and beyond regulatory requirements," said Timothy Hammond, assistant executive director for programs. "We take our quality improvement activities seriously, and we value the careful review and feedback of outside agencies as they evaluate our services."

In October 2012, Perkins received re-approval from the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The Perkins Child Development Center, a day care center for typically-developing infants, toddlers and preschoolers, is currently undergoing accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

"We are the only private special education school in Massachusetts that is accredited by NEASC and The Joint Commission. It has been a very busy year for us as far as accreditations but it has been well worth it," Conroy said.



Perkins

A Comprehensive Human Service Agency for Children, Adolescents, Adults & Senior Citizens

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