**Initial Accreditation Process Timeline**

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| **Year 1** | **Year 2** | **Year 3** | **Year 4** | **Year 5** | **Year 6** | **Year 7** |
| Prepare and submit Eligibility Application (EA).  [*Fee Required*](https://www.aacsb.edu/accreditation/resources/fees) | Continue development of iSER, if applicable. | Upon acceptance of iSER, implement actions recommended by IAC or AAC and prepare first Progress Report. | Implement actions recommended by IAC or AAC and prepare second Progress Report. | Implement actions recommended by IAC or AAC and prepare third Progress Report. | Complete and submit application for initial accreditation.  [*Fee Required*](https://www.aacsb.edu/accreditation/resources/fees) | Submit Final SER to PRT and IAC or AAC. Submitted approximately 4-6 months prior to visit date. |
| Review of EA by Initial Accreditation Committee (IAC) or Accounting Accreditation Committee (AAC). | Continue engagement with mentor in iSER development. Invite mentor to visit campus, if necessary. | Continue to engage mentor in Progress Report development. Invite mentor to visit campus, if necessary. | Continue to engage mentor in Progress Report development. Invite mentor to visit campus, if necessary. | Continue to engage mentor in Progress Report development. Invite Mentor to visit campus, if necessary. | Begin to develop Final SER. | PRT reviews Final SER and drafts a “Pre-visit Letter” to confirm site visit. Can request additional documentation if necessary. |
| Upon acceptance of EA, volunteer mentor and AACSB staff liaison are assigned.  [*Fee Required*](https://www.aacsb.edu/accreditation/resources/fees) | Mentor will review iSER draft(s) during development of the report. | Submit first Progress Report to IAC or AAC for review. | Submit second Progress Report to IAC or AAC for review. | Submit third Progress Report to IAC or AAC for review. | Peer Review Team (PRT) is formed and visit date is finalized. PRT chair assumes monitoring responsibility from mentor. | IAC or AAC approves the PRT’s Pre-visit Letter and visit. PRT finalizes letter and sends to school forty-five days before visit. School responds as requested. |
| Mentor conducts onsite visit to verify scope and to identify and evaluate issues relating to the standards. | Submit iSER to IAC or AAC any time prior to end of year two.  [*Fee Required*](https://www.aacsb.edu/accreditation/resources/fees) | IAC or AAC reviews first Progress Report and if accepted, advises school of next step in the process.**2**  [*Fee Required*](https://www.aacsb.edu/accreditation/resources/fees) | IAC or AAC reviews second Progress Report and if accepted, advises school of next step in the process.**2**  [*Fee Required*](http://www.aacsb.edu/accreditation/fees) | IAC or AAC reviews third Progress Report and if accepted, advises school of next step in the process.**3**  [*Fee Required*](https://www.aacsb.edu/accreditation/resources/fees) | Invite Team Chair for a pre-visit to campus. (optional, but recommended) | PRT visit occurs. Team report prepared with recommendation for accreditation outcome. School can provide response, if necessary. |
| School begins development of the Initial Self Evaluation Report (iSER). | IAC or AAC reviews iSER and if accepted, advises school of their next step in the process.**1** |  |  |  | School works to complete Final SER. | Recommendation reviewed by IAC or AAC, if positive, recommendation goes to Board of Directors (BOD) for ratification.**4** |
| School may elect to submit iSER at end of year one, if ready. |  |  |  |  |  | Once ratified by BOD, school is awarded accreditation with next review in five years. |

Footnotes

**1**Other Possible outcomes include: Advance to final phase of initial accreditation process. See Year 6; Not accept iSER and request a revised document; Not accept iSER, school asked to withdraw from accreditation process.

**2**Other possible outcomes include: Advance to final phase of initial accreditation process. See Year 6; Not accept Progress Report and request a revised document (only if time remains to do so); Not accept Progress Report school asked to withdraw from accreditation process.

**3** Other possible outcomes include: Advance to final phase of initial accreditation process. See Year 6; Not accept Progress Report and request a revised document (only if time remains to do so); PRT and/or IAC or AAC agree visit is premature and School is asked to withdraw from the accreditation process.

**4** Other possible outcomes include: PRT visit results in a one year deferral whereby the school is revisited in a year; or PRT recommends denial of initial accreditation.