

Invitation for Public Comments Accredited Institutions

Accreditation in higher education is an important part of any institution's ability to convey its professionalism and integrity. Thomas More College of Liberal Arts is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education, America's oldest academic accreditation body, a voluntary association of colleges and universities formed to perpetuate a variety of educational missions in the liberal arts. Thomas More College is also a charter member of the American Academy of Liberal Education (AALE), which specializes in classical or traditional approaches to the liberal arts. Finally, Thomas More College has received the recognition of organizations such as the American Council of Trustees and Alumni (ACTA) and the Cardinal Newman Society (CNS) since their founding.

Each decade, an accredited institution will undergo a normal comprehensive evaluation, that combines eighteen months of self-study, followed by approximately six months of third-party review by fellow members of an accreditation body.

Thomas More College of Liberal Arts will undergo its next comprehensive evaluation visit on November 9th–November 12th, 2025 by a team representing the New England Commission of Higher Education (formerly the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, NEASC).

The New England Commission of Higher Education is a U.S. accrediting commission that provides institutional accreditation. Accreditation is voluntary and applies to the institution as a whole. The Commission, which is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, accredits approximately 220 institutions in the United States as well as American-style institutions overseas.

Thomas More College of Liberal Arts has been accredited by the Commission since 1996 and was last reviewed in 2016. Its accreditation by the Commission encompasses the entire institution; that is to say, it comprehends not only the academic character of the College, but all aspects studied under the light of specific standards: governance, resources, etc.

For the past year and a half, Thomas More College has been engaged in a process of self-study, addressing the Commission's Standards for Accreditation. An evaluation team will visit the institution to gather evidence that the self-study is thorough and accurate. The team will recommend to the Commission a continuing status for the institution. Following a review process, the Commission itself will take final action.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the institution to: Public Comment on (name of institution), New England Commission of Higher Education, 301 Edgewater Place, Suite 210, Wakefield, MA, 01880; e-mail: info@neche.org.

Public comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution. The Commission cannot settle disputes between individuals and institutions, whether those involve faculty, students, administrators, or members of other groups. Comments will not be treated as confidential and must include the name, address, and telephone number of the person providing the comments. Public comments must be received by November 12th, 2025. The Commission cannot guarantee that comments received after that date will be considered. The New England Commission of Higher Education asks that all comments conform to the guidelines found in its Policy on Public Comments (www.neche.org).