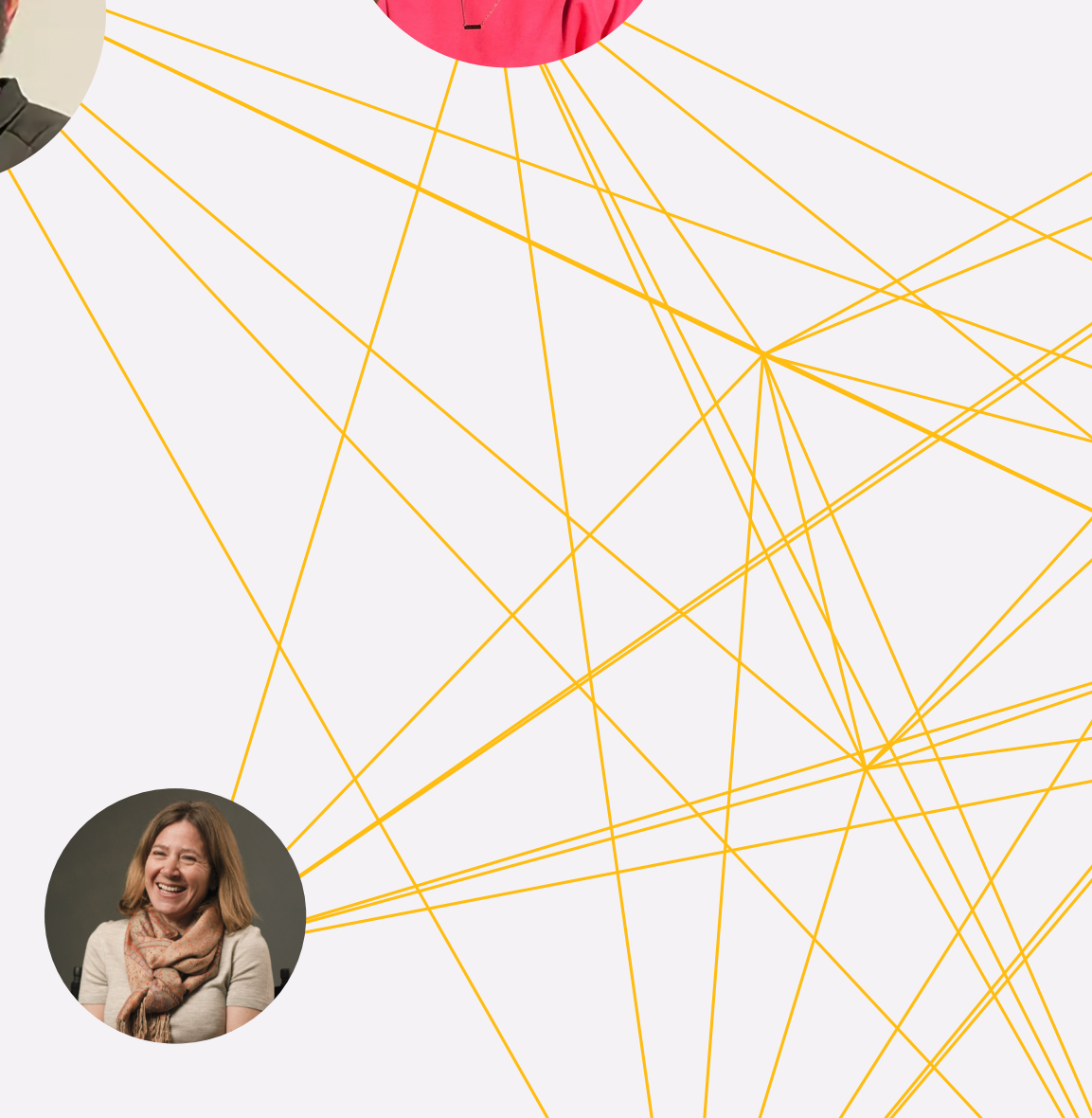




UNIVERSITY
OF THE PEOPLE

UOPEOPLE DEAC ACCREDITATION TRANSITION FAQ





University of the People is concluding its accreditation relationship with the Distance Education Accrediting Commission (DEAC) as of December 31, 2025. Beginning January 1, 2026, UoPeople will be solely accredited by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC), 1080 Marina Village Parkway, Suite 500, Alameda, CA 94501, 510.748.9001.

There will be no interruption to programs, courses, or degree progress during or after this transition.

1. Why is UoPeople concluding its accreditation relationship with DEAC?

This change reflects UoPeople's ongoing growth and alignment with academic accreditation standards for U.S.-based universities. Beginning January 1, 2026, UoPeople will be solely accredited by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC), which is widely viewed as the highest and most widely accepted form of institutional accreditation in the United States.

DEAC has been a valuable partner in UoPeople's development, and we are grateful for its support throughout the university's early growth and expansion.

2. Is WASC (WSCUC) recognized internationally?

Yes. The WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) is one of the most widely recognized and respected regional accrediting bodies in the United States. U.S. regional accreditation is generally well understood and accepted internationally by universities, employers, credential evaluation agencies, and government bodies.

Many internationally recognized universities, including UC Berkeley, Stanford, and UCLA, are accredited by WSCUC. While acceptance of degrees is always determined by the receiving institution or authority, regional accreditation is commonly viewed as the highest standard of institutional accreditation in the U.S.

3. What does this accreditation change mean for me if I am already enrolled?

If you are currently enrolled, there is no impact on your program, courses, degree requirements, or academic progress. Your studies will continue uninterrupted before, during, and after the transition.

As you will complete your program after January 1, 2026, your transcripts and official graduation documents will reflect WSCUC as the sole accrediting body.

The change reflects an institutional accreditation update, not a change to curriculum, instruction, or academic standards.



4. What happens if I graduate on or before December 31, 2025?

Students who graduate on or before December 31, 2025 will have both accreditations, DEAC and WSCUC, listed on their official transcripts.

Your degree remains fully valid and recognized. DEAC accreditation is officially recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), and WSCUC accreditation further reflects UoPeople's academic standing.

5. What happens if I graduate after January 1, 2026?

Students who graduate on or after January 1, 2026 will have WSCUC listed as the sole accrediting body on their official transcripts.

Degrees earned after this date will be from a WSCUC-accredited institution and carry the recognition associated with regional accreditation in the United States.

6. Will my transcript show DEAC or WSCUC accreditation?

The accreditation reflected on your transcript and official documents depends on when you complete your degree requirements and apply for graduation.

- Graduation on or before February 25, 2025: Your transcript will list DEAC only.
- Graduation on or before December 31, 2025: Your transcript will list both DEAC and WSCUC.
- Graduation on or after January 1, 2026: Your transcript will list WSCUC only.

In all cases, your transcript accurately reflects UoPeople's accreditation status at the time your degree was earned.

7. Will this change affect whether my degree is valid or recognized?

No. Your degree remains fully valid and recognized. UoPeople has been accredited by DEAC (national accreditation) and is accredited by WSCUC (regional accreditation). The change is that, as of January 1, 2026, UoPeople will no longer maintain the DEAC accrediting relationship and will be solely accredited by WSCUC.



8. Will this affect my ability to transfer credits or apply to another university?

Like other universities, UoPeople cannot guarantee that its degrees or credits will be accepted by other academic institutions or employers, since this is determined by each institution individually.

However, with UoPeople accreditation, academic partnerships with NYU and University of Edinburgh, and the support of our academic partners and leadership hailing from such universities as the University of Oxford, Columbia University, and more, we feel confident that UoPeople degrees will be recognized. It may help to know that many UoPeople students and graduates have gone on to continue their education at universities around the world.

International applicants are encouraged to check the status of UoPeople degrees within their own country.

9. Who can I contact if I still have questions?

If you have questions about how this transition applies to your situation, please reach out to your Program Advisor.