

As the leader of the nonprofit sector, the Delaware Alliance for Nonprofit Advancement's mission is to strengthen, enhance, and advance nonprofits and the sector in Delaware through advocacy, training, capacity building, and research.

Why Accreditation?

Standards for Excellence accreditation will set your organization apart as a top performer in your field. The Seal of Excellence lets donors know that precious resources are being stewarded wisely. The communities you serve, your board and your staff will have confidence in the quality of your programs, your accountability and openness, and your commitment to best practices.



The Standards Effect

An independent study measured the impact of achieving Standards for Excellence accreditation, examining changes in funding before and after an organization gained accreditation. Accreditation was associated with increases in public support.

Revenue Pre- Accreditation

\$286,589

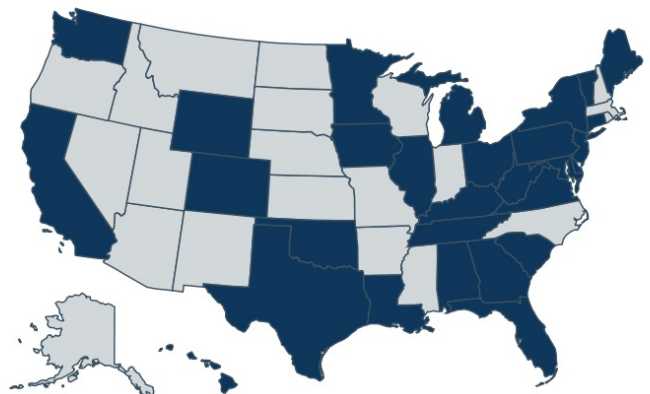
Revenue Post- Accreditation

\$323,754

Feng, Nancy C., Neely, Daniel G., and Slatten, Lise Anne D. "Accountability Standards for Nonprofit Organizations: Do Organizations Benefit from Certification Programs?" *International Journal of Public Administration*. 39.6 (2016).

Why the Standards for Excellence?

1. The Standards offer a comprehensive set of best practices and a roadmap on how to implement them. It's not a passive rating system, but an active way to strengthen your organization.
2. You will gain access to the Standards library that includes turnkey resources, sample policies and procedures, assessment tools, and real-life examples from leading nonprofits that hold the Seal.
3. Standards Seal Holders are listed prominently on the Standards for Excellence website and GuideStar.org, and gain access to a national community of nonprofits, consultants and partners from around the country.



Choose Your Path to Excellence

Nonprofits of all sizes and mission areas can start at any level. The Delaware Alliance for Nonprofit Advancement offers three levels of Recognition and Accreditation.

Standards *basics*

Get strong policies in place for good governance and legal compliance, and a foundation for mission and program impact.

Standards *basics enhanced*

All of the first tier, plus ensure your organization is inclusive of the community served, you hold strategic and effective board meetings, and programs are attentive to strategic issues and trends in the community.



Accreditation
and the Seal of
Excellence

All of the first two tiers, plus your organization creates long-range strategic and sustainability plans, builds strong board performance, and outlines steps to strengthen diversity, equity and inclusion.

"[The Standards for Excellence process] helped us clarify and strengthen our organizational policies and procedures, and essentially made us more effective in achieving our mission."
- Madeline Yates, Executive Director, Maryland-DC Campus Compact

Getting Started

1

Visit Our Website

You'll find all the resources you'll need to start the process at www.delawarenonprofit.org

2

Complete a Self-Assessment

This comprehensive survey will help you determine which application tier is right for you!

3

Submit your Application

An easy-to-use online application will help you gather and organize your materials for our reviewers.

Getting Support

The Delaware Alliance for Nonprofit Advancement is proud to offer the Standards for Excellence® program. We will work with you every step of the way to assist your organization meet the Standards. With resources like our extensive digital library, a diverse array of online and in-person trainings, expert consultants, and our helpful staff, DANA will give you all the tools you need to succeed!

