



Armature and NLSA Online Process NAC December 2020 Update

While there have not been a great number of changes regarding the NLSA Online Accreditation project and work with Armature since the July National Accreditation Commission (NAC) meeting, there are a few important and exciting updates that can be shared at this time.

Progress Update

- Phase I of the project with Armature is now complete.
- Phase II of the project began in August 2020 and consists of the following major items:
 - NLSA Instrument (EBA, EC, etc.) Review – COMPLETE
 - Process Management (NLSA Process from Start to Finish) – IN PROCESS
 - Reports (Generated at National Office)
 - Project Management
 - DevOps and Deployment to Beta Testing

Budget Impact Update

- 2019-2020 Annual Fee Payment: \$107,000 (11/2019)
- Billable Invoice Total to Date for Hourly Work: \$67,957.50
- 2020-2021 Annual Fee Payment: \$107,000 (Received 11/2020, PO Pending)
- Remaining Hourly Work (Projected Phase II): \$12,000*
- Budgetary Impact: \$30,000 Under Budget (projected)
**There are additional non-“Out of the Box” functionalities that will be explored after Phase II is complete that will require further hourly funds to be allocated to their development.*

Continued Challenges in 2020-2021

- Due to the ongoing impacts of COVID-19, the NLSA national staff has been occupied with additional management of the existing NLSA process and the creation of new processes to address the issues facing accredited schools. As such, there has been limited time for engagement with the Armature build process since the July 2020 NAC meeting.

Timeline (Projected)

- January 2021: Final Process Development and Deployment to Live Environment
- January 2021 – March 2021: Internal Testing of Entire NLSA Online Process
- March 2021 – July 2021: Final Updates to System Prior to Beta Testing
- July 2021: Initial School Beta Test Begins with Online System
- July 2022: All schools begin using the online NLSA system to complete their accreditation process.

Final Thoughts

As was the case in the past, we continue to be extremely optimistic and excited about the move to an online accreditation management system using Armature. If the events of 2020 have shown us anything, it is that such a system that we are developing will give schools the tools that they need to work with the NLSA process no matter the circumstances or location in which they find themselves.