

The B.S. in Computer Science and the B.S. in Computer Science with a second major in Mathematics are both accredited by the Computing Accreditation Commission (CAC) of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), a specialized accrediting body recognized by the Council on Post-secondary Accreditation (COPA) and the U.S. Department of Education.

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### What is accreditation?

A fully accredited program meets a set of basic criteria established by ABET, the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology.

### How many computer programs are accredited?

There are approximately 165 accredited computer science programs nationwide. Only a handful of computer science programs in Maryland are accredited.

### What are the advantages of accreditation?

- Accredited programs are reviewed every three or six years. They are required to meet defined standards to assure a certain level of quality.
- Tells parents and prospective students that a program has met minimum standards.
- Tells faculty, deans and administrators of a program's strengths and weaknesses and of ways to improve the program.
- Tells employers that graduates are prepared to begin professional practice.
- State licensing boards and certification programs may require graduation from an ABET-accredited program as the first step in the registration or certification process for professional practice.
- In some instances, ABET accreditation may permit students to receive federal funds in the form of scholarships, loans and grants.

